

What is the St. Thomas the Apostle Benevolent Association?

A group of parishioners from the former parish of St. Thomas the Apostle organized this association prior to the creation of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha parish. The group operates independently of any ecclesial entity.

The group solicited funds ostensibly to care for building maintenance. Saint Kateri Tekakwitha parish has never received any funds from the group. The group has never disclosed the amount of the funds collected or the purposes for which any funds have been dispersed.

The parish of Saint Thomas the Apostle, like the parishes of Saint Margaret Mary, Saint Cecilia, Saint Salome and Christ the King was suppressed by the merger (extinctive union) creating Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Parish. That union, upon appeal (recourse), was upheld by the Vatican Congregation for Clergy and the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura.

Who speaks officially for this endeavor?

Bishop Matano asked Father Dennis Bonsignore who has led the Latin Mass Community at Saint Stanislaus to lead this endeavor. Father Bonsignore has been working closely with Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Parish through its pastor, Father Paul English and with the Diocese of Rochester, represented by Diocesan Chancellor, Father Daniel Condon.