



Archdiocese of Vancouver
ARCHBISHOP'S OFFICE

DECREE

For the Closing of Holy Cross Church, Surrey in Star of the Sea Parish

Having received the recommendation of the Pastor of Star of the Sea Parish and having consulted the Presbyteral Council of the Archdiocese of Vancouver on August 23, 2016, I, J. Michael Miller, CSB, Archbishop of Vancouver, hereby decree that Holy Cross Church located in Surrey, BC, is to be canonically closed and no longer used for divine worship effective January 16, 2017, in accordance with canon 1222, §2.

The grave reasons which motivate this action are the following:

- Holy Cross Church is at present in need of significant repairs, which are to be expected in a building of this type and age. To undertake these required repairs for Holy Cross Church would be a heavy and needless financial burden on Star of the Sea Parish.
- Holy Cross Church, one of three churches serving the faithful of Star of the Sea Parish, is attended on Sunday by approximately 85 of the faithful who live in the Crescent Beach area. Considering that this is a single Parish, other nearby church buildings suffice to serve the pastoral needs of these parishioners.
- The proceeds from the sale of the property of Holy Cross Church would be utilized for the benefit of Star of the Sea Parish and School, which are situated in an area that is central and can serve the faithful of White Rock and South Surrey. The proceeds would be added to funds the Parish currently has on deposit for the purpose of constructing a new facility.
- Pursuant to the due diligence of the Parish Pastoral Council at various meetings over the past three years, and with input from the Parish Building Committee, the Parish Finance Committee and from parishioners at parish-wide meetings, the results have indicated the desirability of closing Holy Cross Church.

4885 Saint John Paul II Way | Vancouver, BC | V5Z 0G3
Telephone: 604 443-3203 | Facsimile: 604 681-8355

rcavbishop@rcav.org

In light of these motivations for the closure of Holy Cross Church, and particularly the proximity of other churches within the Parish boundaries, I have determined, after careful consideration, that the good of souls would not thus be harmed.

Therefore, I hereby decree that as of January 16, 2017:

1. Holy Cross Church, in Surrey, B.C, will no longer be a sacred place and, by this Decree, will lose its blessing (cf. canon 1212);
2. Holy Cross Church may no longer be utilized in any way for divine worship (cf. canon 1214);
3. Holy Cross Church will be relegated permanently to profane, but not sordid, use (cf. canon 1222 §1).
4. All sacred objects within Holy Cross Church are to be removed to either of the two other churches in Star of the Sea Parish, with particular attention given to the Altar (cf. canon 1238);
5. The Pastor of Star of the Sea Parish may sell Holy Cross Church and the property on which it stands, 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.

This Decree is to be published in all churches of Star of the Sea Parish and, by suitable means, throughout the Archdiocese of Vancouver, with the understanding that anyone who wishes to have recourse against it must first lodge a petition with me in writing within ten canonical days from the time this Decree was lawfully notified, as provided by canon 1734, §§1-2.

Given at Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, on this Twelfth day of December, in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Sixteen.



Reverend Joseph Le, JCL
Chancellor



Most Reverend J. Michael Miller, CSB
Archbishop of Vancouver