



The Most Reverend Joseph W. Tobin, C.S.S.R.  
Archdiocese of Indianapolis  
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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 St. Peter Parish in Franklin County, 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 Planning Commission advised that St. Peter Parish enter into a partnership parish arrangement with St. Michael Parish of Brookville, Indiana; 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 St. Peter Parish might best be addressed; and

Whereas the Presbyteral Council, after fully considering the issue, recommended by unanimous vote that St. Peter Parish not enter into a partnership arrangement with St. Michael Parish of Brookville, Indiana, but instead should be extinguished and its people become members of St. Michael Parish in Brookville, Indiana; and

Whereas, in my estimation, the information concerning the condition of the parish and the pastoral needs of its people generated by the consultation process instituted by Archbishop Buechlein and the information generated by the discussion of the Presbyteral Council demonstrated that the parish, despite potential challenges in the future, remains viable as a parish at the present time, but that it would benefit from a partnership with St. Michael Parish;

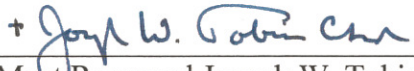
I, Joseph William Tobin, C.S.S.R., Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, having considered the advice of the Archdiocesan Planning Commission, the Archdiocesan Management Council, and the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council, and having in mind my responsibility to best meet the spiritual needs of the people of St. Peter Parish of Franklin County and St. Michael Parish in Brookville specifically and the spiritual needs of the Batesville Deanery and Archdiocese of Indianapolis generally, now hereby decree that St. Peter Parish of Franklin County, Indiana is to remain a parish of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and will not be in any way materially altered, but that it shall enter into a partnership with St. Michael Parish of Brookville.

I further decree that, effective December 1, 2013:

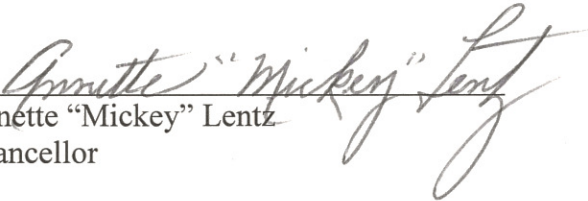
1. The parishes are encouraged to coordinate times for the celebration of mass and the sacraments; to coordinate evangelization, religious education, and pastoral programs insofar as is possible; and to cooperate in all ways that are advantageous to the spiritual wellbeing of the parishioners of the two parishes.

2. This decree is to be published to the administrator of St. Peter Parish and to the pastor of St. Michael Parish.
3. The parishioners of St. Peter Parish and St. Michael Parish are to be given notice of this decree upon its receipt by the administrator of St. Peter Parish and the pastor of St. Michael Parish, and copies of this decree are to be made available at the offices of both parishes for inspection and copying.
4. This decree is to be published in the Archdiocesan newspaper, *The Criterion*.
5. 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.

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Most Reverend Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.  
Archbishop of Indianapolis



Annette "Mickey" Lentz  
Chancellor