I ASSENT,

N. D. MATTHEWS,
Governor.
6th May, 1976

MONTSERRAT

NO. 7 OF 1976.

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE INCORPORATION OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

WHEREAS on the 4th day of July, 1971 the Diocese of Roseau was divided and a new Diocese of St. John was set up comprising the islands of Antigua, Barbuda and Redonda, St. Christopher, Nevis and Anguilla, Montserrat, Sombrere and the British Virgin Islands with a Bishop styled as the Bishop of St. John's:

AND WHEREAS real property has from time to time been acquired by and on behalf of the parishoners:

AND WHEREAS on the acquisition of such real property the deeds of conveyance thereof and other evidence of title thereto were usually taken out in the name of the Bishop of Roseau or of the ministers for the time being of the church:

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to incorporate the Bishop of St. John's as a corporation sole and to vest in such corporation the real and personal property acquired in the Colony for and on behalf of the Roman Catholic parishioners in the Colony.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council of Montserrat and by the authority of the same as follows:—

Short Title.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Roman Catholic Church Incorporation and Vesting Ordinance, 1976.

Incorporation of the Bishop of St. John's.

2. The Right Reverend Joseph Oliver Bowers S.V.D., D.D. The Roman Catholic Bishop of St. John's and his successors in office shall be and is hereby constituted a corporation under the style and title of "Bishop of St. John's" with perpetual succession and a common seal and authority by that cor-

porate name to sue and be sued, to acquire and hold real and personal property in trust for all purposes connected with affairs of the Roman Catholic Church in the Colony and with power to sell, mortgage, alienate or lease the said property.

Vesting of Property.

3. All real and personal property in the Colony now held or vested in the Bishop of Roseau or held by or vested in any person or persons on behalf of the Roman Catholic Church Parishioners in the Colony are hereby transferred to and vested in the Bishop of St. John's and his successors and assigns for the same estates and interest and to the extent to which the same were respectively at the time of the passing of this Ordinance held or vested as aforesaid subject to the rights reservations and charges (if any) now affecting the same and the trusts upon which the same are now held.

Powers of the said corporation.

4. The Bishop of saint John's shall have the following powers:—

(a) to acquire, hold, purchase, receive, lease, possess, and enjoy any lands or hereditaments whatsoever in fee simple, leasehold or for any other estate or interest and all property real, personal or mixed.

(b) To give, grant, let, charge, improve, manage, develop, exchange, lease, mortgage, sell, convey, assign, dispose of, turn to account or otherwise deal with all or any of the property both present and future so held or vested or any part thereof.

(c) To borrow, raise or secure the payment of money in such manner as may be thought fit and in particular by the issue of debentures or scrip charged upon all or any of the property (both present and future) held by or vested in the Corporation and to redeem and pay off any such securities.

(d) To appoint an attorney or attorneys for such time and purposes and with such powers as may be stated in the instrument of appointment and to confer on any such attorney or attorneys appointed as aforesaid power to

appoint a substitute in his or their stead.

5. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Registration and Records Act or any law for the time being in force in the Colony relating to the execution of deeds, the seal of the Bishop of St. John's affixed to any deed or other instrument if done or purported to be done before a Notary Public or acknowledged before such Notary Public or a Registrar of the High Court of Justice, shall be a sufficient execution for all purposes of the Registration and Records Act. Cap. 69

6. Nothing in this Ordinance shall prejudice or affect the rights of Her Majesty the Queen, Her Heirs and Successors or any body politic or corporate or any other person or persons except such as are mentioned in this Ordinance and those claiming by from through or under them. Saving of rights.

H. A. FERGUS,
Speaker.

Passed by the Legislative Council this 21st day of April, 1976.

D. H. BRAMBLE,
Clerk of the Council

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[L. S.]

I ASSENT
A.J. Abbott
GOVERNOR
11th January, 1998

MONTSERRAT

NO. 15 OF 1997

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH INCORPORATION AND VESTING ACT, 1976.

BE IT ENACTED by The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council of Montserrat and by the Authority of the same as follows:-

Short Title

1. This Act may be cited as the Roman Catholic Church Incorporation and Vesting (Amendment) Act 1997.

Amendment of Principal Act

2. The Roman Catholic Church Incorporation and Vesting Act 1976 is amended by substituting for the words "Bishop of St. John's" wherever they occur in the Act, the words "Bishop of St. John's - Basseterre".

H.A. Fergus
Speaker

Passed the Legislative Council this 23rd day of December, 1997

L. Farrell
Ag. Clerk of Council