



## DECREE

The merger of  
St. Anthony of Padua Parish of Altura, Minnesota,  
with St. Rose of Lima Parish of Lewiston, Minnesota

St. Anthony of Padua Parish of Altura, Minnesota, was founded in 1919, serving the faithful of the area for 102 years. In 2011 the Diocese of Winona-Rochester, 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, as the need would arise. The proposal was released publically on February 1, 2015, and members of the faithful of St. Anthony of Padua 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 25, 2021, the Presbyteral Council provided consultation, in accord with canon 515, §§2, 3, concerning the proposal that St. Anthony of Padua Parish be merged (*unio extinctiva*) into St. Rose of Lima 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. Anthony of Padua Parish be merged into St. Rose of Lima 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. ANTHONY OF PADUA PARISH OF ALTURA, MINNESOTA  
BE MERGED INTO  
ST. ROSE OF LIMA PARISH OF LEWISTON, MINNESOTA.**

Furthermore, the newly established territorial boundaries of St. Rose of Lima Parish are to be:

Starting at the northwest corner at the intersection of East Center Street/Winona County Road 26 and Winona County Road 37. Head east on East Center Street/County Road 26 to the intersection with Minnesota State Highway 248. Head east on Minnesota State Highway 248 to the intersection with Norton Township Road 4. Head east on Norton Township Road 4 to the intersection with Norton Township Road 13. Head south on Norton Township Road 13 to the intersection with County Road 27. Head south on County Road 27. Continue south as County Road 27 becomes County Road 20. Follow County Road 20 south and then east. Head directly East on a continuous line that overlaps County Highway 20 to Township Road 1. Head directly south to Township Road 14. Head west along Township Road 14 to an intersection where a continuous line extends north from Warren Township 5 Road. Head directly south on a continuous line that overlaps Warren Township 5 Road to Interstate 90. Head west along Interstate 90 to the intersection where a line extends directly south from the intersection of East Center Street/County Road 26 and County Road 37. Head directly north to the starting point.

Upon the completion of the transfer of such assets and liabilities, the civil corporation of the St. Anthony of Padua 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 St. Rose of Lima Parish.

This decree becomes effective June 29, 2021. A copy of this decree is to be sent to the pastor of St. Anthony of Padua Parish and St. Rose of Lima Parish and its contents is to be communicated at all of the Masses of obligation on the weekend of Saturday, June 12, 2021, and Sunday, June 13, 2021. 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-Rochester on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June in the year of Our Lord 2021.

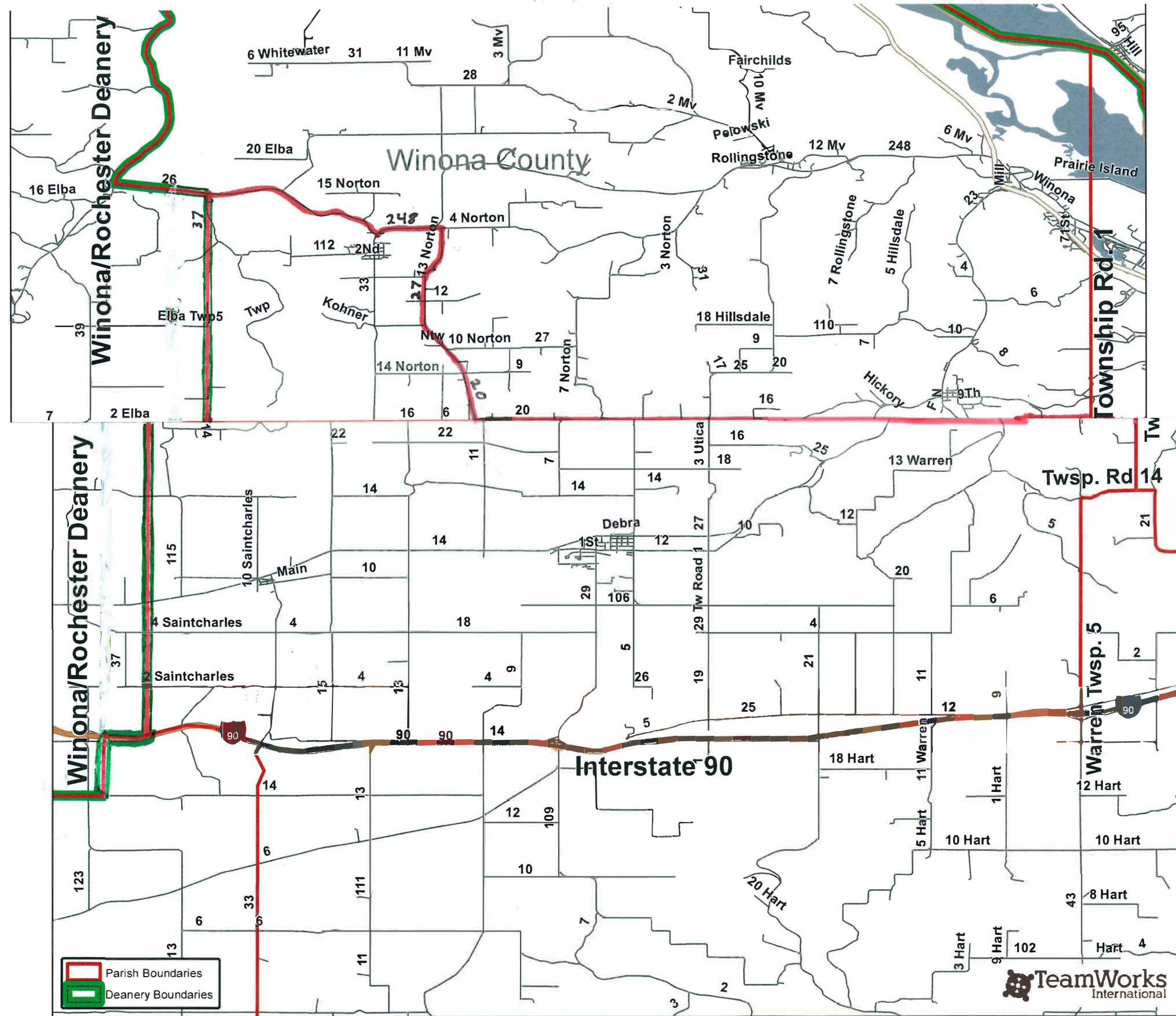
+John M. Quinn

Most Reverend John M. Quinn  
Bishop of Winona-Rochester

SEAL

Andrew Brannon

Vice Chancellor



Winona Deanery St. Rose of Lima (Lewiston)