

DECREE

Loss of Blessing and Relegation to Profane Use of Sacred Heart Church, Wilton, New Hampshire

Whereas, Sacred Heart Parish, Wilton, New Hampshire, having been unified with Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Greenville, New Hampshire, by decree dated June 20, 2013, and effective June 30, 2013, in accord with the 1983 *Code of Canon Law*, canons 50 and 51 relative to the execution of administrative acts, canon 1212 relative to the loss of dedication or blessing of sacred places, and canon 1222, §2 relative to grave causes for the relegation of a church to profane but not sordid use, I have secured the consent of the Pastor of and of those who legitimately claim rights for themselves in the Church, and I am morally certain that the good of souls in the Town of Wilton will suffer no detriment. Having consulted with the Presbyteral Council on April 24, 2017 in accordance with the norms of law, due to the following grave causes, Sacred Heart Church is relegated to profane but not sordid use:

1. The present state of the physical plant of Sacred Heart Church imposes an inordinate financial burden upon Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Greenville, and repairs to and maintenance of the church cannot be reasonably undertaken without causing exceptional harm to the stability of the Parish(Cf. canon 1222 §1.)
2. The documented and well established shortage of clergy in the Diocese of Manchester, without a foreseeable amelioration, requires a prudent distribution of priests throughout the diocese and an adjustment of their expected ministries in the care of the souls entrusted to them. To fulfill and observe this supreme law, the needs of the faithful of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish will be better guaranteed and nurtured by reducing its accumulated worship

places. Relying on the recorded and documented history of the life of the local Church community, it is most propitious to sustain the liturgical life of the Parish using the worship space of and Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Greenville, New Hampshire.

Therefore, I hereby:

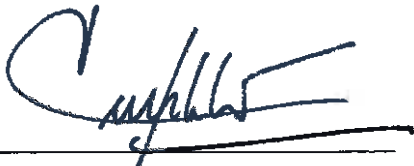
1. Decree that the Sacred Heart Church, Wilton, New Hampshire is no longer a sacred place and by this Decree, has lost its blessing (Cf. canon 1212);
2. Decree that the Sacred Heart Church, Wilton, New Hampshire may no longer be utilized in any way for divine worship (Cf. canon 1214);
3. Instruct that all sacred objects within Sacred Heart Church be removed by Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish with particular attention given to the Altars (Cf. canon 1238);
4. Relegate permanently to profane, but not sordid, use Sacred Heart Church, Wilton, New Hampshire (Cf. canon 1222 §1.)

This Decree takes effect at midnight on April 26, 2017. I direct that this Decree be given to the Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Greenville, New Hampshire, to be placed in the records of the Parish.

Given at Manchester, New Hampshire, on this the 24th day of April in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Seventeen.



Most Reverend Peter A. Libasci, D.D.
Bishop of Manchester



Very Reverend Georges de Laire, J.C.L.
Vicar for Canonical Affairs