



PATRICK JOSEPH MCKINNEY

BISHOP OF NOTTINGHAM

Prot. No. 2022/9

To provide more suitably for the good of souls, I have determined and decided that the Parish of Saint Augustine Webster, Barton-upon-Humber (cf Prot No 2011/43-095), and the Parish of Saint Mary, Brigg (cf Prot No 2011/43-096) all in the unitary authority of North Lincolnshire are to be merged, and from this extinctive union a new parish, to be called and named the Parish of Saint Mary and Saint Augustine Webster, North Lincolnshire, is to be created and erected.

The just reasons for this extinctive union, *inter alia*, include:

- that the coming together of the spiritual resources of the two parishes into one will safeguard, enhance, and underpin the universal call to holiness of the parishioners and all those connected with the current parishes in a stronger way and more secure way;
- that the unity of one parish in this norther portion of the diocese would be a powerful witness to the unity of faith and purpose rooted in Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, especially to the local communities, and ecumenical activities;
- that the pastoral activity of the two parishes, which has been co-ordinated by a single priest for more than ten years, will be more effectively mediated and enhanced through the coming together of the current units, neither of which is large in number, allowing for a more missionary and outward-facing community of Christ's faithful in the local area;
- that the present priest will be given more opportunity to work with all the people of the two parishes, drawing them together, and allowing for the skills, talents and gifts of all God's faithful in this portion of the diocese of Nottingham to be utilised to the full;
- that practical, administrative, and financial considerations (such as the websites, newsletters, finance committees) can be brought together and combined, allowing for clearer lines of accountability for Christ's faithful, together with a clearer voice in the wider community

Therefore:

- having considered the law, and the facts, especially those as presented in the Petition of the Parish Priest, the Reverend Father Michael Gilligan, in his letter dated 2nd July 2022, including the supporting documentation attached thereto; and

- having undertaken consultation with the parishioners through April and May 2022, and heard their comments and information provided by them, including a signed petition to this effect, in the supporting documentation referred to above; and
- having been assured by the aforementioned Parish Priest, and having made my own enquiries through my Diocesan Curia, that there are no significant benefactors who should be heard; and that the Abbot of the Benedictine Community of Ampleforth, which Community provided clergy for the parish of Saint Augustine Webster, Barton upon Humber, for many years, has been contacted for his views, but none such have been forthcoming;
- having heard the Presbyteral Council (cf canon 515 §2) on Monday 18th July 2022, whose acceptance of the proposal, and confirmation of its canonical consultation is duly noted in the minutes of that body; and
- having determined that the good of souls requires it:

I, the undersigned Bishop of Nottingham, exercising my ordinary power and in virtue of canon 515 §2, do hereby **DECREE** that the Parish of Saint Augustine Webster, Barton-upon-Humber, and the Parish of Saint Mary, Brigg, all in the unitary authority of North Lincolnshire, be and are hereto **UNITED, JOINED, AND MERGED TOGETHER.**

Further I herewith **DECREE** that from this extinctive union and merge of the two aforementioned parishes the **PARISH OF SAINT MARY AND SAINT AUGUSTINE WEBSTER, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE**, is hereto erected, established, and created with all the rights, obligations, and privileges accorded it by law.

The Parish of Saint Mary and Saint Augustine Webster, North Lincolnshire:

- shall comprise all the territories of the former Parish of Saint Augustine Webster, Barton-upon-Humber, and the Parish of Saint Mary, Brigg, as indicated on the attached map plan;
- shall be assigned to Lindsey Deanery;
- that intentions of the founders and donors regarding the temporal goods and patrimonial rights proper to the extinct Parish of Saint Augustine Webster, Barton-upon-Humber, and the extinct Parish of Saint Mary Brigg must be respected. In addition, the temporal goods, patrimonial rights, and obligations of each of the extinct parishes must be also defined and allocated in accordance with the norm of law (canons 121 and 122);
- all the parish and sacramental records of the extinct Parish of Saint Augustine Webster, Barton-upon-Humber, and the extinct Parish of Saint Mary Brigg are to be properly preserved and safeguarded in the Parish of Saint Mary and Saint Augustine Webster, North Lincolnshire, in accordance with the norm of law;
- that the churches of Saint Augustine Webster, situated in Barton-upon-Humber, and the church of Saint Mary, situated in Brigg, shall each retain its long-standing title as given here (cf canon 1218). Further, the church of Saint Augustine Webster, situated in Barton-upon-Humber, and the church of Saint Mary, situated in Brigg, shall both be considered to be the parish church of the new parish of Saint Mary and Saint Augustine Webster, North Lincolnshire, with all the rights pertaining to such churches (cf, *inter alia*, canon 858 §1).

This Decree comes into force and is effective from the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, being Thursday 8th September in this year of Our Lord 2022.

This Decree is to be communicated to the Parish Priest and any associated clergy of the two aforementioned parishes affected by this extinctive union and merger, as well as any canonical representatives they may have, and further to the parishioners and all interested parties, according to the norm of law (canon 532). It may be challenged within the peremptory time limit of ten days from the legitimate notification of the decree and in accordance with the norm of law (canon 1734 §2).

Given at Nottingham, on the feast of Saint Bridget of Sweden, Patron of Europe, the twenty-third day of July in the year of Our Lord 2022.

+ Patrick McKinney
Right Reverend Patrick Joseph McKinney
Bishop of Nottingham



Simon Gillespie

Reverend Father Simon Gillespie
Notary