

Passed Mar. 23, 1833

*An act relating to the manner of holding and transmitting the title to certain Church property therein mentioned.*

Roman Catholic trustees.

May deed church property to the Archbishop.

Any person may convey land for a church.

Such property how appropriated.

Limitations.

No consideration to be exacted.

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That it shall and may be lawful to, and for the trustees of any Roman Catholic Church, in whom the title to any lot or lots of ground, whereon any Roman Catholic Church is now erected, or which is used as a grave-yard attached to any such church, to convey the same by deed to be executed, acknowledged and recorded in the usual manner, to the Most Reverend James Whitfield, the present Arch Bishop of Baltimore, and his successors in the Archiepiscopal see of Baltimore, according to the discipline and government of the Roman Catholic Church, forever; and it shall and may be lawful to, and for any person or persons or body corporate, to convey unto the Roman Catholic Arch Bishop of Baltimore, for the time being, and his successors as aforesaid, forever, by deed as aforesaid, any lot, piece or parcel of ground as aforesaid, for the purpose of having a Church erected thereon, for worship according to the discipline and government of the Roman Catholic Church, or for a grave-yard as aforesaid, which said lots of ground and premises, when so conveyed, are to be held by the said Roman Catholic Arch Bishop of Baltimore, and his successors as aforesaid, for the uses of the members of the Roman Catholic Church, worshipping at the respective places where such Churches may be, according to the government and discipline of the Roman Catholic Church; *Provided always*, that the property and estate, so to be conveyed and held, shall not, for any one congregation, exceed two acres; *and provided*, that such property be improved, enjoyed and used, only for a Church lot, parsonage and burial ground, or such conveyance, for such lot, shall be void; *and provided*, that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to authorise the said Arch Bishop of Baltimore or his successors, to exact from the members of any congregation, who may make conveyances under this act, any contributions as a consideration for the use of said church property so conveyed, without their consent.