

R4: A Resolution to Declare St. Luke's, Niles Parish to be Extinct

Be it Resolved, that this 209th Convention acknowledges with both gratitude and sadness the end of the parish ministry of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Niles, and expresses its deep appreciation to the laity and clergy of this congregation for their generations of faithful service to God and to the people of their community; and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention accepts the recommendation of the Committee on Constitution, Resolutions, and Canons, in accordance with the Canons of the Diocese of Ohio (Title II, Canon 7), and declares St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Niles, to be extinct.

Rationale:

St. Luke's Episcopal Church traces its roots to the early 20th century. On Christmas Day 1901, a vested choir was introduced into worship, and in 1903 the parish celebrated the installation of a pipe organ. The congregation's first rectory was purchased in 1914, and by 1918 St. Luke's counted 250 communicants. The parish was consecrated by Bishop Leonard in 1912, and it celebrated its centennial of mission and ministry on Trinity Sunday, 1970.

For over 155 years, St. Luke's was a beacon of Christian witness and service in Niles and the surrounding communities. On February 9, 2025, the parish celebrated its final Eucharist, with the Rt. Rev. Anne B. Jolly presiding and preaching.

The history of St. Luke's Church is marked by devotion, sacrifice, and steadfast love of God. Though the parish now concludes its active ministry, its story will be preserved in the diocesan archives as a testimony to the enduring faithfulness of its people.