



The Most Reverend Joseph W. Tobin, C.S.S.R.
Archdiocese of Indianapolis
1400 N. Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367
317-236-1403

DECREE

Whereas my predecessor, Archbishop Daniel Marcus Buechlein, O.S.B., had instituted a process to assess the pastoral needs of the parishes in the Batesville Deanery; and

Whereas as part of this process information concerning both the current condition of St. Pius Parish in Ripley County, Indiana, and the pastoral needs of the people of the parish was made available to both the Archdiocesan Planning Commission and to myself as the Diocesan Bishop and Ordinary of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis; and

Whereas the information concerning the condition of the parish and the pastoral needs of its people demonstrated that:

- apart from Sunday mass and religious education, there is little community activity on the parish campus;
- there are no regular evangelization efforts being made in the parish, and the parish has neither had a catechumen baptized nor received a candidate into the parish in the five years for which information was provided by the parish to the Planning Commission;
- the parish has approximately sixty-two registered households and approximately one hundred and thirty parishioners;
- the parish has had only three adults enter the Church in the five years for which the parish provided information to the Planning Commission;
- there have been four marriages, an average of fewer than one per year, in the five years for which the parish provided information to the Planning Commission;
- the parish currently has an ongoing relationship with St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Milan insofar as the parishes have worked in partnership and have collaborated on programs for many years; and

Whereas the Planning Commission proposed the extinctive union of St. Pius Parish and St. Charles Borromeo Parish, with the extinction of St. Pius Parish and the merger of its members into St. Charles Borromeo Parish; and

Whereas the unification of the parishes would allow for stronger evangelization, faith formation, and vocations programs, as well as effective administration and stewardship of the resources of the unified parish; and


Whereas I convened the Presbyteral Council of the Archdiocese and sought its counsel concerning the manner in which the pastoral needs of the people of St. Pius Parish might best be addressed; and

Whereas the Presbyteral Council, after fully considering the issue, recommended by unanimous vote that St. Pius Parish be extinguished and its people become members of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Milan, Indiana;

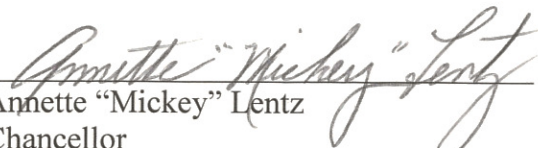
I, Joseph William Tobin, C.Ss.R., Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, having considered the advice of the Archdiocesan Planning Commission, the Archdiocesan Management Council, and the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council, and having in mind my responsibility to best meet the spiritual needs of the people of St. Pius Parish of Ripley County specifically and the spiritual needs of the Batesville Deanery and Archdiocese of Indianapolis generally, now hereby decree that:

1. St. Pius Parish of Ripley County, Indiana is to be extinguished and its people are to become members St. Charles Borromeo Parish of Milan, Indiana on December 1, 2013.
2. The public juridical person of St. Pius Parish is to be extinguished on the same date.
3. Upon the extinction of St. Pius Parish and the unification of its people into St. Charles Borromeo Parish, the civil corporation of St. Pius Parish shall immediately transfer all assets and liabilities of the corporation, whether legal or equitable, to the civil corporation of St. Charles Borromeo Parish.
4. Upon the transfer of such assets and liabilities, the civil corporation of St. Pius Parish shall take such actions at civil law as are necessary to dissolve itself.
5. This decree is to be published to the administrator of St. Pius Parish and to the pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Parish.
6. The parishioners of St. Pius Parish and the parishioners of St. Charles Borromeo Parish are to be given notice of this decree upon its receipt by the administrator of St. Pius Parish and the pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Parish. Copies of this decree are to be made available for inspection at the offices of both parishes, and the parishioners shall be given notice as soon as is possible after its receipt by the administrator and pastor.
7. This decree is to be published in the Archdiocesan newspaper, *The Criterion*.
8. This decree is to be posted to the website of the Archdiocese.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Archdiocese on this 6th day of June, 2013.



Most Reverend Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.
Archbishop of Indianapolis



Annette "Mickey" Lentz
Chancellor