

DECREE

OF THE RELEGATION OF

SAINT LUCY CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

TO PROFANE BUT NOT SORDID USE

Due to the negative impact on parish ministry at Holy Family Parish, Philadelphia resulting from the expenses associated with repairing and maintaining Saint Lucy Church, Philadelphia as a worship site of the parish, consideration must be given as to whether sufficient grave causes exist for the relegation of Saint Lucy 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) Holy Family Parish does not have the resources to repair and to continue to maintain Saint Lucy Church. Necessary repairs would cost an estimated \$140,000. It is estimated that simply maintaining the church over the next five years would cost the parish an additional \$387,043. Also, when Saint Lucy Parish was merged into Holy Family Parish, a debt of approximately \$856,419 from St. Lucy Parish became the responsibility of Holy Family Parish;
- 2) there is no other source of funding and the financial burden of repairing and maintaining the church would cause important pastoral programs of Holy Family Parish, such as outreach to the poor of the area and support of Catholic education, to suffer due to lack of funds;
- 3) the church building does not have any particular architectural, historical, or artistic significance; and,
- 4) provision has been made for another suitable location for divine worship within the parish.

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 and having consulted with the Council of Priests, I hereby **DECREE** that Saint Lucy Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, be relegated to profane but not sordid use.

This decree is effective as of October 1, 2013, and is to be communicated to the members of Holy Family 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 twenty fifth day of September, in the Year of Our Lord 2013.

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

Reverend Monsignor Gerard C. Mesure
Chancellor