



DECREE

Relegating St. Charles Borromeo Church to Profane but Not Sordid Use and Authorizing It's Pious Destruction

In Nomine Domini. Amen.

Whereas the Parish of St. Charles Borromeo in Trail, MN is a subject of the Bishop of Crookston;

Whereas the church itself, located at Gully Township - Section 32 on Minnesota Hwy 92 at 380 Avenue SE is property of the Parish of St. Francis of Xavier in Oklee;

Whereas sacred places lose their dedication or blessing if they have been turned over permanently to profane use by the decree of the competent ordinary (cf. c. 1212);

Whereas the competent superior can relegate a church to profane but not sordid use provided that he has heard the presbyteral council, received the consent of those who legitimately claim rights for themselves in the church, and provided that the good of souls suffers no detriment thereby (cf. c. 1222 §2);

Whereas the church comprises part of the stable patrimony of the parish of St. Charles Borromeo (c. 1291);

Whereas the pastor and people of the parish territory in which the church is located were heard on 18 May 2024, and recommended the relegation and pious destruction of the edifice due to the burden of maintenance and in order to prevent desecration;

Whereas grave causes suggest that this church no longer be used for divine worship, namely, the maintaining the edifice in a suitable manner is gravely burdensome, and its location puts it at serious risk of desecration unless continually occupied (c. 1293 §1, 1°);

Whereas I have provided the presbyteral council sufficient information to judge the appropriateness and legitimacy of the relegation of this church to profane but not sordid use;

Whereas consultation regarding this matter occurred with the presbyteral council on 24 September 2024 (cc. 127, 166);

Whereas the structure holds little monetary value (c. 1293 §1, 2°);

Whereas the College of Consultors on 20 August 2024, and the Diocesan Finance Council on 22 October 2024, consented to the pious destruction of the church (c. 1292 §1);

Whereas I have received the consent of those whose rights might be legitimately harmed, namely, the pastor of the parish concerned (c. 1292 §1);

Whereas I have ensured that the altar, sacred objects, and religious artifacts have been safeguarded;

Whereas I have made appropriate provision to assure that good of souls will not suffer any detriment as a result of this relegation and pious destruction;

Therefore, the requirements of law having been fulfilled (c. 1222 §2; c. 1291) I hereby relegate the Church of St. Charles Borromeo, located at Gully Township - Section 32 on Minnesota Hwy 92 at 380 Avenue SE, to profane but not sordid use, effective October 25, 2024. At that time it loses its blessing, dedication, and consecration, and may no longer be used for divine worship. I likewise consent to the pious destruction of the Church building after that date.

This decree is to be published by means of the diocesan website (www.crookston.org). It may be challenged within the preceptory time limit of ten days from the legitimate notification of the decree and in accordance with the norm of law (cf. c. 1734).

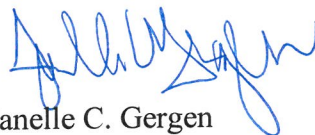
The first Mass in Trail was celebrated in 1900. I take this opportunity to give thanks to God for the more than eighty-four years that the people of the Trail area have witnessed to the truth of the gospel in faith, hope, and love, and the blessings that this community has received through the gift of God in the sacraments and Mass which have nourished them.



†Most Rev. Andrew H. Cozzens
Bishop of Crookston



Given at the Pastoral Center
This 25th day of October 2024.



Janelle C. Gergen
Chancellor