



Merger of St. Kilian Parish in St. Kilian, Minnesota, with St. Anthony Parish in Lismore, Minnesota

JOHN QUINN

EPISCOPUS WINONENSIS

DECREE

Whereas St. Kilian Church was built in 1878 to provide for the increased number of pioneers north of Adrian, Minnesota, and for some time the town was the largest population center in Wilmont Township;

Whereas in 1899 the railroad bypassed St. Kilian and the importance of St. Kilian began to fade and a number of St. Kilian's buildings were picked up and moved to the new Wilmont townsite;

Whereas the membership of St. Kilian Parish has decreased over the years, reducing the number of registered households to less than 50;

Whereas there are now two other Catholic parishes within 10 miles of St. Kilian;

Whereas the pastor of St. Kilian Parish is also the pastor of St. Anthony Parish and that the parish offices of both parishes and two others had already been combined at St. Adrian Parish in Adrian;

In order to better care for the pastoral needs of the faithful of St. Kilian Parish, enhance evangelization efforts and vitality of parish life for the people of St. Kilian and St. Anthony Parishes, and to provide for the best use of clergy and lay personnel, after having asked parishioners to make known their needs and desires, under the careful direction of the Office of Pastoral Planning, which reviewed the recommendations of the parishes involved, and having consulted the Presbyteral Council, and in accord with canons 120, §1; 121; and 515, §§2-3 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law, I, the undersigned, in virtue of my authority as Bishop of Winona, hereby decree:

1. That St. Kilian Parish, St. Kilian, Minnesota, be merged with St. Anthony Parish, Lismore. The administration of the St. Kilian church building, hall, and garage will consequently be transferred to the pastor of St. Anthony Parish, effective at midnight at the end of June 30, 2016.
2. That St. Anthony Parish assumes the responsibility for making suitable provision for the faithful formerly of St. Kilian Parish, providing for their pastoral care and meeting their pastoral needs. The consolidated and unified parish shall include the membership of the present St. Anthony Parish and the membership of the former St. Kilian Parish. The current St. Anthony

Church edifice shall be the primary place of worship of the parish community. The new boundaries of St. Anthony Parish shall incorporate and annex any territory included in the former St. Kilian Parish.

4. That Father Andrew Beerman, the pastor of St. Anthony Parish, will be named as pastor of the consolidated parishes. He is to foster the pastoral care of the Catholic faithful entrusted to him, bearing in mind the provision of canon 519.


Before July 1, 2016, the parish registers of the former St. Kilian Parish containing the records of baptism, confirmation, Eucharist, marriage and deaths, along with parish records and historical documents, are to be forwarded to St. Anthony Parish. They will be faithfully preserved and maintained in accord with canon 535, §§1-5. According to the norm of canon 121, all assets and liabilities, whether movable or immovable, of the former St. Kilian Parish, will become the assets and liabilities of the juridic person of St. Anthony Parish. Furthermore, ownership of all ecclesiastical goods and all objects of artistic or historical value belonging to the former St. Kilian Parish will be transferred to St. Anthony Parish and will be administered in accordance with the prescriptions of Church law, with due regard for the intention of donors.

The effect of the merger of St. Kilian Parish and St. Anthony Parish is the termination and extinguishing of the juridic personality of the former St. Kilian Parish. Thus, it will no longer be a subject of obligations and rights in canon law corresponding to its nature as a juridic person, nor will it be capable of acquiring, retaining, administering, or alienating temporal goods in accord with the norm of law.

I direct that this decree be given to the pastoral leadership of St. Kilian Parish and St. Anthony Parish, and that its contents, especially the dispositive part of this decree, be communicated to parishioners on the weekend of June 12, 2016. In accord with canon 1734 §2, legitimate parties retain the right to request reconsideration of this decree within ten (10) useful days. Furthermore, I direct that this decree be published on the website of the Diocese of Winona (www.dow.org). This publication will be presumed to be the official notification of this action.

Anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given in the Diocese of Winona on this the seventh day of June, in the year of our Lord, 2016.



Most Rev. John M. Quinn
Bishop of Winona



Rev. Msgr. Donald P. Schmitz
Chancellor