



The Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson  
Archdiocese of Indianapolis  
1400 N. Meridian Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367  
317-236-1403

## DECREE

Whereas, by the decree of the Most Reverend Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., on 21 May 2014, the former parish of the Holy Cross (125 N. Oriental St., Indianapolis, IN 46202), was merged by extinctive union into the parish of Saint Philip Neri (550 N. Rural St., Indianapolis, IN 46201); and,

Whereas the recourse that was filed against this decree has been exhausted and the decree upheld; and,

Whereas the legal and equitable assets and liabilities of the former parish of Holy Cross became assets and liabilities of the parish of Saint Philip Neri by virtue of the extinctive union; and

Whereas the pastor of the parish of Saint Philip Neri spoke on the possibility of the reduction to profane but not sordid use of the Church building of Holy Cross at all of the weekend Masses on the weekend of February 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> in 2019; and,

Whereas, on 24 February 2019, the pastor of Saint Philip Neri, after consultation with both his finance and pastoral council, petitioned me to relegate the church building of the former parish of Holy Cross to profane but not sordid use so that the proceeds of the sale of the church building might be used to fund the ministries of the parish of Saint Philip Neri; and,

Whereas, on 26 February 2019, I consulted with the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council on the question of the relegation of the church building of Holy Cross to profane but not sordid use; and,

Whereas, in the consideration of the question of reduction of church building of Holy Cross, I evaluated the following facts concerning the state of the church building of Holy Cross:

- The building is not in good repair.
- The cost of repairs would be approximately \$ 877,025.
- The insured value of the building (\$500,000) is below the cost of repairs.
- For the fiscal year of 2018/2019, the budgeted ordinary expenses for the parish of Philip Neri was \$485,610.
- The archway over the portico entrance of the church building collapsed into the street

on 17 March 2015

- The merged parish of Saint Philip Neri has no use for this building.

And whereas the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council voted unanimously to recommend that church building of Holy Cross be relegated to profane but not sordid use; and,

Whereas I have concluded that the economic hardship of repairing the building and its lack of usefulness to the parish of Saint Philip Neri constitute grave cause sufficient in law to support the relegation of the church building to profane but not sordid use;

I, the Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson, D.D., J.C.L., Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, having in mind my responsibility to best address the spiritual needs of the people of the parish of Saint Philip Neri specifically and the needs of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis generally, hereby decree:

1. The church building of the former parish of Holy Cross shall be relegated to profane but not sordid use fourteen days after the date of the promulgation of this decree.
2. The parish of Saint Philip Neri, in consultation with the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, shall dispose of the church building in a manner that accords with Catholic faith and morals, and with its dignity as a former place of Divine worship.
3. This decree is to be published to the pastor of the parish of Saint Philip Neri.
4. The parishioners of the parish of Saint Philip Neri are to be given notice of this decree upon its receipt by the pastor of the parish. Copies of this decree are to be made available for inspection at the office of the parish, and the parishioners shall be given notice as soon as is possible after its receipt by the pastor.
5. This decree is to be published in the Archdiocesan newspaper, The Criterion.
6. This decree is to be posted to the website of the Archdiocese.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis on 11 May 2019.

*+ Charles C. Thompson*

Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson, D.D., J.C.L.  
Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis

*Annette "Mickey" Lentz*  
Annette "Mickey" Lentz  
Chancellor