



**LEO**

**DEI ET APOSTOLICÆ SEDIS GRATIA  
ARCHIEPISCOPUS S. ANDREÆ ET  
EDIMBURGENSIS**

**DECREE**

**OF RELEGATION OF THE CHURCH OF  
THE SACRED HEART & ST ANTHONY  
TO PROFANE BUT NOT SORDID USE**

**Whereas**

1. On 29 July 2018, the extinctive union of the parishes of The Sacred Heart & St Anthony, Armadale and St Joseph's Whitburn to form St Barbara's parish became effective (cf. Prot. N. 15/18);
2. In June 2022, having become aware of serious structural problems because of the use of a material called 'Siporex' at the time of building which has since rendered the building dangerous, the use of the church of the Sacred Heart & St Anthony (hereinafter 'the church') was discontinued and the Sacrifice of the Mass was offered in the local Catholic primary school;

3. Following the closure of the church, the advice of two professional companies was sought on how the problem might be remedied;
4. The solutions as presented were unaffordable to the parish of St Barbara's and to the Archdiocese;
5. At a meeting on 27 January 2023, attended by the Archbishop, the Vicar General, the parish priest of St Barbara's, two trustees of the Archdiocese, the Parish Pastoral Council and parishioners, there was an acceptance of the necessity for the permanent closure of the church and a discussion of how and where the liturgy might be celebrated elsewhere locally;
6. Having considered four options, the consensus was to approach the local Protestant church and request the use of their building for the liturgy;
7. The same local Protestant church community is agreeable to the Mass being celebrated there once the lease with the local Catholic primary school expires;
8. The question of the disposal of the church duly arose, on 31 March 2023 the parish priest petitioned to have the church reduced to profane but not sordid use so that it may be safely demolished;
9. The Council of Priests, having met on 9 May 2023 and having considered the two structural reports, the minutes of the meeting and the petition of the parish priest, resolved itself in favour of reducing the church to profane but not sordid use (cf. can. 1222, §2);
10. The consent of those who could lawfully claim rights over the church has been given since the parish priest himself has petitioned for the reduction of the church to profane but not sordid use (cf. 1222, §2);

I, Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St Andrews & Edinburgh hereby

## **DECREE**

**That the church of The Sacred Heart & St Anthony,  
Armadale be relegated to profane but not sordid use**

11. That the relegation is effective immediately.

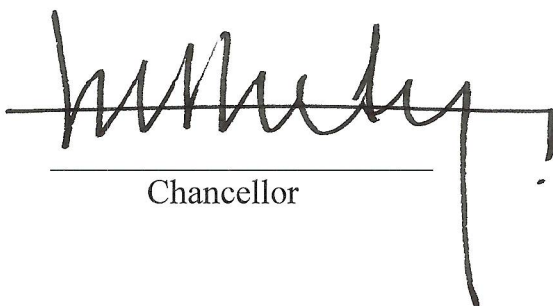
## Furthermore

12. Notice is given that if a person considers himself aggrieved by this administrative DECREE, that person is within his or her canonical rights to seek revocation or emendation according to the norm of can. 1734 and to make hierarchical recourse according to the norm of can. 1737;
13. I instruct that this DECREE be communicated immediately to the Parish Priest of St Barbara's, West Lothian and that he post this DECREE in the narthex of the church of St Joseph's, Whitburn and that it also be posted on the Archdiocesan website;
14. All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at Edinburgh, 8 June, in the Year of Our Lord, 2023.

+ L. J. Cuthy

Archbishop of St Andrews & Edinburgh

  
Chancellor

