



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 June 6, 2013, the former St. Mary Magdalene Parish of New Marion was merged by extinctive union into Prince of Peace Parish of Madison on December 1, 2013; and

Whereas no recourse was filed against this decree; and

Whereas the legal and equitable assets and liabilities of the former St. Mary Magdalene Parish became assets and liabilities of Prince of Peace Parish by virtue of the extinctive union; and

Whereas the former members of St. Mary Magdalene Parish wrote to me on November 12, 2013 and requested that the parish Church be relegated to profane but not sordid use and further requested that the proceeds from the anticipated sale of the church building be used to fund the upkeep of the St. Mary Magdalene Cemetery; and

Whereas, on March 14, 2014, the pastor and pastoral council of Prince of Peace Parish petitioned me to relegate St. Mary Magdalene Church to profane but not sordid use so that the proceeds of the sale of the church building might be used to fund the upkeep of St. Mary Magdalene Cemetery in accord with the earlier request of the St. Mary Magdalene parishioners; and

Whereas I convened the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council for consultation on the question of the relegation of St. Mary Magdalene 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 St. Mary Magdalene Parish Church:

- The building is not in good repair.
- The roof has been damaged by a fire.
- The value of the building is below the cost of repairs.
- The building itself was not originally built as a church building. It was a former bank building that was later converted into a church.
- The newly merged Prince of Peace Parish has no use for this building since the building is remote and in an unpopulated area.

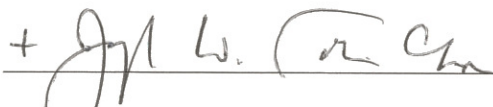
And whereas the Presbyteral Council voted unanimously to recommend that the St. Mary Magdalene Church be relegated to profane but not sordid use; and

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

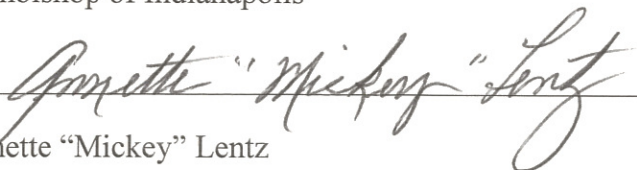
I, Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., in my capacity as Diocesan Bishop and Ordinary of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, having in mind my responsibility to best address the spiritual needs of the people of Prince of Peace Parish specifically and the needs of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis generally, hereby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

1. The parish church of the former St. Mary Magdalene Parish shall be relegated to profane but not sordid use fourteen days after the date of the promulgation of this decree.
2. Prince of Peace 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 Prince of Peace Parish.
4. The parishioners of Prince of Peace 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 11th day of August, 2014.

+  _____

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

 _____

Annette "Mickey" Lentz
Chancellor