

**PETER ANTHONY LIBASCI,**

by the Grace of God and the pleasure of the Apostolic See,  
Bishop of Manchester,

whereas HOLY CROSS QUASI-PARISH has served the Catholic faithful of DERRY, New Hampshire since its erection on 16 December 1990. During that time, many people have heard the Word of God proclaimed, have worshiped and have received the sacraments of the Church in this quasi-parish. Now, in an effort to strengthen the preaching of the Gospel and to ensure the vitality of parish life, with concern for the best stewardship of resources and the right of the People of God to receive assistance from the Church, especially the Word of God, spiritual sustenance, the sacraments, and the continuation of ministries, it is necessary to make new provisions for the spiritual care of the parishioners of this community.

To that end, having asked parishioners to make known their needs and desires, after consultation with the Dean of the Rockingham Deanery, the PRESBYTERAL COUNCIL OF THE DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER on 24 March 2021 and the DIOCESAN FINANCE COUNCIL on 14 April 2021, and in accord with canons 515 §2 of the *1983 Code of Canon Law*,

I hereby:

### **DECREE**

the **SUPPRESSION** of HOLY CROSS QUASI-PARISH in DERRY, New Hampshire

**and**

the **ALTERATION** of SAINT ANNE PARISH in HAMPSTEAD, New Hampshire, and

**and**

the **RELEGATION TO PROFANE BUT NOT SORDID USE** of the Church of  
HOLY CROSS in DERRY, New Hampshire

1. Suppress HOLY CROSS QUASI-PARISH in DERRY, New Hampshire, to be effective at midnight at the end of Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2021.
2. Alter SAINT ANNE PARISH in HAMPSTEAD, New Hampshire by the absorption of HOLY CROSS QUASI-PARISH in DERRY, New Hampshire, thereby uniting the entire membership of the former HOLY CROSS QUASI-PARISH with that of the present SAINT ANNE PARISH. The current Saint Anne church edifice shall be the place of worship for the parish community.
3. The new boundaries of SAINT ANNE PARISH shall include the current boundaries of HOLY CROSS QUASI-PARISH, in addition to the current boundaries of SAINT ANNE PARISH. To the Townships of HAMPSTEAD, DANVILLE and SANDOWN, are now added the following: Beginning on the DERRY-CHESTER town-line where PINGREE Hill Road crosses it, near the southwest corner of the Town of CHESTER; thence southwest on PINGREE Road, including both sides and all dead-end roads off of it, to its intersection with ENGLISH RANGE Road; thence south-east on ENGLISH RANGE Road, including both sides and all dead-end roads off of it, to its intersection with Route 102; thence south on Route 102, east side only, to its intersection with POND ROAD; thence southeast on POND ROAD, including both sides and all dead-end streets off of it, to its intersection with EAST DERRY Road; thence a short distance east on EAST DERRY Road to its intersection with CEMETERY Road; thence south on CEMETERY Road, including both sides and all dead-end streets off of it, to its intersection with ISLAND POND Road; thence east and south on ISLAND POND Road, including both sides and all dead-end roads off of it, to its intersection with FEATHERBED Lane; thence southwest on FEATHERBED Lane, including both sides and all dead-end streets off of it, to its intersection with Route 28 (LONDONDERRY Turnpike); thence south on Route 28, east side only, to the DERRY/WINDHAM town-line; thence east, north and west on DERRY town-lines to the point of beginning.
4. The alteration of SAINT ANNE PARISH shall take effect at midnight at the end of Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2021.
5. Establish that the name of SAINT ANNE PARISH shall remain unchanged.

This decision is based upon a number of reasons, including a decline in the Catholic worshipping community at HOLY CROSS QUASI-PARISH, the proximity of other worshipping communities and churches, the size of the parishes, the desire to avoid duplication of services and programs in a small geographic area, the prohibitive costs associated with necessary repairs and maintenance to the Holy Cross church edifice mandated to obtain civil permission for the use of the building, the fostering of unity, the enhancement of collaborative ministry, and the best use of available priest personnel.


All parish registers containing the records of baptism, confirmation, Eucharist, marriage, and deaths preserved at HOLY CROSS QUASI-PARISH shall be transferred to SAINT ANNE PARISH where they will be faithfully preserved in accord with canon 535, §§1-5; and according to the


norm of canon 121, all assets, whether movable or immovable, and all liabilities of HOLY CROSS QUASI-PARISH, upon this union, will become the assets and liabilities of SAINT ANNE PARISH. Furthermore, possession of all ecclesiastical goods and all objects of artistic or historical value belonging to HOLY CROSS QUASI-PARISH shall be transferred to SAINT ANNE PARISH and shall be administered in accordance with the prescriptions of Church law.

The absorption of HOLY CROSS QUASI-PARISH by SAINT ANNE PARISH will suppress and extinguish the juridic personality of HOLY CROSS QUASI-PARISH, which it now possesses by law. Therefore, HOLY CROSS QUASI-PARISH shall be no longer the subject in canon law of obligations and rights corresponding to its nature as a juridic person. In addition, HOLY CROSS QUASI-PARISH shall no longer be capable of acquiring, retaining, administering, and alienating temporal goods according to the norm of law.

I direct that this Decree be given to the Administrator of HOLY CROSS QUASI-PARISH in DERRY, New Hampshire, and to the Pastor of SAINT ANNE PARISH in HAMPSTEAD, New Hampshire, and that this information, as well as *The Manner of Initiating Recourse Against an Administrative Decree*, be communicated at all Masses on the weekend of your choice, but no later than the weekend of June 19 and 20, 2021.

Given at MANCHESTER this 26<sup>th</sup> day of May 2021.

  
Most Reverend Peter Anthony LIBASCI, D.D.  
Bishop of Manchester

  
Meredith P. COOK  
Chancellor