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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 26, 2015

Statement by Bishop Paul J. Bradley regarding the Supreme Court of the United State's decision on the definition of marriage

June 26, 2015 (Kalamazoo, Mich.): Bishop Paul J. Bradley has released the following statement regarding today's landmark decision by the Supreme Court of the United States:

"The Supreme Court's historic decision today redefining the institution of marriage raises serious concerns since it has changed the social fabric that serves as the very foundation of our society. Even as this decision puts the Church's teaching at odds with the law of society, the Church will continue to stand firm in our belief, and will not waver in our teaching, of the ageless understanding of marriage as a faithful and fruitful relationship between one man and one woman.

"While there might be a profound difference of opinion with the Supreme Court's decision regarding the institution of marriage, our disagreement should not be confused with discrimination or intolerance. We will continue our strong stance against unjust discriminatory actions against any person, regardless of their sexual orientation.

"As we express our disagreement with this decision, we reaffirm the Good News of God's unconditional love for all people, and we pray that as a society, we will find the will to have respectful dialogue and tolerance for our differences, especially as we continue to build on what unites us. Our regret in the face of this decision, and its potential impact on religious liberty as well as countless numbers of current laws, does not in any way change Jesus' constant teaching that we are to love all people. Individuals with same-sex attraction are deserving of respect and the same dignity God has given to all."