

**George the Third by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland King,
Defender of the Faith:**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING

WHEREAS, we have been informed by the humble petition of our loving subjects, Uzel Ogden, Junior, Nathaniel Pettit, Archibald Stewart, Edward Picot, William Hall, Nathan Armstrong, Amos Pettit, John Pettit, Charles Pettit, Thomas Anderses, John B. Scott, James Shaw and others, inhabitants of New Town, in the County of Sussex, in the Province of New Jersey, presented to our trusty and well beloved Willian Franklin, Esq'r, our Captain General and Governor in Chief of our Province of New Jersey and Territories thereon depending in America, Chancellor and Vice Admiral in the same, &c. that the Society in England for propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts, &c., have been pleased to open a Mission to the said County of Sussex and appointed & Missionary thereto, that some donations or lands have been given and offered to be given to them that they may be the better enabled to support and maintain the publick worship of Almighty God according to the rules and ceremonies of the Church of England as by law established, but that for want of their being incorporated they are not capable of holding, receiving or accepting the said donations or of purchasing any lands or tenements for the use of the said petitioners as a congregation or church, or transacting or carrying on the affairs and business thereof in so advantageous and beneficial a manner and otherwise they might do;

WHEREFORE to the end that the said petitioners and their successors may be capable of holding, receiving and accepting the said donations and also be erected and made a body politick and corporate the better to manage and carry on the affairs and business or the said congregation or church to and for the glory of God and the pious uses intended thereby, they have prayed our Roval Grant that they and all the other inhabitants of said town in communion with the church of England may be incorporated into a body politick and corporate in deed, fact and name, by the name and stile of **THE RECTOR, CHURCH WARDENS AND VESTRYMEN OF CHRIST'S CHURCH AT NEW TOWN**, elected and chosen according to the canons of the Church of England as by law established and that as such and by that name they and their successors may have, hold, use, occupy and enjoy all the rights, benefits, advantages, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances as are usually held and enjoyed by any Parochial Church within the Realm of England.

And we being willing to give all due encouragement and promotion to the pious intentions of our loyal subjects and to grant their reasonable request in that behalf, **KNOW YE**, that we of our special grace, certain knowledge and mere notion have ordained, constituted and declared and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, do make, ordain, constitute, grant and declare that the said Uzal Ogden, Junior, Nathaniel Pettit, Archibald Stewart, Edward Picot, William Hall, Nathan Armstrong, Amos Pettit, John Pettit, Charles Pettit, Thomas Anderses, John B. Scott, James Shaw and the rest of Episcopal inhabitants of New Town aforesaid in communion with the Church of England be and they and their successors shall be from time to time and at all times forever thereafter a body corporate and politick in deed, fact and name the name and stile of **The Rector, Church Wardens, and Vestrymen of Christ's Church at New Town**, elected and chosen according to the Canon of the Church of England as by law established and one body politick and corporate in deed, fact and name really and fully we do for us, and our heirs, our successors, erect, make, constitute, declare and erect by these presents and that by the same name they and their successors shall and may have perpetual succession and shall and may be persons sole and capable in the law to sue and be sued to implead and be impleaded to answer and be answered unto, to defend and be defended in all courts and elsewhere of all and singular suits, causes, quarrels, matters, actions, demands and things of what nature and kind soever, and also that they and their successors by the same name be and shall be forever hereafter capable and able in law to take, accept, have, hold and enjoy in be forever or for life or lives or for year or years or in any other manner any messuages, buildings, houses, lands, tenements, hereditaments or estates whatsoever given, granted, bargained or sold by any former gifts, grants, sale or patent or by any other ways or means whatsoever to any person or persons whatsoever for the use of the Church or Inhabitants in communion with the Church of England at New Town aforesaid the same by all lawful means whatsoever, and also that they and their successors by the same name be and shall be forever

hereafter capable and able in law to take, accept or acquire, purchase, receive, have, hold, and enjoy in fee forever or for life or lives or for year or years or in any other manner any messuages, buildings, houses, lands, tenements, hereditament and real estate and all or any part of the messuages, buildings, houses, lands, tenements, hereditaments and premises aforesaid to ease for one or more years under certain yearly rents or to grant, alien bargain, sell and dispose of in fee simple; and also to accept or take, possess and purchase and lands, goods, chattels or personal estate and the same to hire, let, sell or dispose of at their will and pleasure, and all this as fully as any other corporation or body politick within our Kingdom of England or this our Provinces of New Jersey may lawfully do; Provided that such messuages and real estates as they or their successors shall have, may be or are entitled unto shall not at any time exceed the yearly rent of five hundred pounds, lawful money of Great Britain, ever and above the lands heretofore given or granted to the said Church of Inhabitants in communion with the Church of England of New Town aforesaid.

