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## Catholic Diocese of Columbus

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Office of the Bishop  
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### **DECREE NOTABLY ALTERING the PARISH BOUNDARIES of St. Stephen the Martyr, Columbus of St. Mary Magdalene, Columbus**

WHEREAS, a parish is defined as “a certain community of the Christian faithful stably constituted in particular church, whose pastoral care is entrusted to a pastor as its proper pastor under the authority of the diocesan bishop” (can. 515 §1);

WHEREAS, “as a general rule, a parish is to be territorial, that is, one which includes all the faithful of a certain territory” (can. 518);

WHEREAS, there is a large area on the West side of Columbus presently unaccounted for in any parish boundary consisting of: West – The middle of Interstate 270 between Fisher Road and State Route 4; South – The middle of State Route 4 from Interstate 270 to North Wilson Road; East – The middle of North Wilson Road from State Route 4 to Fisher Road; North – The middle of Fisher Road from North Wilson to Interstate 270;

WHEREAS, there is a recommendation to assign the aforementioned area to St. Stephen the Martyr Parish;

WHEREAS, there is a small area on the West side of Columbus between St. Stephen the Martyr Parish and St. Mary Magdalene Parish consisting of: the northern point at the intersection of Sullivant Avenue and Josephine Road; West – air-line from the north point to Brixham Road, then down to Briggs Road; East – air-line from the north point to Josephine Road where it curves and becomes Race Road., then down Josephine to Briggs. South – Briggs Road between Brixham and Josephine;

WHEREAS, there is a recommendation to make an air-line from the north point down to Briggs Road; the territory on the east of this air-line consisting of the homes facing east belonging to St. Mary Magdalene Parish, and the territory on the west of this line consisting of the homes facing west to that of St. Stephen the Martyr Parish;

WHEREAS, having duly consulted with the pastors of the parishes of the territory in question (c. 50); having heard the Presbyteral Council which was provided with the necessary information and lawfully convoked according to cc. 127 and 166 on 26 September 2024 and offered genuine consultation on each of the two recommendations according to c. 515 §2 in the form of unanimous agreement to the proposed alterations of the parishes;

WHEREAS, having determined that the good of souls will suffer no harm and will benefit from a more certain definition of parish boundaries;

THEREFORE, having considered the law and the facts, I, Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes, Bishop of Columbus, decree the following:

- 1) The new boundaries of St. Stephen the Martyr Parish area as follows:

Northern boundary:

The center of Fisher Road from Interstate 270 on the west to North Wilson Road on the east.

Eastern boundary:

The center of North Wilson from Fisher Road south to West Broad Street; then the center of West Broad Street east to Derrer Road; then the center of Derrer Road south to Wicklow Road; then the center of Wicklow Road to Josephine Avenue; then the center of Josephine Avenue south to Sullivant Avenue; then an air-line straight south to Briggs Road; then the center of Briggs Road east to Harrisburg Pike (U.S. Rte. 62); then the center of Harrisburg Pike south to Alkire Road.

Southern boundary:

The center of Alkire Road at the intersection with Harrisburg Pike west to Big Run South Road; then the center of Big Run South Road southwesterly to Johnson Road; then the center of Johnson Road west to Norton Road.

Western boundary:

From the intersection of Johnson and Norton roads north on the center of Norton Road north to Georgesville Road; then the center of Georgesville Road northeast to Interstate 270; then the center of Interstate 270 north to Fisher Road.

- 2) The new boundaries of St. Mary Magdalene Parish are as follows:

Northern boundary:

From Derrer Road at the center of West Broad Street east to Hague Avenue at West Broad Street.

Eastern boundary:

The center of Hague Avenue at West Broad Street south to Vanderberg Avenue; the center of Vanderberg Avenue east to Racine Avenue; the center of Racine Avenue south to Briggs Road.

Southern boundary:

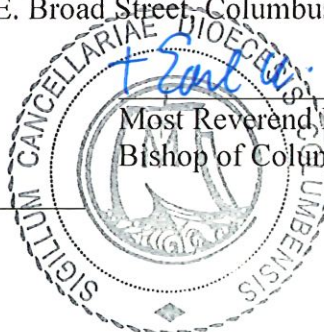
The center of Briggs Road at Racine Avenue west to the air-line that runs straight south from the intersection of Josephine and Sullivant avenues and intersects Briggs Road.

Western boundary:

The air-line that runs straight south from the intersection of Josephine and Sullivant avenues and intersects Briggs Road; then from the intersection of Josephine and Sullivant avenues north on the center of Josephine Avenue to Wicklow Road; then the center of Wicklow Road east to Derrer Road; then the center of Derrer Road north to West Broad Street.

- 3) That these alterations shall take effect upon the promulgation of this decree.
- 4) That this decree shall be promulgated by publication on the Diocese of Columbus website and in *The Catholic Times* diocesan newspaper.

Given at the Chancery Office, 198 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2024.



*Earl K. Fernandes*  
Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes  
Bishop of Columbus

*Tom Berg, Jr.*  
Deacon Tom Berg, Jr.  
Chancellor