



The Most Reverend Joseph W. Tobin, C.S.S.R.
Archdiocese of Indianapolis
1400 N. Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367
317-236-1403

Decree

Whereas, by my decree of May 21, 2014, the Holy Trinity Parish of Indianapolis was merged by extinctive union into St. Anthony Parish of Indianapolis on November 30, 2014; and

Whereas no recourse was filed against this decree in the Congregation for the Clergy; and

Whereas the legal and equitable assets and liabilities of the former Holy Trinity Parish became assets and liabilities of St. Anthony Parish by virtue of the extinctive union; and

Whereas, on January 22, 2015, the pastor and the members of both the parish pastoral and finance councils of St. Anthony Parish wrote a letter to me requesting that the parish church be relegated to profane but not sordid use and further requested that the building be sold to an appropriate buyer to be used as a community center, to house a social service agency, to be used as a Protestant church, to be used as housing, or for some other appropriate use; and

Whereas, the letter stated that the church building is a financial burden on St. Anthony Parish; and

Whereas I convened the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council on January 27, 2015 for consultation on the question of the relegation of Holy Trinity Church to profane but not sordid use; and

Whereas in the discussion of the question the Presbyteral Council heard evidence of the following facts concerning the former Holy Trinity Church:

- The building is a financial burden on St. Anthony Parish.
- While it had been hoped that the members of the former Holy Trinity Parish would join St. Anthony Parish and help with the additional liabilities that St. Anthony Parish assumed due to the extinctive union with the former Holy Trinity Parish, few of the former Holy Trinity parishioners have joined St. Anthony Parish.
- St. Anthony Parish was experiencing financial difficulties even before the extinctive union, and these have been exacerbated because of the extinctive union.
- The parish business manager has stated that the situation is urgent and needs to be addressed quickly.

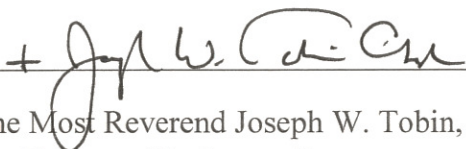
And whereas the Presbyteral Council voted unanimously to recommend that the Holy Trinity Church be relegated to profane but not sordid use; and

Whereas I have concluded that the economic hardship of maintaining the building and its lack of usefulness to St. Anthony Parish constitute grave cause sufficient in law to support the relegation of the church building to profane but not sordid use;

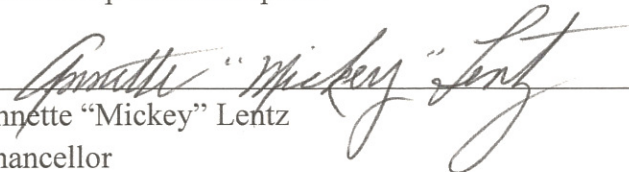
I, Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., in my capacity as Diocesan Bishop and Ordinary of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, having in mind my responsibility to best address the spiritual needs of the people of St. Anthony Parish specifically and the needs of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis generally, hereby decree:

1. The parish church of the former Holy Trinity Parish shall be relegated to profane but not sordid use fourteen days after the date of the promulgation of this decree, that is, on March 10, 2015. Should any interested party file a petition seeking recourse against this decree, the decree shall be held in abeyance until the final resolution of such petition.
2. St. Anthony Parish, in consultation with the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, shall dispose of the church building in a manner that accords with Catholic faith and morals and its dignity as a former place of Divine worship.
3. This decree is to be published to the pastor of St. Anthony Parish.
4. The parishioners of St. Anthony Parish 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 this 24th day of February 2015.



The Most Reverend Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.
Archbishop of Indianapolis



Annette "Mickey" Lentz
Chancellor