And further, we do will & grant that the said Rector and Congregation and their successors shall and may forever hereafter have a common seal to serve and use for all matters, causes, things and affairs whatsoever of them and their successors and full power and authority to break, alter, change and new make the same or any other common seal from time to time at their will and pleasure as they shall think proper. And further, we will and ordain and by these presents for use and our successors do declare and appoint that for the better ordering and managing the affairs and business of the said corporation there shall be one Rector or Parochial Minister of the Church of England as by law established, duly ordained for the cure of souls, two Church Wardens and nine Vestrymen from time to time constituted, elected and chosen in a manner and form as is hereafter in these presents expressed, which vestrymen, or the greater part of them, and the two Church wardens, or one of them, together with the Rector for the time being shall apply themselves to take care for the best obtaining, receiving, dispensing, governing and ordering the general business affairs of and concerning the said Church and all such lands, tenements, hereditaments, real and personal estate as now do belong to the Church aforesaid or shall or may hereafter be acquired as aforesaid. And for the better execution of our Royal Will and pleasure herein we do for us, our heirs and successors, assign, name, constitute and confirm the said Uzel Ogden, Junior, to be the present Rector of parish minister of the said Church and the said Nathaniel Pettit and Archibald Stewart to be the present Church Wardens of said Church and Edward Pigot, William Hall, Nathan Armstrong, Amos Pettit, John Pettit, Charles Pettit, Thomas Anderson John H. Scott and James Shaw to be the Vestrymen of the said Church, which said Church Wardens and Vestrymen are to continue in the said several offices until Monday in Easter week next ensuing or until others be chosen in their room in such manner as is hereinafter expressed. And further, we do will and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, do ordain, appoint and direct that the said Rector of said Church for the time being shall and may from time to time upon all occasions assemble and call together the said Church Wardens of or one of them and Vestrymen for the time being or the greater number of them to consult, advise, do and perform the business and affairs of the said Church and concerning the premises aforesaid and to hold vestries for that purpose, and in case of death or absence of the minister for the time being then and in either of such cases during such vacancy or absence for three months the Church Wardens for the time being, or one of them, may call and hold vestries and do & perform in the vacancy or absence of the Rector and not otherwise every matter and thing relating to the premises as if done by and with the order, consent, & approbation of the Rector of said Church. And further our will and pleasure is and we do for us, our heirs, and successors, establish, appoint and direct that the choice as well of vestrymen as of the Church Warden for the said Church shall be annual, that is to say, on Monday in Easter week in every year at New Town aforesaid in the manner following, to wit, that the Rector for the time being shall appoint one of the congregation of said Church to be one of the Church Wardens and the Congregation of said Church, or they major part of them then present, shall elect, choose and appoint one other of the congregation of the said Church to be the other Church Warden and nine other of the congregation of the said Church to be Vestrymen for the ensuing year, which Church Wardens and Vestrymen so chosen or hereafter to be chosen until other fit persons be respectively elected in their steads and places and shall and by these presents have full power and lawful authority to do, execute and perform their several and respective offices in as full and ample manner as any Church Wardens or Vestrymen in that part of Great Britain called England or this our Province of New Jersey have or lawfully may do, and if it shall happen that any of either of them the said Church Wardens or Vestrymen so to be annually elected shall die or be removed or deny, refuse or neglect to officiate in the said respective

officers of Church Wardens and Vestrymen before the time for the serving therein be expired, then and in every such case it shall and may be lawful to and for the congregation of the said Church for the time being, or the major part of them to proceed in manner aforesaid and make a new election of one or more of their congregation in the stead and place of such officer or officers so dying or removing or denying, refusing or neglecting to officiate in his or their respective office as aforesaid and so as often as the case shall happen or require. And further our will and pleasure is and we do hereby direct and appoint that it shall and may be lawful to and for the present or any other succeeding Rector of the said Church, by and with the consent of the Church Wardens for the time being or one of them and by and with the consent of the vestrymen for the time being or the major part of them in vestry to nominate and appoint a clerk, sexton, and bell ringer to and for the said Church, also a clerk and messenger to serve the said vestry at their meetings and such other under or Church Wardens and Vestrymen for the time being, or offices so long as the said Rector the major part of them shall think fit. And lastly, we do of our especial Grace, certain knowledge and here motion give and grant unto said Rector of said Church, the two church Wardens, or one of them, and Vestrymen of the said Church for the time being, or the major part of them, in vestry shall have the full power and authority from time to time and at all times hereafter to make, ordain and constitute such rules, orders, and ordinances for the good discipline and order of the members of said Church and corporation as they or the major part of them shall think fit, so that those rules, orders and ordinances be not repugnant to the laws of that part of our Kingdom of Great Britain called England or of this Province of New Jersey, but as near as may be thereto, which rules, orders and ordinances shall be from time to time fairly entered in a book or books to be kept for that purpose.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, we have caused these our letters to be made patent and the Great Seal of our said Province of New Jersey to be hereunto affixed and the same to be entered of record in our Secretary's Office of our said Province of New Jersey at our City of Perth Amboy in one of the books of records there remaining.

WITNESS our trusty and well beloved WILLIAM FRANKLIN, Esquire, Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over our said Province of New Jersey and Territories thereon depending in America, Chancellor and Vice Admiral in the same & c, at Burlington, as is the Fifteenth day of August, in the fourteenth year of our reign, Anno Domini, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four.

