



DIOCESE OF SAGINAW

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

July 25, 2025

To: The Faithful of Our Lady of Częstochowa Parish, Bay City, MI
1503 Kosciuszko Ave
Bay City, MI 48708

Execution of the Decree of Closure of Saint Hyacinth Church dated May 2, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

By virtue of my pastoral office as Bishop of the Diocese of Saginaw, I, the Most Reverend Robert Gruss, hereby inform you that, having duly considered the hierarchical recourse submitted concerning the decree dated May 2, 2025, ordering the closure of Saint Hyacinth church, I have decided to uphold said decree.

The execution of the decree, which was temporarily suspended to hear the concerns of the community, will now proceed in accordance with canon law and diocesan norms.

Therefore, the closure of Saint Hyacinth church will take effect as of July 28, 2025, with all necessary pastoral provisions arranged to care for the faithful during this time of transition. The faithful are encouraged to participate in the liturgical life of the parish.

You are hereby informed that, in accordance with canon 1737 §2 of the Code of Canon Law, those who believe themselves aggrieved by this decision retain the right to submit hierarchical recourse to the Dicastery for the Clergy at the Holy See within fifteen (15) useful days from the receipt of this notification.

While this decision has been undoubtedly difficult, it is made after prayerful discernment and with a view toward the spiritual and pastoral well-being of the entire parish community.

I assure you of my continued prayers and pastoral solicitude for all who have been part of the life of this community.

May the Lord strengthen our faith and hope as we move forward in His service.

Peace in Christ,

+ Robert D. Gruss

Most Rev. Robert D. Gruss
Bishop of Saginaw

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