

DAVID ALLEN ZUBIK



By the Grace of God and the Authority of the Apostolic See
BISHOP OF PITTSBURGH

DECREE

**CLOSING FOR WORSHIP OF SAINT STANISLAUS KOSTKA CHURCH BUILDING,
LYNDORA, PENNSYLVANIA
AND THE REDUCTION OF THE SAINT STANISLAUS KOSTKA CHURCH
BUILDING OF SAINT FIDELIS OF SIGMARINGEN PARISH
TO PROFANE BUT NOT SORDID USE.**

Whereas, Saint Stanislaus Kostka church located at 301 Penn Ave, Lyndora, PA, church of the former Saint Stanislaus Kostka Parish, became part of the patrimony of the newly formed Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen Parish with a decree issued on July 13, 1995, and effective on September 9, 1995, in accord with the norm of canon 122 §2.

Whereas, Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen Parish was formed by the extinctive union of Saint Stanislaus Kostka, Saint John, and Saint Conrad parishes.

Whereas, the age and physical condition and maintenance of parish owned buildings, including church buildings, is beyond the ability of the parish to afford.

Whereas, the Saint Stanislaus Kostka church building is in poor physical condition: with problems from water damage and mold as well as crumbling masonry, the repair of which would exceed the parish's ability to afford.

Whereas, the cost of the needed repairs would run into the tens of thousands of dollars.

Whereas, there is no other source of funding for the costs described above.

Whereas, the Catholic population of Lyndora has dwindled substantially over the years.

Whereas, the church the Saint Stanislaus Kostka church building does not have sufficient parking spaces.

Whereas, the church's bathrooms are in need of repair and are not handicap accessible.

Whereas, the Saint Stanislaus Kostka church building is not needed by Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen Parish.

Whereas, parish assemblies were held on February 8 and 9, 2020, to receive parishioner input regarding the possible closure of the church building.

Whereas, on February 17, 2020, the Pastor of Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen Parish, with the recommendation of his parish Pastoral and Finance Councils, submitted a petition recommending the relegation to profane but not sordid use of Saint Stanislaus Kostka church building in Lyndora, Pennsylvania.

Whereas, the care of souls will not be impacted as the members of Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen Parish worship at the nearby Saint Conrad church.

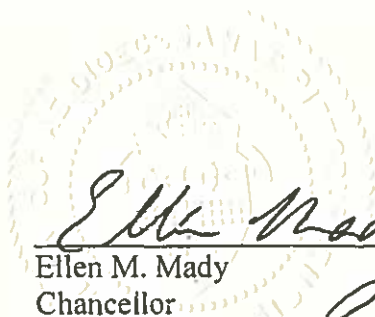
Whereas, the rationale for the closing Saint Stanislaus Kostka church building for divine worship include the following: (1) the financial situation of the parish, including the parish's inability to continue maintaining two church buildings; (2) the need to reduce costs for the financial viability of the parish; (3) the required maintenance that this church building currently needs, the cost of which is beyond the ability of the parish to afford; (4) there is no other viable source of income to maintain the church; (5) the care of souls will not be greatly impacted because of the availability of another church owned by the parish.

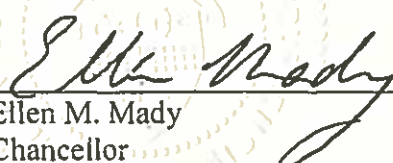
Therefore, having heard the Presbyteral Council on March 12, 2020 and the Vicars General on the same day and having received a unanimous favorable recommendation from both and in accord with the provisions of canon 1222 §2 of the *Code of Canon Law*, I hereby close for worship Saint Stanislaus Kostka church building located at 301 Penn Ave, Lyndora, PA, and furthermore relegate to profane but not sordid use the same church building in accord with the norms of law.


In accordance with our diocesan norms, I also decree that the stained glass windows, sacred items, non-sacred artifacts and any work of some significance be removed to the extent possible for reuse in other sacred edifices in the parish or be transmitted to the Diocesan Archives for use by other ecclesiastical entities. This decree is effective at 12:01AM on July 1, 2020.

Finally, those who have the right, may appeal this decree in accordance with the prescriptions of the law.

Given at Pittsburgh this the 29th day of May in the Year of Our Lord 2020.




Ellen M. Mady
Chancellor

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Most Reverend David A. Zubik
Bishop of Pittsburgh