



DECREE

The merger of
St. Columba Parish of Iona, Minnesota,
with St. Ann Parish of Slayton, Minnesota

St. Columba Parish of Iona, Minnesota, was founded in 1891, serving the faithful of the area for 133 years. On May 28, 2024, the Presbyteral Council provided consultation, in accord with canon 515, §§2, 3, concerning the proposal that St. Columba Parish be merged (*unio extinctiva*) into St. Ann 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. Columba Parish be merged into St. Ann Parish:

- 1) The declining number of faithful attending Mass and the limited quantity of additional sacramental experiences;
- 2) Current and projected decrease in necessary resources to maintain physical property of the parish;
- 3) The enhancement of collaborative ministry and to ensure the best utilization of priest personnel;
- 4) The recent and projected shifts in populations, moving from rural to urban settings;
- 5) A consolidation of human resources directed toward strengthening the quality of the liturgy and encouraging fuller active participation;
- 6) 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. COLUMBA PARISH OF IONA, MINNESOTA
BE MERGED INTO
ST. ANN PARISH OF SLAYTON, MINNESOTA.**

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

Starting in the Northwest corner at the intersection of the Pipestone/Murray County border and 20th Avenue. Head East along the Pipestone/Murray County border to 130th Avenue.

Head South on a continuous line that overlaps 130th Avenue to 141st Street. Head East on a continuous line that overlaps 141st Street to 190th Avenue. Head South on a continuous line that overlaps 190th Avenue to the Murray County Border. Head West along the Murray County border to 20th Avenue. Head north on a continuous line that overlaps 20th Avenue to the starting point.

Upon the completion of the transfer of such assets and liabilities, the civil corporation of the St. Columba 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. Ann Parish.

This decree becomes effective July 31, 2024. A copy of this decree is to be sent to the pastor of St. Columba Parish and St. Ann Parish and its contents is to be communicated at all of the Masses of obligation on the weekend of Saturday, July 6, 2024, and Sunday, July 7, 2024. 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).

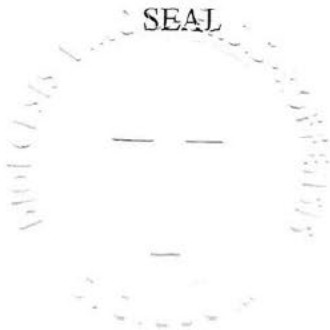
Given in the Diocese of Winona-Rochester on this 18th day of June in the year of Our Lord 2024.

+Robert Barron

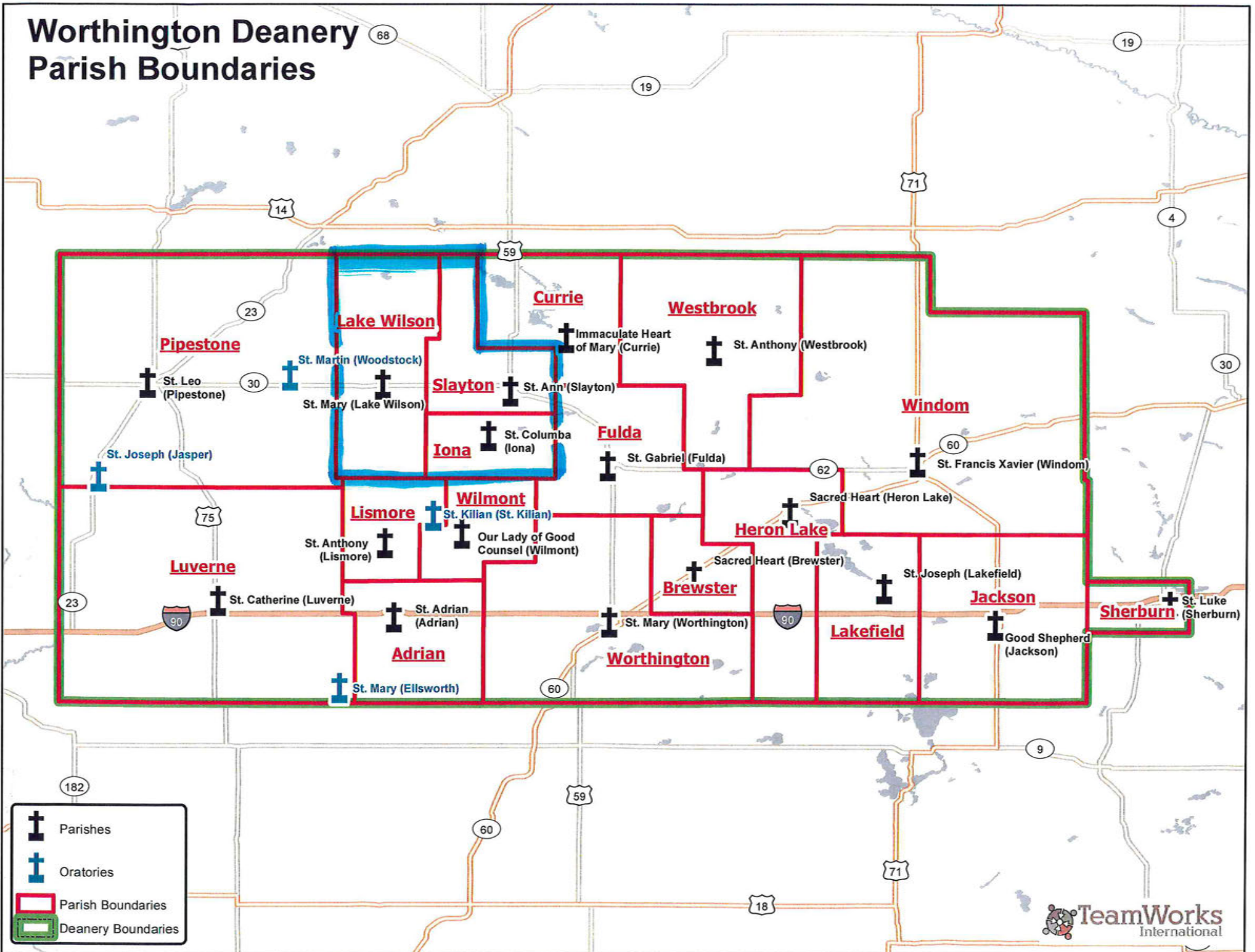
The Most Reverend Robert Barron
Bishop of Winona-Rochester

