



## PATRICK JOSEPH MCKINNEY BISHOP OF NOTTINGHAM

Prot. No.: 2016/12

Whereas a church, which is a sacred building intended for divine worship, to which the faithful have right of access for the exercise, especially the public exercise, of worship (cf. c 1214), may be allowed by the Bishop to be used for a secular but not unbecoming purpose if grave reasons suggest that it should no longer be used for divine worship, the Council of Priests is consulted, the consent of those who could lawfully claim rights over the church has been obtained and he is sure that the good of souls would not be harmed by the transfer (cf. c 1222, §2);

And whereas the Reverend Joseph Wheat, Parish Priest of the Parish of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Carlton Hill with Saint Bernadette, Sneinton, petitioned me, requesting that the Church of Saint Bernadette, situated in Sneinton Dale in the City of Nottingham, be so transferred, and that the Parish Pastoral Council was unanimous in its view that the transfer be made;

And whereas there are grave reasons justifying the closure, as outlined in the petition, including: the large sums of money that would need to be expended upon the building to maintain and restore the church, and which the parish cannot reasonably afford; the release of capital that, should the property be alienated, could be expended instead on providing better facilities for the parishioners and wider community; and the better provision of pastoral care of the faithful, ecumenical dialogue and relationships, evangelisation and outreach that would be enabled by the transfer;

And whereas the Council of Priests was consulted, in accordance with canon 1222, §2, on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2016, and gave its approval to the proposed transfer *nemine contradicente*;

And whereas there is no one who could claim rights over the church, and the good of souls would not be harmed by the transfer;

I, the undersigned Right Reverend Patrick Joseph McKinney, Bishop of Nottingham, in accordance with canon 1222, §2, do hereby **decree**:

That the Church of Saint Bernadette, situated in Sneinton Dale, Sneinton in the City of Nottingham, in the Parish of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Carlton Hill with Saint Bernadette, Sneinton, be transferred to secular but not unbecoming use;

That the Altar loses its dedication or blessing in accordance with canon 1212;

That the church building and any temporal goods held therein be disposed of in accordance with the prescriptions contained in Book V of the Code of Canon Law, other universal and particular laws currently in force, and, without prejudice to canon 22, the law of England & Wales;

That the Parish of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Carlton Hill with Saint Bernadette, Sneinton, be hereafter known as the Parish of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Carlton Hill, with the same boundaries as those established by Decree dated 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011 (cf. Prot. No. 2011/43-006);

That administrative recourse may be made in accordance with the prescriptions of canons 1732-1739;

And that this decree shall come into effect on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

Given at Nottingham, this eighteenth day of November in the year of Our Lord 2016,

+ Patrick McKinney

Right Reverend Patrick Joseph McKinney  
Bishop of Nottingham

Andrew Cole

Reverend Andrew Michael Cole  
Bishop's Private Secretary

