



COPY

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

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**DECREE
ERECTING THE SHRINE OF
SAINT JOHN PAUL II
AT OUR LADY OF BRIGHT MOUNT CHURCH
IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES**

The Parish of Our Lady of Bright Mount was founded in the City of Los Angeles in 1926 as a territorial parish of the Diocese of Los Angeles – San Diego to serve the Polish Catholic Community of Southern California. Ever since the erection of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in 1936, the Parish of Our Lady of Bright Mount continues to exercise pastoral responsibility for Polish Catholics throughout Southern California who seek spiritual or sacramental assistance from the parish and from its pastor or administrator who shares that responsibility with the pastors of the territorial parishes within which they reside.

On August 29 and 30, 1976, the community of Our Lady of Bright Mount was graced by the visit of Cardinal Karol Wojtyla, then Archbishop of Krakow, Poland, for the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the parish. On that occasion, two years prior to his election as Pope John Paul II, Cardinal Wojtyla celebrated Mass in the parish church and rededicated the church building.

Since that time, Polish Catholics and other visitors from throughout Southern California and beyond have continued to visit the parish church of Our Lady of Bright Mount as a place of pilgrimage, to pray for Pope John Paul II and to see the historical artifacts associated with his visit to the parish and his pontificate.

Responding to the request of the Polish Catholic Community and the parishioners of Our Lady of Bright Mount Parish, responsible advisors, both clergy and laity, having been consulted, and approving the canonical statutes that have been written, I have concluded that it is opportune to formally erect the Archdiocesan Shrine of Saint John Paul II.

Therefore, in accord with canons 1230 and 1234,

**I,
José H. Gomez,
Archbishop of Los Angeles,
hereby DECREE
the erection of
The Shrine of Saint John Paul II.**

The shrine is erected with the following specifications:

- a. It shall be known as *The Shrine of Saint John Paul II* (hereafter in this Document identified as *the Shrine*).
- b. The Shrine shall be located in perpetuity at the church of and on the grounds of Our Lady of Bright Mount Parish in the City of Los Angeles.
- c. The Rector of the Shrine and the one to whom the pastoral care of its visitors is entrusted shall be the same cleric as the Pastor (*parochus*) or Administrator of Our Lady of Bright Mount Parish.
- d. The administration of the Shrine shall be entrusted to the Rector, who shall have the power of governance of it. Also, the Rector shall be the sole representative of the Shrine and is authorized to act in its name.
- e. Although the sacred space and administration of the Shrine is located in the parish church and on the grounds of Our Lady of Bright Mount Parish, it is canonically distinct from the Parish itself.
- f. Use of the Shrine or any part thereof for the celebration of Sacraments and Sacramentals of the Catholic Church shall be in accord with liturgical law.
- g. The Shrine is subject to the administrative and personnel policies of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles unless specific exception is provided.
- h. The Shrine shall be bound by the statutes approved for it by the Archbishop of Los Angeles.

All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the offices of the Archdiocese this third day of November, 2015.

+ José H. Gomez

Most Reverend José H. Gomez
Archbishop of Los Angeles

ARCHDIOCESAN SEAL

Sr. Mary Elizabeth Galt, BVM
Sr. Mary Elizabeth Galt, BVM
Chancellor