



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 Holy Guardian Angels Parish in Cedar Grove, 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 mass and religious education, there is little pastoral 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 three years for which information was provided by the parish to the planning commission;
- there are no regular vocations efforts being made in the parish;
- there is no adult faith formation program in the parish;
- the demographics of the parish have changed significantly, and many of the former parishioners of the parish have relocated to Brookville, Indiana;
- there have been an average of five baptisms, three funerals, and one marriage per year for the three years for which information was provided by the parish to the planning commission;
- the parish had no youth group leader and few youths attended youth ministry during the period concerning which information was provided by the parish;
- the parish currently has an ongoing relationship with St. Michael Parish in Brookville insofar as the parishes have shared one pastor for many years and have collaborated in some programs; and

Whereas the planning commission proposed the extinctive union of Holy Guardian Angels Parish and St. Michael Parish, with the extinction of Holy Guardian Angels Parish and the merger of its members into St. Michael 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 Holy Guardian Angels Parish might best be addressed; and

Whereas the council, after fully considering the issue, recommended by unanimous vote that Holy Guardian Angels Parish be extinguished and its people become members of St. Michael Parish in Brookville, Indiana;

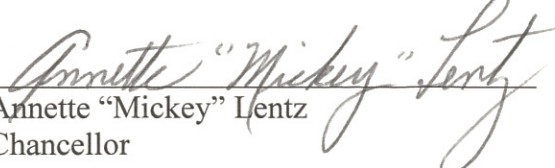
I, Joseph William Tobin, C.Ss.R., Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, having considered the advice of the Archdiocesan Planning Commission, the Archdiocesan Management Council, and the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council, and having in mind my responsibility to best meet the spiritual needs of the people of Holy Guardian Angels Parish of Cedar Grove in specific and the spiritual needs of the Batesville Deanery and Archdiocese of Indianapolis generally, now hereby decree that:

1. Holy Guardian Angels Parish of Cedar Grove, Indiana is to be extinguished and its people are to become members St. Michael Parish of Brookville, Indiana on December 1, 2013.
2. The public juridical person of Holy Guardian Angels Parish is to be extinguished on the same date.
3. Upon the extinction of Holy Guardian Angels Parish and the unification of its people into St. Michael Parish, the civil corporation of Holy Guardian Angels Parish shall immediately transfer all assets and liabilities of the corporation, whether legal or equitable, to the civil corporation of St. Michael Parish.
4. Upon the transfer of such assets and liabilities, the civil corporation of Holy Guardian Angels 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 Holy Guardian Angels Parish and to the pastor of St. Michael Parish.
6. The parishioners of Holy Guardian Angels Parish and the parishioners of St. Michael Parish are to be given notice of this decree upon its receipt by the administrator of Holy Guardian Angels Parish and the pastor of St. Michael 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