



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 31, 2023**

**Media Contact:**

**Lisa Shea, Director of Community & Media Engagement**

**314.792.7633**

**[lisashea@archstl.org](mailto:lisashea@archstl.org)**

## **Archbishop Announces Measures Related to All Things New Decrees**

On Pentecost of this year, Archbishop Mitchell T. Rozanski issued 83 decrees as a result of the All Things New strategic planning process and after many months of analysis, consultation, and discernment. Since this time, each parish in the Archdiocese of St. Louis has been called to rededicate themselves to new modes of evangelization and social outreach. Meanwhile, several parishes for whom decrees have been issued have pursued recourse with the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

While Archbishop Rozanski has declined to reverse his Pentecost decrees, we are aware of a number of parishes who have informed us of their intention to pursue hierarchical recourse with the Vatican's Dicastery for the Clergy. Out of respect for each parishioner's right to this recourse and in keeping with Archbishop Rozanski's desire to maintain access to the sacraments, we will be suspending the effects of the following All Things New decrees until this process has been exhausted.

- St. Angela Merici (Florissant)
- St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish (Coffman)
- St. Francis of Assisi Parish (Luebbering)
- St. Martin of Tours Parish (Lemay)
- St. Matthew the Apostle Parish (St. Louis)
- St. Richard Parish (Creve Coeur)
- St. Roch Parish (St. Louis)

The reassignment of archdiocesan priests will proceed as planned. Because of this suspension, however, incoming pastors for parishes that have announced their intention to seek hierarchical recourse will be directed to do nothing which would prejudice the rights of the parish goods. In the meantime, the Archdiocese of St. Louis will be making provision for the pastoral care of each parish that is impacted. The suspension of the effects of these decrees will be lifted once recourse before the Apostolic See has concluded.

Attached is a Q&A which contains more information about the suspension of decrees, pastoral care in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, and the practical implications for parishes.

###

*The Archdiocese of St. Louis was established in 1826 and has grown to currently serve more than 491,000 Catholics in 11 Missouri counties. As Catholics in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, we strive to fulfill our Baptismal calling by prayer and worship, teaching and sharing our faith, serving others, and fostering unity in diversity.*