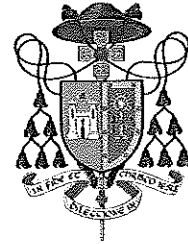


DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH
THE BISHOP'S OFFICE



DE C R E E

As the Catholic Church has constantly taught, Catholic parents have the solemn duty to bring up their children up in the practice of the faith.¹ One of the pre-eminent ways this duty is fulfilled is through educating one's children in Catholic schools: "Parents are to entrust their children to those schools which provide a Catholic education."² "The duty and right of education belongs in a special way to the Church, to which has been divinely entrusted the mission of assisting persons so that they are able to reach the fullness of the Christian life. Pastors of souls have the duty of arranging everything so that all the faithful have a Catholic education."³

In the early 1990's a group of Catholic families in south Arlington greatly desired such an education for their children and petitioned Bishop Delaney for permission to open a Catholic school. Thankfully, through the generosity of a benefactor property for such a school was acquired adjacent to the newly established Saint Joseph Parish on SW Green Oaks Boulevard in Arlington, TX. South Arlington Catholic School, as it was called, began to serve the educational needs of Catholic elementary school children in the area. The Catholic school opened under the supervision of the Diocesan Bishop rather than any one parish.

Over the years, as the Catholic identity of the school and its bonds of communion with the entire Diocese of Fort Worth became ever clearer and stronger, a new name was chosen for it, a name which reflected the Church's age-old devotion to the mother of God: Holy Rosary Catholic School. At the same time, the constant generosity of benefactors and parents enabled the school to grow fiscally sounder as enrollment increased.

Over the years, the relationship between Holy Rosary Catholic School and St. Joseph Parish has grown ever warmer and stronger, as St. Joseph's has provided much of the pastoral and spiritual care for the students of Holy Rosary. Given this, and as allowed by the Code of Canon Law, it is Our judgment this is the opportune time that this close relationship be made even more stable and public, and that Holy Rosary Catholic School formally become the parish school of St. Joseph Parish.

¹ Rite of Infant Baptism, no.

² Canon 798.

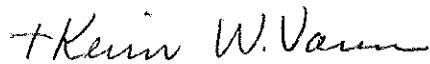
³ Canon 794 §§1&2

Wherefore I, being Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth, hereby decree that Holy Rosary Catholic School is henceforth established as the parish school of St. Joseph Parish, and is made subject to the governance of parish schools as established in Diocesan particular law. The real property, buildings, and other property associated with Holy Rosary Catholic School remain the property of the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth.

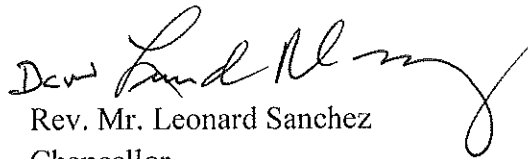
I further decree that the entity heretofore referred to as "Holy Rosary Catholic School" shall change its name to "St. Joseph Catholic School", and that such change shall become effective at the beginning of the 2013-2014 academic year.

Anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of Fort Worth on this 24th day of the month of March, in the year of Our Lord 2011.



+Kevin W. Vann, JCD DD
Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Worth



Rev. Mr. Leonard Sanchez
Chancellor

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Holy Rosary Catholic School/St. Joseph Parish

Why does Holy Rosary School have to become part of St. Joseph Parish? (A response from Bishop Kevin Vann, JCD, DD)

When Pope Benedict XVI visited the United States in 2008 he stressed that education is integral to the mission of the Catholic Church to proclaim the Good News. Although such education takes many forms, the Catholic school has long been viewed as one of the most effective means of achieving it. As Shepherd of the Diocese, sustaining and extending this type of education is one of my primary responsibilities.

In the history of the Catholic Church in the United States, the mission of the Catholic elementary school has been located in the life, structure, and identity of a parish whenever this is possible. Catholic schools have flourished most effectively in this environment of faith, in communion with the local parish.

Pope Benedict XVI also urged the strengthening of this dynamic communal identity to which we belong. Our Catholic schools must be places of daily encounter with the living person of Jesus. As bishop, I believe that can best take place in the context of the parish identity. As much as I appreciate and respect all the efforts of those who have made Holy Rosary the fine school it is, it has long been my desire to further support the Catholic identity through the mission and community of the parish and school. The arrival of Fr. Dan Kelley as pastor has made this possible and realistic in moving forward toward this goal.

My personal thanks to all those who started and supported Holy Rosary Catholic School in its early years. I know, with Fr. Kelley's leadership, this vital ministry of the parish will flourish even more in the years to come.

What will change?

The day to day formation and education of children will have no noticeable changes. The school will continue to provide a Catholic education for families in the parishes of Arlington and Mansfield. The school will be administratively connected to one parish. The principal will be immediately responsible to the pastor of St. Joseph parish. The name will change from Holy Rosary Catholic School to St. Joseph Catholic School in the fall of 2013.

How will this transition affect my tuition?

Because Holy Rosary is a cost-based tuition school, the current tuition structure will remain in place. There will not be a separate tuition charged based on your parish registration. There will continue to be a Catholic rate and a non-Catholic rate. Members of any of the Catholic parishes in Arlington or Mansfield qualify for Catholic rates; members of St. Joseph parish will have no special rates.

Will this transition affect registration priority for new families?

At this time of the transition, St. Joseph parishioners who are registering for school for the first time will not have priority over students from other Catholic parishes. The current registration process will remain the same with the current set of guidelines until the transition is complete in the fall of 2013. This is an issue that will need to be explored and discussed in coming years.

Will St. Joseph Parishioners have to pay for the School?

No, the school is a tuition based school. Holy Rosary is currently paying all its own bills and within the next two years will be debt free.