

PROCLAMATION

OUR LADY OF LORETTO CATHOLIC CHURCH

Golden Jubilee

1953-2003

Whereas: On Saturday, October 25, 2003 **Our Lady of Loretto Catholic Church** will be celebrating 50 years of worship, education and service to God; and

Whereas: **Our Lady of Loretto** has a rich history, starting with Father Clare Berry holding the first mass in the basement of Bulman Elementary School on July 12, 1953; 350 parishioners were present. Groundbreaking for the new church building took place on October 26, 1953. From December of 1953, mass was held at Redford Union High School until April of 1954 when the first mass was celebrated in the basement of the unfinished church building of **Our Lady of Loretto**, and

Whereas: **Our Lady of Loretto** has had a rich history, and since locating at their current site their leaders have been: Father Clare Berry from 1954 to 1966; Father Robert Ryan from 1966 to 1982; Father Henry Roodbeen from 1982 to 1988, Father Ricardo Bass from 1988 to 1990; Father Ronald Essman from 1990 to 1992 Father Arnold Dachille interim 1992, Father Joseph Esper from 1992 to 2000 and presently Father John (JJ) Mech; and

Whereas: We give pause, honor and praise this day for the deep and abiding Christian commitment of those who in faith began this work, and for all those who have given so unselfishly during these many years to help the work grow and thrive, and provide valuable human services whenever there was a need; and

Whereas: Our entire community has benefited from the fine Christian influence this church has exerted through the years, and the many facets of its outreach and practical assistance to the needy; and

Whereas: It is a pleasure and honor to extend this expression of our esteem and best wishes to the members of this parish on the memorable occasion of this golden anniversary.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Redford, and on behalf of the citizens of Redford Township, do hereby proclaim October 25, 2003, as “**Our Lady of Loretto Catholic Church Day in Redford Township**”, recognizing **Our Lady of Loretto** and its parish family has graciously provided to its members and to our community.

Kevin F. Kelley, Supervisor

Tom Dowdy, Trustee

Garth J. Christie, Clerk

Gerald Gajewski, Trustee

Robert F. Brang, Jr., Treasurer

R. Miles Handy, II, Trustee

Kelly D. Watson, Trustee

Dated: October 14, 2003