

1 [Planning Code - Landmark Designation - Holy Innocents Church]

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3 **Ordinance amending the Planning Code to designate the Holy Innocents Church,**  
 4 **located at 455 Fair Oaks Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 6533, Lot No. 027, on the**  
 5 **east side of Fair Oaks Street between 25th and 26th Streets, as a landmark consistent**  
 6 **with the standards set forth in Article 10 of the Planning Code; affirming the Planning**  
 7 **Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and**  
 8 **making public necessity, convenience, and welfare findings under Planning Code,**  
 9 **Section 302, and findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority**  
 10 **policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1.**

11 NOTE: **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain Arial font.  
 12 **Additions to Codes** are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.  
 13 **Deletions to Codes** are in *strikethrough italics Times New Roman font*.  
 14 **Board amendment additions** are in double-underlined Arial font.  
 15 **Board amendment deletions** are in ~~strikethrough Arial font~~.  
 16 **Asterisks (\* \* \* \*)** indicate the omission of unchanged Code  
 17 subsections or parts of tables.

18 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

19 Section 1. Findings.

20 (a) Environmental and Land Use Findings.

21 (1) The Planning Department has determined that the Planning Code  
 22 amendment proposed in this ordinance is subject to a Categorical Exemption from the  
 23 California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et  
 24 seq., hereinafter "CEQA") pursuant to Section 15308 of California Code of Regulations, Title  
 25 14, Sections 15000 et seq., the Guidelines for implementation of the statute, for actions by

1 regulatory agencies for protection of the environment (in this case, landmark designation).  
2 Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No.  
3 \_\_\_\_\_ and is incorporated herein by reference. The Board of Supervisors affirms  
4 this determination.

5 (2) Pursuant to Planning Code Section 302, the Board of Supervisors finds that  
6 the proposed landmark designation of Holy Innocents Church will serve the public necessity,  
7 convenience, and welfare for the reasons set forth in Historic Preservation Commission  
8 Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_, recommending approval of the proposed designation, which is  
9 incorporated herein by reference.

10 (3) The Board of Supervisors finds that the proposed landmark designation of  
11 the Holy Innocents Church is consistent with the General Plan and with Planning Code  
12 Section 101.1(b) for the reasons set forth in Historic Preservation Commission Resolution No.  
13 \_\_\_\_\_, which is incorporated herein by reference.

14 (b) General Findings.

15 (1) On March 3, 2026, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 105-  
16 26, initiating landmark designation of Holy Innocents Church as a San Francisco Landmark  
17 pursuant to Section 1004.1 of the Planning Code. On March 6, 2026, the Mayor approved the  
18 resolution. Said resolution is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No.  
19 260058.

20 (2) Pursuant to Charter Section 4.135, the Historic Preservation Commission  
21 has authority “to recommend approval, disapproval, or modification of landmark designations  
22 and historic district designations under the Planning Code to the Board of Supervisors.”

23 (3) The Landmark Designation Fact Sheet dated May 20, 2026 was prepared  
24 by Planning Department Preservation staff. All preparers meet the Secretary of the Interior’s  
25 Professional Qualification Standards for historic preservation program staff, as set forth in

1 Code of Federal Regulations Title 36, Part 61, Appendix A. The report was reviewed for  
2 accuracy and conformance with the purposes and standards of Article 10 of the Planning  
3 Code. A copy of the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet is on file with the Clerk of the Board of  
4 Supervisors in File No. \_\_\_\_\_ and is incorporated herein by reference.

5 (4) The Historic Preservation Commission, at its regular meeting of May 20,  
6 2026, reviewed Planning Department staff’s analysis of the historical significance of Holy  
7 Innocents Church set forth in the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet.

8 (5) On May 20, 2026, after holding a public hearing on the proposed  
9 designation and having considered the specialized analyses prepared by Planning  
10 Department staff and the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet, the Historic Preservation  
11 Commission recommended designation of Holy Innocents Church as a landmark consistent  
12 with the standards set forth in Section 1004 of the Planning Code, by Resolution No.  
13 \_\_\_\_\_. Said resolution is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No.  
14 \_\_\_\_\_.

15 (6) The Board of Supervisors hereby finds that Holy Innocents Church has a  
16 special character and special historical, cultural, architectural, and aesthetic interest and  
17 value, and that its designation as a landmark will further the purposes of and conform to the  
18 standards set forth in Article 10 of the Planning Code. In doing so, the Board of Supervisors  
19 hereby incorporates by reference the findings of the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet.

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21 Section 2. Designation.

22 Pursuant to Section 1004.3 of the Planning Code, the Holy Innocents Church, located  
23 at 455 Fair Oaks Street, Assessor’s Parcel Block No. 6533, Lot No. 027, is hereby designated  
24 as a San Francisco landmark consistent with the standards set forth in Section 1004.  
25 Appendix A to Article 10 of the Planning Code is hereby amended to include this property.

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Section 3. Required Data.

(a) The description, location, and boundary of the landmark site consists of the footprint of the Holy Innocents Church, located on Assessor’s Parcel Block No. 6533, Lot No. 027, on the east side of Fair Oaks Street between 25th and 26th Streets in San Francisco’s Mission neighborhood, as shown in the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet.

(b) The characteristics of the landmark that justify its designation are described and shown in the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet and other supporting materials contained in Planning Department Record Docket No. 2026-002388DES. In brief, the Holy Innocents Church, located at 455 Fair Oaks Street, is eligible for local designation because it was designed by Architect of Merit Earnest Coxhead and was Coxhead’s first extant commission in San Francisco. Having immigrated from England in the 1880s, Coxhead is known for helping create the Bay Area Shingle Style by designing brown-shingled churches and urban homes. While the peaked roof entrance facing the street, constructed in 1913, is a later addition, it is similar in design to the original portion and considered significant in its own right. The church is considered San Francisco’s oldest Episcopal Church.

(c) The particular features that should be preserved, or replaced in kind as determined necessary, are those generally shown in photographs and described in the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet, which can be found in Planning Department Record Docket No. 2026-002388DES, and which are incorporated in this designation by reference as though fully set forth herein. This designation does not identify any interior character-defining features. Specifically, the features that are character-defining and shall be preserved or replaced in kind are the exterior elevations, form, massing, structure, rooflines, architectural ornament, and materials of the property, identified as:

- (1) Location on the property with front and side setbacks;

- 1 (2) Original 1890s portion of the building, as well as 1910s front addition;
- 2 (3) One-story height;
- 3 (4) Front facing gabled roofs with wide overhanging eaves;
- 4 (5) Asymmetrical facade;
- 5 (6) Rectangular form;
- 6 (7) Wood construction and exterior brown shingle cladding;
- 7 (8) Ogee arches and lancet openings with solid double entrance doors;
- 8 (9) Decorative stained glass;
- 9 (10) Location of bell tower; and
- 10 (11) Recessed side entryways, including southern front-facing entryway with
- 11 curved shingle design below projecting façade element with rafters.

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Section 4. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall become effective on the 31st day after enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within 10 days of receiving it, or the Board of Supervisors overrides the Mayor’s veto of the ordinance.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
DAVID CHIU, City Attorney

By: /s/ Peter Miljanich  
PETER MILJANICH  
Deputy City Attorney