



ROGER JOSEPH

BY THE GRACE OF GOD
AND THE FAVOR OF THE APOSTOLIC SEE

BISHOP OF COVINGTON

DECREE

Erecting the Missionaries of Saint John the Baptist as a Public Association of the Faithful

Desiring to provide more suitably for the souls entrusted to our care, and having considered carefully the spiritual and pastoral needs of this Diocese of Covington, we have decided to erect a public association of the faithful to be named the Missionaries of Saint John the Baptist.

The primary purpose of this association is the sanctification of its members through the profession of the evangelical counsels. Furthermore, its members will work out their salvation by laboring as true missionaries of the Lord, serving in particular those attached to the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite and a more traditional expression of the Catholic faith, who so often are driven to the margins of ecclesiastical and civil life. In carrying out this mission, the Missionaries of Saint John the Baptist will lead parish missions and retreats, teach Catechism, assist in the education of young people in universities and seminaries, serve in foreign missions, and staff parishes that provide a spiritual home for Catholics who are attached to the *usus antiquior*.

Whereas we have determined that this association would be useful to the faithful of the Diocese of Covington;

And whereas we have been assured that this association has sufficient resources to achieve its designated purposes;

Therefore, in order to provide more suitably for the care of souls, we hereby accept and approve the statutes of the Missionaries of Saint John the Baptist, contained in the document entitled Constitutions of the Missionaries of St. John the Baptist, and, in accordance with canons 301,

302, and 312, we hereby establish and erect the Missionaries of Saint John the Baptist as a Clerical Public Association of the Christian Faithful for the spiritual and pastoral advantage of the faithful and for the purposes defined in its statutes.

In accordance with the norm of canon 313, juridic personality is granted by means of this decree to the Missionaries of Saint John the Baptist, with all the accompanying canonical rights and obligations.

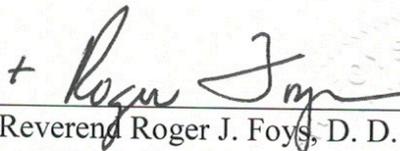
This association has been established with the intention of becoming in the future a religious institute of diocesan right. Its members will consist of celibate men, clergy and laity, who may live as though they were religious until the association is established as a religious institute. The association is permitted to own temporal goods, including religious houses and a novitiate, to wear a specific religious habit, to have its own government as defined by its statutes and the 1983 Code of Canon Law, to profess private vows, and to have temporarily and perpetually professed members.

The association is subject to the authority of the Bishop of Covington according to the norm of law. He is to exercise vigilance to ensure, in particular, that the goods of the association are used properly, the integrity of faith and morals is preserved within the association, abuse does not creep into ecclesiastical discipline, and the exercise of the apostolate is ordered to the common good. In accordance with canon 397 §1, the Bishop of Covington possesses the right of ordinary episcopal visitation in order to ensure that all the affairs of the association are conducted according to the norm of law and its proper statutes.

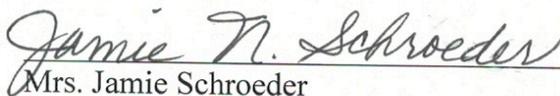
The approved statutes of the Missionaries of Saint John the Baptist cannot be amended without the approval of the competent ecclesiastical authority, namely, the Bishop of Covington.

Anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of Covington on the fifth day of September in the two thousand nineteenth year of our Lord.



Most Reverend Roger J. Foys, D. D.
Bishop of Covington



Mrs. Jamie Schroeder
Chancellor