



November 3, 2005 - Vatican Issues Decision Concerning The Appeal From Saint William Parish In Dorchester

(Brighton, MA) The Archdiocese of Boston has announced that the Congregation for the Clergy has responded to the appeal concerning Saint William Parish in Dorchester, which was closed in August 2004. Representatives of the former parish filed the appeal with the Congregation following the closing of the parish.

Earlier this year, on July 20, 2005, prior to a decision from Rome concerning the appeal, the Archbishop directed that the remaining assets of Saint William Parish be given to the welcoming parish, Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta. The Archbishop issued this decree in order to assist Blessed Mother Teresa parish with a number of unexpected expenses incurred in their role as the welcoming parish, including expenses related to the parish school.

The Archdiocese released the following statement:

“The Archdiocese is pleased that the Congregation for the Clergy has affirmed the process the Archbishop used for reconfiguration in the Archdiocese of Boston. While there is disagreement over the canons used as they pertain to the assets of parishes closed under reconfiguration, in the case of St. William, the Congregation has ruled that the canonical issues were offset by the Archbishop’s decree allocating St. William’s remaining assets to Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta Parish.

Archbishop O’Malley continues to understand and appreciate that reconfiguration has been a difficult process for many who have been impacted by the parish closings. The Archbishop appreciates the efforts of all who have transitioned to new parishes, it is his hope that all who were parishioners at parishes that have been closed will be able to do so. Many parishes have been enriched and strengthened by their new friends and neighbors from closed parishes. It continues to be the Archbishop’s prayer that reconfiguration will lead us all to a more vibrant Archdiocese, better prepared to meet the future needs of the Catholic community.”

Copyright © 2004-2006 Archdiocese of Boston; all rights reserved