



Joseph Charles Bambera

DEI ET APOSTOLICAE SEDIS GRATIA
EPISCOPUS SCRANTONENSIS



DECRETUM
In Nomine Domini
AMEN

WHEREAS, according to *CIC* c. 381 §1, the jurisdiction exercised by the diocesan bishop is ordinary, proper, and immediate and is provided to him in the same diocese entrusted to him for the exercise of his pastoral function, and;

WHEREAS, according to *CIC* c. 1205, sacred places are designated solely for the purpose of divine worship, where the Christian Faithful are nourished by the celebration of the Sacraments wherein which the Church fulfills its sanctifying function throughout the exercise of the priesthood of Jesus Christ, and;

WHEREAS, according to *CIC* c. 1214, a church is a sacred building designated for divine worship in which the celebration of divine worship is publicly exercised, and;

WHEREAS, according to *CIC* c. 1222 §2, when a grave cause exists that a church can no longer be used for divine worship, the diocesan bishop can relegate a church to profane but not sordid use once the consent of those who legitimately claim rights for themselves for the exercise of public worship in the church is given and, on the part of the same diocesan bishop, it is assured that the good of souls will suffer no detriment, and;

WHEREAS, Holy Spirit Parish, a territorial parish located in the Diocese of Scranton, Pennsylvania, and;

WHEREAS, Saint Adalbert Church is a secondary church of Holy Spirit Parish, located at 31 South Market Street, Glen Lyon, Pennsylvania, and;

WHEREAS, over the previous six years, the number of the Christian Faithful who attend mass at Saint Adalbert Church has averaged 50-55 persons, and;

WHEREAS, Holy Spirit Parish continues to operate with significant financial deficits in excess of \$500,000, and;

WHEREAS, a facility analysis indicated the need for urgent structural repairs in excess of \$700,000, and;

WHEREAS, between May 2023 and September 2025, those members of the Christian Faithful who attend mass regularly at Saint Adalbert Church were informed of the aforementioned motivating clauses, and;

WHEREAS, I have determined the following:

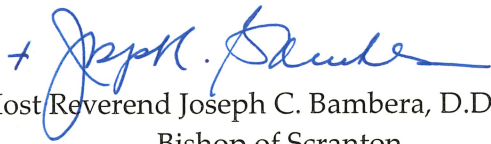
- The requisite information required to make a just and equitable decision according to *CIC* c. 50 has been obtained, and;
- A grave cause exists, according to *CIC* c. 1222 §2, and;
- The Presbyteral Council of the Diocese of Scranton has been heard and consulted, and;
- That the good of souls will not be injured nor will suffer any detriment;


THEREFORE, I, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of the Diocese of Scranton, having in mind my responsibility to best address the spiritual needs of the Christian Faithful of Holy Spirit Parish specifically and the needs of the Diocese of Scranton generally, and after invoking the Holy Spirit and satisfying myself that the good of souls will suffer no detriment, I hereby decree the following:

- Saint Adalbert Church, located at 31 South Market Street, Glen Lyon, Pennsylvania, secondary church of Holy Spirit Parish, is hereby relegated to profane but not sordid use;
- This is to be published to the Pastor and the Parishioners of Holy Spirit Parish through notification in the Holy Spirit Parish bulletin on the weekend of December 6-7, 2025, and the decree is to be published on the diocesan website on December 6, 2025.
- On Sunday, January 11, 2026, the clergy and parishioners of Holy Spirit Parish will celebrate the closing Mass of Saint Adalbert Church.

FURTHERMORE, should parishioners of the former Holy Spirit Parish decide to file recourse against this decree they are required *ad validitatem*, in light of the prescripts of *CIC* cc. 1732-1739, to submit a petition to the undersigned within ten useful days of the actual or presumed notification of this decree. Moreover, should recourse against this decree be lodged, suspensive effect happens *ipso iure*.

Given at the Chancery Building of the Diocese of Scranton on the 25th day of November in the Year of Our Lord, 2025.


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


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