



UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF SASKATOON  
УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЄПАРХІЯ САСКАТУНУ  
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Ref. # 2024-06-20-07 MS

June 20, 2024

**DECREE OF SUPPRESSION AND UNION**  
***Holy Ghost (Prairie River) with Transfiguration (Preeceville)***

***Whereas:***

1. The Second Vatican Council, in its decree on the Pastoral Ministry of Bishops, *Christus Dominus*, 32, affirmed the perennial teaching of a Bishop's responsibility for the care of souls of those living in his diocese/eparchy. He is to see to the spiritual wellbeing of persons by the establishment, suppression, and/or modification of parishes when it is opportune to do so. (CCEO c. 280)
2. Ukrainian Catholic settlers first came to the district of Prairie River, Saskatchewan between 1930 and 1934. A community hall was purchased in 1945 to be used as a church. The Ukrainian Catholic Parish of the Holy Ghost at Prairie River, Saskatchewan of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon [herein "Holy Ghost (Prairie River)"] was canonically erected by Decree dated April 30, 1954. Two lots in the Village of Prairie River were purchased in 1951 with the intention of building a church thereon but the new church was never built. The parish sold the original church property in 1978. The empty lots on which the new church was to have been built were sold in 2018. This parish did not have its own cemetery. Holy Ghost (Prairie River) has no remaining assets of any kind nor are there any known liabilities associated with the parish.
3. The closest or most convenient parish to serve the faithful living in the territory of of Holy Ghost (Prairie River) is the Ukrainian Catholic Parish of the Transfiguration at Preeceville, Saskatchewan of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon [herein "Transfiguration (Preeceville)"]. Fr. Ivan Simko, the Pastoral Administrator of Transfiguration (Preeceville), has been consulted and has agreed to have the territory of Holy Ghost (Prairie River) merged with that of Transfiguration (Preeceville) such that the care of any souls within that territory would fall under his mandate.

4. At a duly constituted meeting of the Presbyteral Council of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon held June 20, 2024, the Presbyteral Council was consulted regarding the suppression of Holy Ghost (Prairie River) and the union of that parish territory with Transfiguration (Preeceville). The Presbyteral Council granted unanimous consent for the proposed action.

**Now therefore, I, the Eparch of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon, make the following Decree:**

1. Pursuant to CCEO c. 280, the parish of Holy Ghost (Prairie River) is suppressed and the territory of that former parish is merged with the territory of Transfiguration (Preeceville).
2. All the Christian Faithful ascribed to the Ukrainian Catholic Church who have domicile or quasi-domicile in the territory of the former parish, Holy Ghost (Prairie River), now belong to Transfiguration (Preeceville).
3. Fr. Ivan Simko will continue as the Pastoral Administrator of Transfiguration (Preeceville).
4. This Decree shall be promulgated by publication on the Eparchial website.
5. This Decree shall take effect on June 20, 2024.

May Christ our Lord, through the powerful prayers and intercession of the Mother of God, continue to provide rich blessings to the parishioners of Transfiguration (Preeceville).

Given at the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon, under my signature and Eparchial seal and bearing the countersignature of the Chancellor of the Eparchy.

+ Most Rev. Michael Smolinski, C.Ss.R.

Most Rev. Michael Smolinski, C.Ss.R.  
Eparch of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon

Fr. V. Tymishak

Very Rev. Vasyl Tymishak  
Chancellor of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon

