



MOST REVEREND LEONARD P. BLAIR
ARCHBISHOP OF HARTFORD

DECREE

In Nomine Domini. Amen.

**ON THE MERGER OF SAINT GERTRUDE PARISH OF WINDSOR,
WITH SAINT DAMIEN OF MOLOKAI PARISH OF WINDSOR,
CONNECTICUT**

WHEREAS, Saint Gertrude Parish, Windsor, Connecticut, was originally established in 1947, and Saint Damien of Molokai Parish of Windsor, Connecticut, was formed from a merger of two parishes on June 29, 2017, as a result of a pastoral planning process in the Archdiocese of Hartford; and

WHEREAS, the number of parishioners of Saint Gertrude has significantly diminished, the Parish has seen a decline in financial resources, and has little in the way of activity and no parish organizations currently in existence, and due to such factors it is unlikely to survive as a separate Parish going into the future; and

WHEREAS, Saint Damien of Molokai has a stable existence and will provide a steady, new home for the parishioners from Saint Gertrude, and a merger with Saint Gertrude at this time will provide a gradual transition for all concerned, keeping in mind the long term organization of the Archdiocese, while three church buildings will remain within close proximity to one another thus providing access to worship for the faithful; and

WHEREAS, the Pastor of Saint Damien of Molokai consulted the Finance Council and Trustees of Saint Gertrude; and the intention or will of donors, any restrictions on assets, including land, as well as any acquired rights, have been examined and taken into consideration. The Presbyteral Council was consulted on September 21, 2020, in accord with canon 515 §2 of the Code of Canon Law in relation to the modification of parishes and posed no objection; and

WHEREAS, having judged that sufficient just causes are present and that the good of souls will not thereby be impaired,

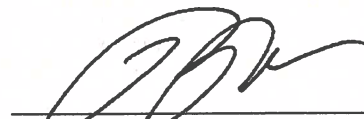
I HEREBY DECREE the “merger,” following from canons 121 & 515 §2 of the Code of Canon Law, by which Saint Gertrude Parish is subsumed into the Parish of Saint Damien of Molokai; the separate juridic (legal) personality of Saint Gertrude Parish will cease to exist and it will no longer be a subject of obligations and rights under canon law; Saint Gertrude church building will remain as a sacred place of worship at present.

The assets and liabilities of the former Saint Gertrude Parish will become the assets and liabilities of Saint Damien of Molokai Parish. The administration of the church buildings and premises will be based at Saint Damien of Molokai. The sacramental registers along with any other parish records and historical documents shall also be preserved at Saint Damien of Molokai Parish, according to the norm of canon 535. The territorial boundaries of Saint Damien of Molokai will henceforth be the combined boundaries of it and the former Saint Gertrude Parish.


This decree becomes effective as of October 19, 2020, prior to which the substance of it is to be communicated to parishioners at the aforementioned parishes, including the display in an appropriate place so that parishioners can read it as they enter or exit the church. It will also be available on the website, www.stewardsfortomorrow.org. Canonical recourse may be made within the preemptory time limit of ten (10) business days from the legitimate notification of the decree and in accordance with the norm of law (CIC canon 1734 §2).

All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the Chancery of the Archdiocese of Hartford, Connecticut, on the 30th day of September in the Year of Our Lord 2020.



Reverend Ryan M. Lerner
Chancellor



Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair
Archbishop of Hartford