



DECREE

The merger of
St. Aidan Parish of Ellendale, Minnesota
with All Saints Parish of New Richland, Minnesota

St. Aidan Parish of Ellendale, Minnesota, was founded in 1857, serving the faithful of the area for 159 years. In 2011 the Diocese of Winona, with the assistance of professional consultants, embarked upon Vision 2016: a comprehensive visioning and planning process aimed at providing opportunities to enhance the pastoral care of the faithful, address shortages in clergy, and evaluate current parish structures in light of changing demographic trends. The project employed extensive collaboration among clergy and lay leaders throughout the Diocese. The insights drawn from multiple deanery level meetings, the recommendations of pastoral planning experts, and other relevant data was presented to a working committee in 2014, which subsequently recommended merging 21 of the 115 parishes. The proposal was released publically on Feb 1, 2015, and members of the faithful of St. Aidan Parish and All Saints Parish were asked to make known their needs and desires about the proposed merger. Guidance was solicited from the Presbyteral Council throughout the pastoral planning process.

On May 19, 2016, the Presbyteral Council provided consultation, in accord with canon 515, §§2, 3, concerning the proposal that St. Aidan Parish be merged (*unio extinctiva*) into All Saints Parish. Upon full discussion, at which time due consideration was given to reasons for and against the proposed merger, and with opportunity to suggest alternate courses of action, members of the Presbyteral Council expressed unanimous agreement in favor of the proposed merger.

The following just causes suggest that St. Aidan Parish be merged into All Saints Parish:

- 1) The declining number of faithful attending Mass and the limited quantity of additional sacramental experiences;
- 2) The enhancement of collaborative ministry and to ensure the best utilization of priest personnel;
- 3) The recent and projected shifts in populations, moving from rural to urban settings;
- 4) A consolidation of human resources directed toward strengthening the quality of the liturgy and encouraging fuller active participation;
- 5) To better effect the preaching and spread of the Gospel.

Accordingly, in virtue of the prescription of canon 121 and 515, §2 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law, having judged that just causes are present, that the intentions of donors and any other acquired rights have been examined and given due consideration, and that the good of souls will not thereby be impaired,

**I HEREBY DECREE AN EXTINCTIVE UNION BY WHICH
ST. AIDAN PARISH OF ELLENDALE, MINNESOTA
BE MERGED INTO
ALL SAINTS PARISH OF NEW RICHLAND, MINNESOTA.**

Furthermore, the newly established territorial boundaries of All Saints Parish are to be:

Beginning in the Southwest corner at the intersection of 60th Street and the Freeborn County/Austin-Albert Lea Deanery Boundary (200th Avenue), north on 60th Street to the intersection of 240th Avenue, east on 240th Avenue to the intersection of 80th Street, north on 80th Street to the intersection of 280th Avenue, east on 280th Avenue (which becomes SW 88th Street in Steele County) to the intersection of Interstate 35, south on Interstate 35 to the intersection of the Freeborn County/Austin-Albert Lea Deanery Boundary (168th Street), west back to the beginning point.

Upon the completion of the transfer of such assets and liabilities, the civil corporation of the St. Aidan Parish shall take such actions at civil law as are necessary to dissolve itself. Furthermore, any other patrimony, including sacramental records, deaths, and items or documents of historical or spiritual significance shall be transferred to All Saints Parish.

This decree becomes effective September 30, 2016. A copy of this decree is to be sent to the pastor of St. Aidan Parish and All Saints Parish and its contents is to be communicated at all of the Masses of obligation on the weekend of Saturday, September 3, 2016, and Sunday, September 4, 2016. Furthermore, this decree is to be published on the diocesan website. Any legitimate party, considering himself aggrieved by this decree, retains the right to request emendation or revocation within ten (10) useful days (c. 1734 §§1, 2).

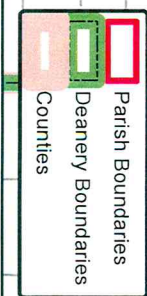
Given in the Diocese of Winona on this thirty-first day of August in the year of Our Lord 2016.


The Most Reverend John M. Quinn
Bishop of Winona


The Very Reverend Glenn K. Frerichs
Chancellor

SEAL

Mankato Deanery All Saints Parish (New Richland)



- Parish Boundaries (Red outline)
- Deanery Boundaries (Green outline)
- Counties (Orange outline)

