



# Glossary of Terms

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| amalgamated/subsumed          | when one parish is united to another parish in such a way that the first parish no longer exists and the second parish remains   |
| associate pastor              | a parochial vicar, a priest who serves as a co worker with the pastor and pastorally ministers by common counsel and effort with the pastor and under his authority  |
| church                        | a sacred edifice dedicated for divine worship and to which the faithful have right of entry; the following are also terms commonly used to describe churches: basilica, cathedral, chapel, oratory, shrine, worship site |
| deanery                       | a grouping of a certain number of parishes over which is placed a dean who promotes and coordinates common pastoral activity within it   |
| decree                        | a singular administrative act issued by the diocesan bishop which is required to alter a parish or take other actions in canon law   |
| juridic structure of a parish | the faithful, proper pastor, and finance council of a parish, under the authority of the diocesan bishop   |
| just cause                    | a legally sufficient reason is needed for the diocesan bishop, after consultation with the diocesan presbyteral council, to erect, suppress, or merge a parish   |
| merged                        | a parish that has been subsumed into another parish with the latter parish remaining, or two or more parishes that have been united in such a way that a new parish is established from them                             |
| mission                       | a group of the faithful to whom pastoral care is provided but which is not large enough to be established as a parish  |
| multi-parish pastoring        | when two or more parishes are entrusted to one pastor; Mass times may change and staff and programs may consolidate  |
| parish church                 | in a parish with more than one church, the parish church is the one preferentially used for divine worship   |
| parochial administrator       | a priest temporarily entrusted with the pastoral care of a parish under the authority of the diocesan bishop in whose ministry of Christ he has been called to share   |

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| pastor                     | a priest stably entrusted with the pastoral care of a parish under the authority of the diocesan bishop in whose ministry of Christ he has been called to share   |
| personal parish            | a parish established to serve a group of the faithful determined by reason of the rite, language, or nationality  |
| rector                     | a priest to whom is entrusted the care of and celebration of the sacraments in a non-parish church  |
| senior priest in residence | a priest who celebrates the sacraments in a church  |
| subsumed/amalgamated       | when one parish is united to another parish in such a way that the first parish no longer exists and the second parish remains  |
| suppress                   | when a personal parish is altered in such a way that it no longer exists; its church remains a sacred edifice open to the faithful  |
| territorial parish         | a parish which includes all the Christian faithful of a certain territory   |
| vicariate                  | a specific part of a diocese entrusted to an episcopal vicar who assists the diocesan bishop in the pastoral governance of that part of the diocese; in the Archdiocese of St. Louis there will be 3 vicariates |