

Vatican reverses parish closing

Tom Gallagher | Aug. 20, 2009 NCR Today

Worshippers at a U.K. church controversially shut by Catholic diocesan authorities, have won an historic ruling from the Vatican that the closure order was "[null and void](#) [1]."

Sts. Peter and Paul's church in New Brighton -- known as the "Dome of Home" because it is visible to sailors in Liverpool Bay -- was shut in 2008, despite protests from its parishioners.

The Diocese of Shrewsbury had insisted the church was too expensive to operate and moved services to the Anglican All Saints -- a step which angered many worshippers.

This Vatican decision will likely serve another purpose: It will be the necessary miracle some blessed soul will need to become a saint!

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Links:

[1] <http://www.wirralnews.co.uk/wirral-news/local-wirral-news/2009/08/19/vatican-rule-on-controversial-closure-of-wirral-s-s-peter-and-paul-s-church-80491-24467750/>