



DECREE

RELEGATION OF A CHURCH

The historic church of Saint Hubert in Chanhassen, Minnesota, was constructed in 1887 and served as the parish church until 1976, when a new church was built. From 1978 until 2009, the historic church was leased to the City of Chanhassen, which in turn permitted various Christian communities to use the building for worship. Since the expiration of that lease, the parish has explored options for the building's future use.

The church building is currently in a state of significant disrepair. The parish has determined that restoration of the historic church would require an investment of approximately \$2.5 to \$3.9 million, with annual operating costs exceeding \$100,000. At the same time, the parish faces significant capital needs at its current church and school and has no present or foreseeable pastoral need for the historic church. There is no realistic prospect that the building will be needed for use by another Catholic parish or chaplaincy, or other use fitting for a former church.

Over the past two years, the parish has undertaken extensive consultation regarding the future of the historic church, including parish and community surveys, town hall meetings, open houses, and the work of a historic church committee. Following this consultation, the pastor, trustees, pastoral council, and finance council voted to demolish the building and dedicate the site as a parish memorial or an extension of the adjoining cemetery.

In 2010, the Presbyteral Council was consulted regarding the relegation of the historic church to profane but non-sordid use and unanimously supported that course of action; however, no decree was issued, pending the identification of an appropriate purchaser or suitable use for the edifice. Because of the passage of time, a new consultation of the Presbyteral Council was sought prior to considering the request of the parish for demolition of the church. The results of that consultation were unanimously favorable.

NOW THEREFORE

Having received the request from the parish of Saint Hubert in Chanhassen for permission to demolish the historic Saint Hubert's church; and

Having determined that the parish has presented grave causes indicating that the historic Saint Hubert's church can no longer be used for divine worship (1983 *CIC* can. 1222 §2), namely, the significant disrepair of the building, the inadequacy of financial resources to restore and operate

the church safely and in compliance with civil law, the lack of financial support from the parishioners and broader community for retaining the edifice, as well as the need of the parish community to direct its financial resources into the existing church and other capital needs; and

Noting that no other reasonable or adequate sources of funding or financial assistance have been identified that would allow the parish to retain the church and obviate the need for the relegation and demolition of the edifice; and

Judging that the good of souls will not suffer significant detriment, given that the church has not been used for divine worship for the past half century; and

Having consulted the Presbyteral Council and the College of Consultors on April 21, 2026 (can. 1222 §1-2) on both the question of the relegation of the church and the proposed demolition, as well as having heard those also concerned (can. 50), namely, the pastor, parish leadership, and members of the broader community; and

Finding the petition for relegation to be well-reasoned, properly motivated, and supported by requisite grave causes (can. 1222 §1-2);

I, the undersigned Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, hereby determine that the historic

CHURCH OF SAINT HUBERT

Located at 7801 Great Plains Boulevard in Chanhassen, Minnesota, is to be relegated to profane but non-sordid use, effective at the end of the day on June 30, 2026. Sacred items are to be removed from the church for restoration and appropriate disposition.

This decree is to be notified to the parishioners of the parish of Saint Hubert without delay. A party aggrieved by this decision may petition for revocation or emendation within the peremptory time limit of ten (10) days of the notification of this decree (can. 1732 §2). All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at Saint Paul, Minnesota, this 4th day of June in the Year of Our Lord 2026.



Susan Mulheron
Chancellor for Canonical Affairs



Most Reverend Bernard A. Hebda
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis

L.S.