

Very Reverend James B. Bissonette



Diocesan Administrator

## DECREE

In a letter dated January 8, 2020, Reverend Gabriel Waweru, the pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church, Hibbing, Minnesota requested a reduction in status to “profane but not sordid use” of the Immaculate Conception Church building and property in Hibbing, Minnesota. Immaculate Conception Church was canonically merged into Blessed Sacrament Church, Hibbing on. The final Mass at Immaculate Conception Church was celebrated in December 8, 2019.

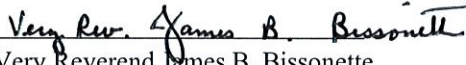
The College of Consultor’s met on September 10, 2020. The Consultor’s were given information concerning the proposed relegation of the former Immaculate Conception Church, Hibbing, building to profane (secular) but not sordid use. They were also informed of the levels of consultation that had taken place. After serious and thoughtful discussion, the members of the College of Consultor’s recommended that the former Immaculate Conception Church building be relegated to profane (secular) but not sordid use.

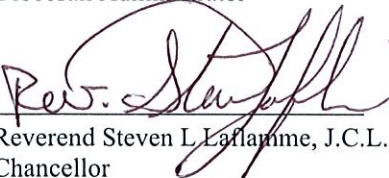
The altar, ambo, tabernacle and other religious articles were removed from the building. There is no cemetery attached to the property.

Having received the recommendation of the pastor after he consulted with the parish Pastoral Council and received the approval of the parish Finance Council, and having heard the College of Consultor’s, and acting upon their recommendation and in accord with canon 1222§2 of the *Code of Canon Law*, I hereby relegate the former Immaculate Conception Church building, Hibbing to profane (secular) but not sordid use. This decree shall be effective October 15, 2020.

In accord with canons 1732-1739, any former parishioner of Immaculate Conception Church, Hibbing or Blessed Sacrament Church, Hibbing has the right to recourse against this decree within the peremptory time period of ten (10) available days (business days) from the notice of this decree. To exercise this right, the parishioner must write to the Bishop explaining exactly what change is being sought to the Bishop’s decree. Clearly explaining the reasons for the requested change is very important so that the Bishop can make a well-informed decision that is sensitive to all the parishioners’ needs. If the Bishop’s response to this request is unsatisfactory, the parishioner then has the right to recourse to the Holy See. Further information can be obtained from the Pastoral Center in Duluth regarding this level of recourse.

Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of Duluth,

  
Very Reverend James B. Bissonette  
Diocesan Administrator

  
Reverend Steven L. Laflamme, J.C.L.  
Chancellor

