

COPY

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI

DECREE

Office of
The Archbishop
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Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
513-421-3131

With my predecessor, the Most Reverend Daniel E. Pilarczyk, having consulted with the Presbyteral Council of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati on December 14, 2009 in his role as Diocesan Bishop, and with an appreciation of the planning that was completed as part of the Futures Project earlier in this decade, I have determined that the pastoral mission of the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati would best be served by closing St. Jerome Parish in Cincinnati. There are reasons that support this decision. There are parishes in the locality of St. Jerome Parish that can provide for the St. Jerome parishioners and assume its ministry and apostolate. The number of active priests in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati has declined over the last five years, and should continue to decline over the next several years.

For these reasons, and in virtue of my office as Diocesan Bishop, in accord with canon 515§2 of the *Code of Canon Law*, I hereby decree that St. Jerome Parish, Cincinnati will close.

The minutes of the St. Jerome Parish Pastoral Council of April 18, 2005 echo the results of the Futures Implementation meetings of the St. Francis de Sales Deanery, that St. Jerome Church is “coupled” with Guardian Angels Church. I hereby decree that the territory of St. Jerome Parish, Cincinnati will go to Guardian Angels Parish, Cincinnati. I consulted with the Presbyteral Council on December 14, 2009 regarding the notable altering of Guardian Angels Parish, Cincinnati (canon 515§2).

I further decree that the sacramental records at St. Jerome Parish, Cincinnati will be transferred to Guardian Angels Parish, Cincinnati.

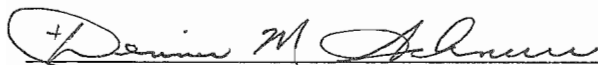
Canon law stipulates that the corresponding patrimony and obligations of the closed parishes must follow the Faithful in an equitable and proportionate fashion in accord with the corresponding responsibilities and pastoral duties assumed by the parishes *ad quem*. After obtaining the consent of the College of Consultors on December 14, 2009, and the Archdiocesan Finance Council on May 26, 2010, I decree that all the assets, including bona sacra and religious articles, and liabilities of St. Jerome Parish, Cincinnati will go to Guardian Angels Parish, Cincinnati

because Guardian Angels Parish will assume all the responsibilities and pastoral duties for the Faithful who currently attend St. Jerome Parish. I further decree that the pastor of Guardian Angels Parish, Cincinnati in conjunction with the Director of the Department of Financial Services of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, is charged with the supervision of the temporal goods of St. Jerome Parish, Cincinnati in accord with the *Code of Canon Law* and *The Document on Temporal Affairs* of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. St. Jerome Church will remain open and may be used for divine worship until the decision is made to close it.


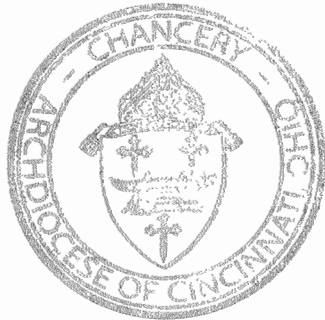
Parishioners of the former St. Jerome Parish, Cincinnati are to associate themselves with their proper territorial parish or another parish of their choice in accord with universal and diocesan law. They are to be accepted with respect and cordiality by the people and pastors of their new parishes.

The effective date of this decree, and the date St. Jerome Parish, Cincinnati will close, is June 30, 2010. This decree is to be published immediately such that all the parishioners of St. Jerome Parish, Cincinnati will be properly notified.

Given at Cincinnati, Ohio
June 4, 2010



Most Reverend Dennis M. Schnurr
Archbishop of Cincinnati



Reverend Joseph R. Binzer
Chancellor