



DECREE

OF THE RELEGATION OF

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

TO PROFANE BUT NOT SORDID USE

Due to the deteriorating condition of All Saints Church, Philadelphia and a lack of the funding necessary to repair and maintain the church, consideration must be given as to whether sufficient grave causes exist for the relegation of All Saints 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) All Saints Church has been examined by experts who have determined that the building is in need of considerable repairs. Most notably the use of the church had to be suspended for safety reasons in October 2013 when inspectors found serious structural problems with the facade and the roof of the church. It is estimated that the cost of necessary repairs would be nearly one million dollars. This includes \$15,000 just for immediate stabilization and \$325,000 for repointing the stonework on the exterior of the church. The other buildings owned by the parish on the property with All Saints Church are in need of an additional one million dollars in repairs;
- 2) Saint John Cantius Parish, Philadelphia, which has ownership of All Saints Church, does not have the resources to repair and maintain the All Saints Church building. The parish has a debt of slightly over two million dollars and has difficulty in meeting operating expenses;
- 3) there is no other source of funding for the necessary repairs;
- 4) the financial burden of repairing and maintaining the church would cause important pastoral programs of Saint John Cantius Parish, such as outreach to the poor and educational efforts, to suffer due to lack of funds;

- 5) the church building does not have any particular architectural, historical, or artistic significance; and,
- 6) the people who had been attending All Saints Church are in reasonably close proximity to Saint John Cantius Church.

Accordingly, in virtue of the precepts 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 John Cantius Parish, and having consulted with the Council of Priests, I hereby **DECREE** that All Saints Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, be relegated to profane but not sordid use.

This decree is effective as of February 28, 2014, and is to be communicated to the members of Saint John Cantius 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 seventeenth day of February, in the Year of Our Lord 2014.

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

SEAL

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