Michelle K. Gerlach

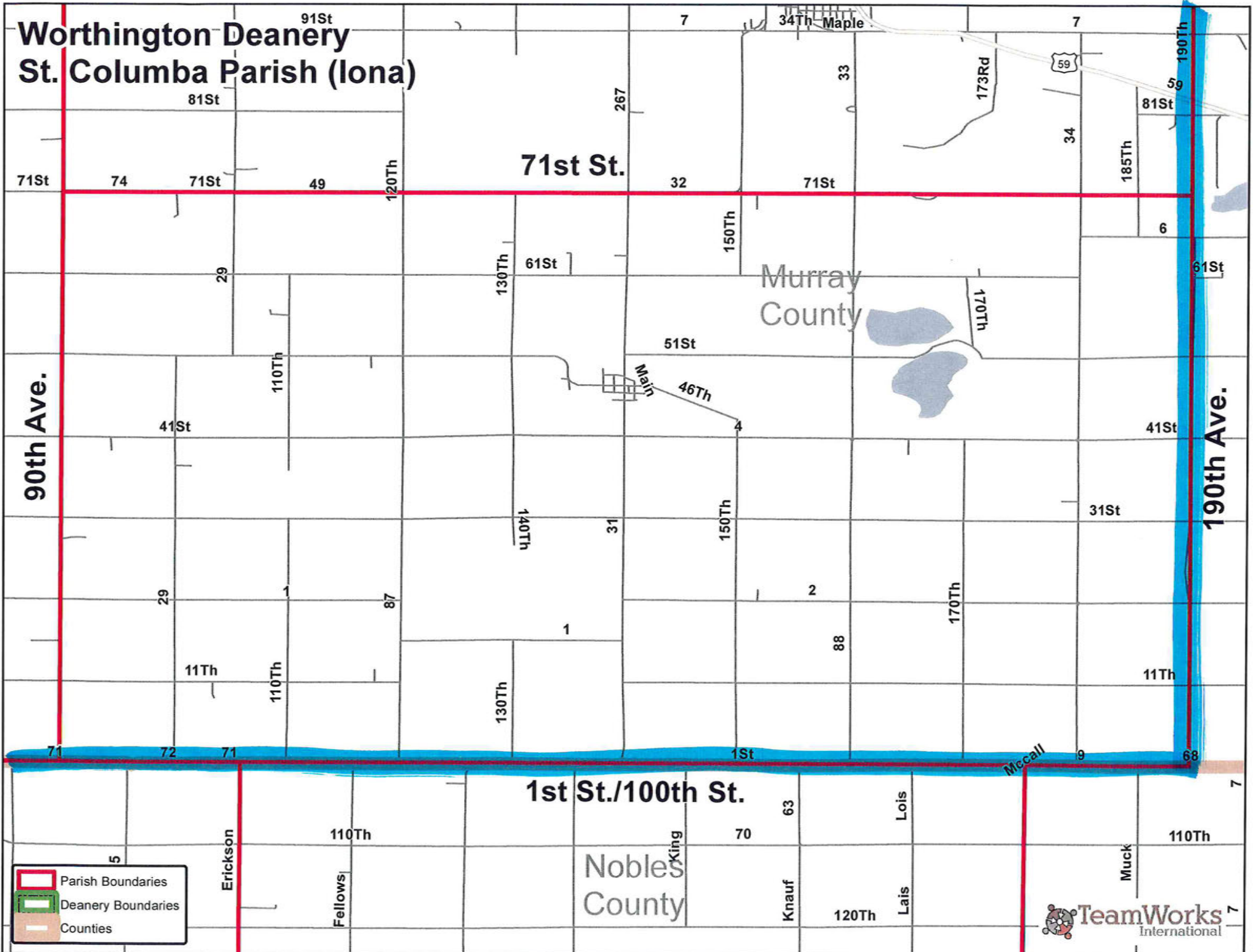
Chancellor



Worthington Deanery Parish Boundaries



Worthington Deanery St. Columba Parish (Iona)



90th Ave.

Worthington Deanery
St. Columba Parish (Iona)

71st St.

Murray County

1st St./100th St.

Nobles County

190th Ave.

- Parish Boundaries
- Deanery Boundaries
- Counties



