



HIS EXCELLENCY
MOST REVEREND MICHAEL W. FISHER
By the Grace of God and the Authority of the Apostolic See
BISHOP OF BUFFALO

**DECREE EXECUTING THE MERGER OF ST. PIUS X PARISH, GETZVILLE AND ITS
TERRITORY INTO ST. GREGORY THE GREAT PARISH, WILLIAMSVILLE**

On 18 February 2025, I issued a decree merging the parish of St. Pius X in Getzville into St. Gregory the Great in Williamsville. This was published to the parishes affected on the following weekend, that is, 22 and 23 February 2025. A letter was sent to my office by Ms. Linda HAMMERL, the mandated Procurator for some members of St. Pius X Parish, which I received on 28 February 2025. Having made no response to this letter, the Procurator attempted to exercise her right to hierarchical recourse to the Dicastery for the Clergy with a letter dated 28 March 2025.

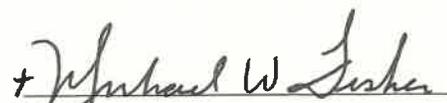
During this time, I suspended the execution of my merger decree until all opportunities for hierarchical recourse had been exhausted. On 1 July 2025, I received a letter from the Dicastery for the Clergy dated 20 May 2025 (Prot. N. 2025 1382) which informed me of the Dicastery's decision to reject the request of Ms. Hammerl for hierarchical recourse. This, as the Dicastery notes, was due to a procedural error on the part of Ms. Hammerl who did not properly interpret the timeframe in canon 1735.

The Reverend Peter J. SANTANDREU, my Vice Chancellor, spoke to Ms. Hammerl on two occasions. Most recently, on 18 November 2025, he confirmed with Ms. Hammerl that there would be no further recourse on her part. Having reached the conclusion of the possibility of further hierarchical recourse against my 18 February 2025 decree, I hereby establish that the 18 February decree will become effective on Saturday 28 March 2026. All formalities outlined in the original decree are to be respected. Additionally, the 18 February 2025 decree is to be fully implemented according to the decree itself. The parish church of St. Gregory the Great Parish is St. Gregory the Great church located at 200 St. Gregory Court, Williamsville, NY 14221. St. Pius X church will be used for Catholic worship at the discretion of the Pastor; all legal requirements being observed.

Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of Buffalo on this 2nd day of March 2026.


Ms. Melissa POTZLER
Chancellor




Most Reverend Michael W. FISHER
Bishop of Buffalo