DECREE

OF THE RELEGATION OF

OUR LADY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH,
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

TO PROFANE BUT NOT SORDID USE

Due to the high cost of repairing and maintaining Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church, Philadelphia and due to a lack of the funding necessary to cover the expenses of the church, consideration must be given as to whether sufficient grave causes exist for the relegation of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church to profane but not sordid use.

The following grave causes suggest that the church be so relegated and no longer be used for divine worship:

1) Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church has been costing Saint Cyprian Parish approximately $35,000 a year just to maintain. In addition, the church building continues to have problems that necessitate expensive repairs, such as a recent expense of $3500 to repair water damage from a broken pipe;

2) Saint Cyprian Parish, Philadelphia, which has ownership of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church, does not have the resources to repair and to continue to maintain the Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church building. The parish has a debt and has difficulty in meeting its operating expenses;

3) there is no other source of funding for the church maintenance and necessary repairs;

4) the financial burden of repairing and maintaining Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church would cause staffing and important pastoral programs of Saint Cyprian Parish, such as outreach to the poor and educational efforts, to suffer due to lack of funds;
5) Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church building does not have any particular architectural, historical, or artistic significance; and,

6) the people who had been attending Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church are in reasonably close proximity to Saint Cyprian Church, so the relegation of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church would not deprive anyone of the use of a church.

Accordingly, in virtue of the prescripts of canon 1212 and canon 1222, §2 of the Code of Canon Law, having judged that sufficient grave causes are present and that the good of souls will not thereby be impaired, having consulted with the Pastor of Saint Cyprian Parish and having consulted with the Council of Priests, I hereby DECREE that Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, be relegated to profane but not sordid use.

This decree is effective as of August 1, 2014, and is to be communicated to the members of Saint Cyprian Parish and to the faithful of the Archdiocese in an appropriate manner. All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the Curia of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, on the eighteenth day of July, in the Year of Our Lord 2014.

Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M.Cap.
Archbishop of Philadelphia

SEAL

Reverend Monsignor Gerard C. Mesure, J.C.D.
Chancellor