



Diocese of Springfield

DECREE AND ORDER

Decree of Suppression of the Holy Name of Jesus Parish, at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Chicopee

The Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Chicopee, Massachusetts, is a territorial parish established in 1838, modified on 23 November 2009, and again in February 2011 when, due to the discovery that the church building dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus was structurally unstable and dangerous and needed to be abandoned forthwith. The Parish comprises the territory of Chicopee Center and Chicopee Falls, that is, all territory south of the Chicopee River and bounded by the Connecticut River on the west and the Chicopee city line to the south.

Inasmuch as the Reverend Clergy and representatives of the Parish have participated in the consultative process and the Pastor has stated his agreement, the juridical action herein indicated having been recommended,

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the number of parishioners, continuously dwindling, is not offering hope of re-expansion,

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the church building of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary used for worship is in need of physical repairs that require extraordinary funding,

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the remaining members of the parish do not possess and cannot raise the funds necessary for repair of the physical property,

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the Diocese of Springfield does not possess and cannot raise the funds necessary for repair of the physical property,

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the good of souls will not suffer harm due to the proximity of the Chicopee parishes of Sainte Anne, Ste. Rose-de-Lima, Saint Anthony of Padua and the Basilica of Saint Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr,

WHEREAS, the Presbyteral Council, convening on Tuesday, 07 March 2023, was consulted on the proposed canonical action herein and, after hearing and discussion, offered no objection,

Therefore, I, the Most Reverend William Draper Byrne, Bishop of Springfield, hereby define, declare and decree:

Holy Name of Jesus Parish, in the City of Chicopee, suppressed.

ORDER

I ORDER that the Parish of Ste. Rose-de-Lima, Chicopee, assume the territory of Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Chicopee Center and Chicopee Falls, that is, all territory south of the Chicopee River and bounded by the Connecticut River on the west and the Chicopee city boundary to the south.

I ORDER that the Parish of Ste. Rose-de-Lima, Chicopee, welcome and assume the Catholic Faithful of Holy Name of Jesus Parish,


I ORDER that the sacramental records of the Holy Name of Jesus Parish be kept at Ste. Rose-de-Lima, Chicopee, Parish.

I ORDER that the cemetery dedicated to Saint Patrick, Fuller Road, Chicopee, be turned over to the administration and care of the Diocese of Springfield, administered by the Diocesan Cemeteries of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Springfield, Inc.

I ORDER that the cemetery dedicated to Holy Calvary, Hampden Street, Chicopee, be turned over to the administration and care of the Diocese of Springfield, administered by the Diocesan Cemeteries of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Springfield, Inc.

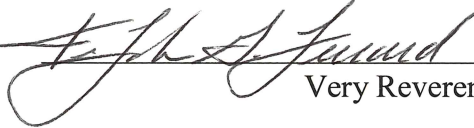
I ORDER that the forgoing be effective the first day of July 2023.

Given in Springfield, in the Chancery, this 3rd day of May, in the Year of Our Lord, 2023.



Most Reverend William D. Byrne
Bishop of Springfield





Very Reverend John G. Lessard
Chancellor