



MOST REVEREND LEONARD P. BLAIR
ARCHBISHOP OF HARTFORD

**DECREE
OF AMALGAMATION OF THE PARISHES OF OUR LADY OF
VICTORY AND SAINT JOHN VIANNEY, OF WEST HAVEN,
CONNECTICUT**

WHEREAS 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 May 1, 2017, in accord with canon 515 §2 of the Code of Canon Law in relation to the modification of parishes and posed no objection;

WHEREAS, Our Lady of Victory was erected as a parish in 1935, and Saint John Vianney in 1965, having had its origin as a mission chapel; and the number of registered households at Saint John Vianney has declined drastically (22% in the last five years), along with decreased Mass attendance, and Our Lady of Victory has likewise experienced the same difficulties; it has been judged to be advantageous for the two Parishes to unite to ensure future viability;

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


I HEREBY DECREE an “extinctive union,” following from canons 121 & 515 §2 of the Code of Canon Law, by which Saint John Vianney Parish is subsumed into Our Lady of Victory Parish; the separate juridic (legal) personality of Saint John Vianney Parish will cease to exist, and it will no longer be a subject of obligations and rights under canon law; Saint John Vianney church building will remain at present as a sacred place for divine worship but with no regularly scheduled Masses.

The administration of the church buildings and premises will be based at Our Lady of Victory Parish. The assets and liabilities of the former Saint John Vianney Parish will become the assets and liabilities of Our Lady of Victory Parish. The sacramental registers along with any other parish records and historical documents, shall be preserved at the premises of Our Lady of Victory Parish. The territorial boundaries of Our Lady of Victory Parish will henceforth be the combined boundaries of it and that of the former Saint John Vianney Parish.

This decree becomes effective as of June 29, 2017, 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, *stewardsfortomorrow.org*. Canonical recourse may be made within the peremptory 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 2nd day of May in the Year of Our Lord 2017.



Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair
Archbishop of Hartford



Reverend Ryan M. Lerner
Chancellor