

The Parishes of
CORPUS CHRISTI and OUR LADY of MERCY

REV. JOSHUA OTUSAFO, C.S.Sp.
Parochial Administrator

September 12, 2014

Dear Parishioners of Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Mercy,

Enclosed you will find the decree from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati officially merging the parishes of Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Mercy into "Our Lady of Grace Parish," to be effective Monday, September 15, 2014. Please take the time to look over the Decree and join the rest of our fellow parishioners in celebrating this new beginning.

A transition team has been assembled to facilitate this merger. A change of this magnitude impacts each and every one of us both emotionally and practically. The team is focused on making this transition as seamless as possible. Each team member is committed to bring the combined resources of time, talent and treasure that are truly apparent in our community to Our Lady of Grace. You will be receiving additional information in the days to come. We ask for your prayers and support!

Corpus Christi Church and Our Lady of Mercy Church have been, and these two worship sites will remain, a stable presence in the Northwest quadrant of the City of Dayton. We will continue to be true witnesses to the Gospel through worship, evangelization, service and outreach for many years to come. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, these characteristics will manifest into a more faithful and powerful parish - Our Lady of Grace.

The formation of Our Lady of Grace is truly a courageous act of faith to ensure that the Spirit filled legacy of the Corpus Christi, Our Lady of Mercy, Saint Agnes and Assumption communities continue to grace us and bring forth Christ's love and peace to our neighbors.

Sincerely in Christ,

The Our Lady of Grace Transition Team

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Pat Duffley

Mary Erli

Ed Finn

Timothy Harlett

Charlie Helldoerfer

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THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI

DECREE

Having consulted the Presbyteral Council of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati on May 12, 2014, and the parochial administrator of Corpus Christi Parish and Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Dayton, Ohio who earlier has consulted the parish council and parishioners, I have determined that the pastoral mission of the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati would best be served by erecting Our Lady of Grace Parish in Dayton, Ohio and merging Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Mercy Parishes into Our Lady of Grace Parish.

Taking into account the supreme law of the Church, i.e. the salvation of souls (canon 1752), it is my belief that the new parish, Our Lady of Grace, will add a sense of vibrancy to the pastoral ministry in Dayton, Ohio.

In virtue of my office as diocesan bishop, in accord with canon 515 §2 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law, I hereby decree the erection of Our Lady of Grace Parish and the merger of Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Mercy Parishes into Our Lady of Grace Parish.

I further decree that all the assets, including *bona sacra* and religious articles, and liabilities of Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Mercy Parishes, shall belong to the new Our Lady of Grace Parish. The territory of Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Mercy Parishes shall be combined and become the territory of Our Lady of Grace Parish. The current parochial administrator remains responsible for the assets and liabilities of the two parishes until September 14, 2014. Effective September 15, 2014, the parochial administrator of Our Lady of Grace Parish is charged with the supervision of the temporal goods of Our Lady of Grace Parish in accord with the universal law of the Church and the law of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

I further decree that the sacramental records of Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Mercy Parishes be transferred to Our Lady of Grace Parish. A new set of sacramental registers is to be inaugurated effective September 15, 2014 for Our Lady of Grace Parish.

I further decree that Our Lady of Grace Parish initially will worship in the two parochial churches which will remain dedicated to the same titles of Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Mercy. Each church may serve as the site for all the Catholic liturgical rites properly celebrated, and each may be fully furnished for these rites, according to the needs of Our Lady of Grace Parish. Likewise, the Blessed Sacrament may be reserved in each.

The people of Our Lady of Grace Parish, under the leadership of their parochial administrator, are to strive diligently, with God's help, to form a unified harmonious congregation dedicated to fulfilling the mission that Jesus Christ committed to his disciples.

I hereby decree that the territory of Corpus Christi Parish in Dayton and Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Dayton will go to the Our Lady of Grace Parish, Dayton.

Parishioners of the former parishes of Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Mercy are to associate themselves with their proper territorial parish, Our Lady of Grace, or another parish of their choice in accord with universal and diocesan law.

This decree will take effect on September 15, 2014 and is to be published immediately such that all members of Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Mercy Parishes will be properly notified.

Given at Cincinnati, Ohio
August 6, 2014
Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord



Most Reverend Dennis M. Schnurr
Archbishop of Cincinnati



Reverend Steve J. Angi
Chancellor