



Joseph Charles Bambera

DEI ET APOSTOLICAE SEDIS GRATIA
EPISCOPUS SCRANTONENSIS



DECREE

In the Name of God. Amen.

WHEREAS, Saint Ann Church, located at Hoyt Street and Loveland Avenue, Kingston, Pennsylvania, is a secondary church of Saint Ignatius Loyola Parish, Kingston, and;

WHEREAS, the Saint Ann Church has not been used or opened in over three years;

WHEREAS, Saint Ignatius Loyola Parish, of the same municipality, in holding the assets and liabilities of maintenance and operating expenses for Saint Ann Church, has been unduly burdened with buildings and costs it does not need and cannot reasonably use or afford, and;

WHEREAS, the Reverend Monsignor David L. Tressler, Pastor of Saint Ignatius Loyola Parish, in collaboration with the Saint Ignatius Loyola Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils, supports the desire and need to relegate Saint Ann Church to profane but not sordid use, and desires to see the parish community move forward without the financial and other burdens of caring for Saint Ann Church, and;

THEREFORE, having heard the Presbyteral Council and received its favorable recommendation on April 25, 2023, I hereby decree the reduction of Saint Ann Church, Hoyt Street and Loveland Avenue, Kingston, Pennsylvania to profane but not sordid use in accord with the norm of canon 1222 §2 of the *Code of Canon Law*, effective May 11, 2023.

In fulfillment of the requirements of canon 51, the reasons for the reduction of Saint Ann Church are:

1. Changing demographics of the community, starting prior to COVID, resulting in dwindling Mass attendance;

2. Saint Ann Church has not been used or opened in over three years;
3. Concentration of Mass time availability at principal parish churches in the immediate geographic area;
4. Declining number of priests;
5. In holding the assets and liabilities of Saint Ann Church, Saint Ignatius Loyola Parish is financially burdened;
6. Ready and effective assistance available to the parish from the sale of Saint Ann Church; and
7. The Presbyteral Council, the regional Episcopal Vicar, the Vicar Forane, and Saint Ignatius Loyola Parish Pastor, Pastoral Council and Finance Council are all in favor of the reduction.

Furthermore, there are no individuals who can claim any rights over this church and I am confident that the good of souls will not be harmed by this decree.

Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of Scranton on the 26th day of April in the Year of Our Lord, 2023.



Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.
Bishop of Scranton



Linda E. Price, J.C.L.
Chancellor