



Office of the Bishop

DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

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DECREE DESIGNATING AND APPROVING THE SHRINE OF DIVINE MERCY AS A DIOCESAN SHRINE

Having carefully considered the needs of the Christian faithful of the Diocese of Little Rock, and having heard the advice of the Presbyteral Council, the Diocesan Pastoral Counsel, and others regarding the designation of a Shrine of Divine Mercy within the Diocese of Little Rock,

NOW, THEREFORE, in accordance with the teachings of the Holy Catholic Church and canon 1230 of the Code of Canon Law, I hereby declare, approve, and designate the **Diocesan Shrine of Divine Mercy** as a sacred Catholic Diocesan Shrine dedicated to spiritual devotion, worship, and pilgrimage.

At this Shrine, located at St. Edward Catholic Church in Little Rock, Arkansas, the means of salvation are to be supplied more abundantly to the faithful by the diligent proclamation of the word of God, the suitable promotion of liturgical life especially through the celebration of the Eucharist and of penance, and the cultivation of approved forms of popular piety (c. 1234 §1). I decree that votive offerings of popular piety and art are to be kept on display at the shrine and guarded securely (c. 1234 §2). In accord with c. 1233, I hereby grant a partial indulgence from temporal punishment to any member of the Christian faithful who visits the shrine on the liturgical feast day of the shrine. Moreover, the Apostolic See has granted a plenary indulgence for those who visit the shrine and fulfill the usual requirements for a plenary indulgence.

It is with great joy that I announce the opening of the Shrine's doors to the public, extending an invitation to all who wish to partake in its blessings and experience the profound grace that emanates from its sacred grounds. The Shrine is a testament to the rich spiritual heritage of the Catholic faith. It stands as a beacon of faith, hope, and love, inviting all believers and seekers to deepen their relationship with God and draw closer to the divine through prayer, contemplation, and sacramental encounters. There should be fostered an atmosphere of holiness, prayer, and spiritual growth within the Shrine.

A duplicate copy of this Decree is to be hung at the Shrine in an appropriate place where it can be easily seen and read by the faithful.

Given on this 11 day of JUNE, 2023, the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ.

The Most Rev. Anthony B. Taylor
Bishop of Little Rock

Dcn. Matthew A. Glover, JD, JCL
Chancellor for Canonical Affairs

