



ARCHBISHOP OF DETROIT

March 1, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with great joy and thanksgiving to the Lord that I share with you the news for which we have all been hoping: that our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has granted the title of Minor Basilica to Ste. Anne Church. To mark this blessed occasion, I am glad to have been invited by Msgr. Kosanke to celebrate Mass with you at 12 p.m. on Sunday, April 26. I truly hope that you can join with me in giving thanks to God for this honor.

At its founding on the Feast of St. Anne in 1701, this parish was among the first fruits of a new missionary diocese. I consider this designation as a basilica to be a providential reminder that today, we each are called to continue this same mission to unleash the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the men and women of our time.

I hope, too, that this recognition will raise up for the faithful the treasure you already hold close to your hearts: your devotion to St. Anne, patroness of this parish and of the Archdiocese of Detroit. I am confident that in embracing this designation as a basilica, you will also take up anew the responsibility that St. Anne entrusted to you: to act on her behalf to welcome and encourage pilgrims who come to this holy shrine to ask for her intercession.

On behalf of the clergy, religious, and faithful of the Archdiocese of Detroit, I wish to confirm for you how proud we all are of this designation. We are truly blessed by the Holy Father's recognition of your church's historic significance to the City of Detroit and our local Church. More information about this special designation is provided in the accompanying announcement from the Archdiocese of Detroit.

Please be assured of my prayers for you and for all who have worshipped at Ste. Anne, as I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Allen H. Vigneron".

The Most Reverend Allen H. Vigneron
Archbishop of Detroit

UNLEASH THE GOSPEL