



## Decree

WHEREAS we have received the recommendation of the Rector of the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption in Fall River, Bristol County, Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS we have consulted with the Diocesan Presbyteral Council, in accord with Canon 1222, §1; and

WHEREAS it is no longer financially expedient for Saint Mary of the Assumption Cathedral Parish, within whose territory Holy Cross Chapel is located, to maintain Holy Cross Chapel, and there is no possibility of obtaining the necessary revenues from other sources to provide for its maintenance; and

WHEREAS the ongoing financial effort to provide for Holy Cross Chapel will continue to consume parish financial resources that could otherwise be used for ministry and pastoral outreach within the parish as a whole; and

WHEREAS the pastoral needs of Saint Mary of the Assumption Cathedral Parish do not necessitate the ongoing availability and use of this building as a parish worship site, since the spiritual needs of the Faithful who frequent Holy Cross Chapel can easily be provided for at Saint Mary of the Assumption Cathedral Parish.

THEREFORE, I, Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., D.D., Bishop of Fall River, do hereby decree that Holy Cross Chapel, located in Fall River, Bristol County, Massachusetts and a mission of the Parish of Saint Mary of the Assumption Cathedral, Bristol County, Massachusetts be canonically closed and relegated to profane but not sordid use and no longer utilized for Catholic worship effective Sunday, 31 March 2019.

FURTHER, upon the canonical closure of Holy Cross Chapel, I give leave to those within the diocesan curia charged with the administration of temporal goods of the Diocese to remove the sacred vessels and appointments from the premises, and arrange for the disposition of the building taking care to observe faithfully the pertinent civil laws in this regard and the provisions of the *Code of Canon Law* concerning the alienation of temporal goods.

FINALLY in conformity with the provision of Canon 121, I decree that the proceeds from the sale or lease of the church building belongs to the Parish of Saint Mary of the Assumption Cathedral, Bristol County, Massachusetts, the wishes of the founders and benefactors having been duly regarded and taken into consideration.

In the event that anyone with canonical standing who feels injured by the provisions of this Decree, he or she may initiate a hierarchical recourse against this Decree, according to the provisions of Canon 1732-1739 within ten useful days.

GIVEN at Fall River, Bristol County, Massachusetts on this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year two thousand nineteen.

Attest

*Kevin R. Hiley*

Chancellor

*Edgar M. da Cunha*

Most Rev. Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V.,  
Bishop of Fall River