

DAVID ALLEN ZUBIK



By the Grace of God and the Authority of the Apostolic See

**BISHOP OF PITTSBURGH**

**DECREE**

**CLOSING FOR WORSHIP OF SAINT WENDELIN CHURCH BUILDING,  
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA  
AND THE REDUCTION OF THE SAINT WENDELIN CHURCH  
BUILDING OF BLESSED TRINITY PARISH  
TO PROFANE BUT NOT SORDID USE.**

Whereas, Saint Wendelin church located at 2728 Custer Avenue, Carrick, Pennsylvania, church of the former Holy Apostles Parish, became part of the patrimony of the newly formed Blessed Trinity Parish with a decree issued on May 22, 2020 and effective on July 1, 2020, in accord with the norm of canon 122 §2.

Whereas, Blessed Trinity Parish was formed by the extinctive union of Holy Angels Parish, Holy Apostles Parish, and Saint Sylvester Parish.

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 Wendelin church building is in very poor physical condition: the boiler and heating system is in disrepair in a manner which makes it unsafe to operate, there are serious pointing requirements in the masonry, and the roof, interior walls, windows, and other elements of the building are in serious need of repair.

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

Whereas, the Saint Wendelin church building is not needed by Blessed Trinity Parish.

Whereas, parish assemblies were held following Masses over the weekends of July 22/23, July 29/30, and August 5/6, 2023, to provide information and receive parishioner input regarding the possible closure of the church building.

Whereas, information regarding the possible closure of the church building was included in the parish bulletin and parishioners were invited to provide feedback to the pastor.

Whereas, on August 28, 2023, the Pastor of Blessed Trinity Parish, after having heard from his parish Pastoral and Finance Councils, submitted a petition recommending the relegation to profane but not sordid use of Saint Wendelin church building in Carrick, Pennsylvania.

Whereas, the care of souls will not be impacted as the members of Blessed Trinity Parish worship at the nearby Saint Albert the Great, Saint Basil, Holy Angels, and Saint Sylvester churches.

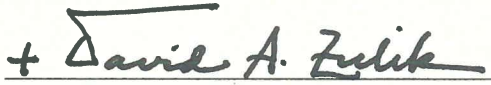
Whereas, the rationale for the closing of Saint Wendelin church building for divine worship include the following: (1) the financial situation of the parish, including the parish's inability to continue maintaining five church buildings; (2) the need to reduce costs for the financial viability of the parish; (3) the required maintenance that this church building currently needs; (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 four other church buildings owned by the parish.

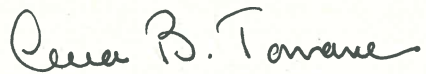
Therefore, having heard the Presbyteral Council on October 5, 2023 and the Vicars General on the same day and having received a unanimous favorable recommendation from both and in accord with the provisions of canon 1222 §2 of the *Code of Canon Law*, I hereby close for worship Saint Wendelin church building located at 2728 Custer Avenue, Carrick, Pennsylvania 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 December 1, 2023.

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

Given at Pittsburgh this 27<sup>th</sup> day of October in the Year of Our Lord 2023.

  
+ David A. Zubik  
Most Reverend David A. Zubik  
Bishop of Pittsburgh

  
Anna B. Torrance, JD  
Chancellor