



Paul
By the Grace of God and the Apostolic See
Bishop of Sioux Falls

Decree of Erection

Saint John Paul II Parish, Harrisburg, South Dakota

Given the valuable input that was gained through the consultation made with the faithful from all parishes beginning in 2008 in the Diocesan Pastoral Planning process recognizing both the demographic and other changing realities of our day.

Given also the findings from the study conducted in the fall of 2013 which examined the substantial growth projections in Minnehaha and Lincoln Counties, as well as the specific examination of the Harrisburg area; and

Given the consultation made with the Diocesan Presbyteral Council on March 20, 2014 where proposed parish mergers and changes in pastoral linkages throughout the Diocese were presented as a prudent way of responding to those changing realities; and

Given the exploration into the feasibility of erecting a new parish in the Harrisburg area which I formally announced in my Pastoral Letter issued March 28, 2014; and

Given the establishment of regular Sunday Masses offered as an extension of Holy Spirit Parish, Sioux Falls which were held in the Harrisburg High School beginning on Ash Wednesday, 2016 and continuing through July 5, 2017; and

Given the establishment of the Harrisburg Catholic Community on July 5, 2017 to which I appointed the Reverend John Rutten to serve as the chaplain and charged him to continue in this exploration into the feasibility of establishing a new parish to serve the faithful of the Harrisburg area; and

With consideration given to the listening session that I conducted after Mass in Harrisburg on Sunday, December 11, 2017 during which I personally discerned from the public comments offered by many of the faithful from the Harrisburg Catholic Community a sincere desire to formally become a parish distinct from the parishes in the city of Sioux Falls and any other surrounding parishes; and

With due consideration given to the counsel offered by the Presbyteral Council to which, on February 22, 2018 during its regular meeting, I formally presented the proposal of erecting in Harrisburg a new parish;

Now therefore, having fulfilled all requirements set forth and in accord with the authority entrusted to my office in can. 515, §2, I hereby decree the erection of

Saint John Paul II Parish, Harrisburg, South Dakota

in recognition of the widely-recognized and admired Petrine ministry of this contemporary and courageous saint, defender of the Faith and of the Church, and profound teacher, inspirational pastor, and shepherd.

Moreover, I hereby decree that the territory of this new parish shall be bounded by the following:

North – 270th St (South 85th St., Sioux Falls)
South – 276th St.
East – the Iowa/South Dakota border (the Big Sioux River)
West – Interstate 29

Finally, I hereby decree that

Reverend John L. Rutten

is appointed as the inaugural pastor of Saint John Paul II Parish.

May the Gospel be made known to the faithful through this new juridic person and the resources provided to it. May all who gather within this new parish be sanctified through the regular reception of the Sacraments which Jesus instituted and grow deeper in their knowledge of and personal relationship with Jesus Christ, crucified and risen.

Given at the Chancery
on the 8th Day of April
the Second Sunday of Easter and Sunday of Divine Mercy
in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and eighteen.

<signature held on file>

Most Reverend Paul J. Swain
Bishop of Sioux Falls

<signature held on file>

Mr. Matthew K. Althoff
Chancellor