



CATHOLIC DIOCESE
of COLUMBUS
OFFICE of the BISHOP

DECREE OF RELEGATION
OF THE CHURCH AND ALTAR
HOLY ROSARY/ ST. JOHN CHURCH

HOLY ROSARY/ ST. JOHN CHURCH is in need of significant repairs to bring the building to operational health for worthy sacramental celebrations. A recent facility study of the church indicates an estimate of \$1,518,210.00 in necessary deferred maintenance in the interior and exterior of the church building. The Community of Holy Rosary/ St. John was united with the parish of St. Dominic by lawful decree on 17 January 2024. The new parish is unable to support the repairs of this structure in part because of the decline in registered parishioners and the decline in revenue as stated in that decree. This inability is further supported by the fact of last year's annual offertory to St. Dominic was \$226,375.69.

The consent of the pastor of the parish to the relegation of Holy Rosary/ St. John Church, has been received in accordance with c. 1222 §2. The Presbyteral Council was lawfully convoked and heard in accordance with c. 1222 §2 at a meeting on Wednesday, January 21, 2026 in which the members of the Council unanimously agreed to the proposed relegation of Holy Rosary/ St. John Church.

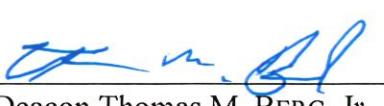
WHEREAS, the good of souls would not be harmed in this relegation, and in fact, the care of souls would continue to be well supported through robust pastoral care provided at the parish church of St. Dominic which is 2.1 miles from the Holy Rosary/ St. John Church,

THEREFORE, considering the law and the facts, I, Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes, hereby relegate HOLY ROSARY/ ST. JOHN CHURCH to profane but not sordid use, so that the building loses its dedication as a sacred place in accordance with Canon 1212, and may be used for other purposes, alienated in accordance with the law, or demolished, provided all sacred objects, especially those of significant artistic or historical value are safely preserved.

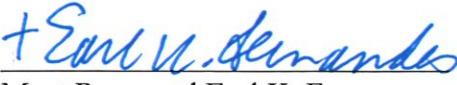
FURTHERMORE, I relegate the altar at Holy Rosary/ St. John Church including any side altars (cf. cc. 1212 and 1238 §1) so that they, too, lose their dedication as sacred places.

This decree is to be promulgated in the electronic *Catholic Times*.

Given at the Chancery Office, 198 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio, this 21st day of January 2026.


Deacon Thomas M. BERG, Jr.
Chancellor




Most Reverend Earl K. FERNANDES
Bishop of Columbus