



**MOST REVEREND LEONARD P. BLAIR  
ARCHBISHOP OF HARTFORD**

**DECREE**

This decree concerns the amalgamation of the Parishes of Saint Patrick, Saint Adalbert, and Saint Martha of Enfield, Connecticut.

WHEREAS, the Archdiocese of Hartford has had to undertake a planning process in relation to its parishes and churches;

WHEREAS, Saint Patrick Parish was erected in 1863, Saint Adalbert in 1915, and Saint Martha in 1961; and between the parishes there have been significant decreases in the vital statistics that jeopardize the separate existence of each parish: a 9% decrease in registered households, 42% decrease in Mass attendance in recent years, 32% decrease in the faithful availing themselves of sacraments such as baptism and marriage; and these factors also leading to further difficulties such as financial debt;

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

I HEREBY DECREE the amalgamation of Saint Adalbert and Saint Martha Parishes, following from canons 121 & 515 §2 of the Code of Canon Law, by which they are subsumed into Saint Patrick Parish; the separate juridic (legal) personalities of Saint Adalbert and Saint Martha Parishes will cease to exist and will no longer be subjects of obligations and rights under canon law; Saint Adalbert and Saint Martha church buildings will remain at present as sacred places for divine worship but with no regularly scheduled Masses at Saint Martha. Saint Patrick Parish will henceforth be named Saint Raymond of Peñafort Parish.

The administration of the church buildings and premises, including the cemetery attached to Saint Adalbert, will be based at Saint Raymond of Peñafort Parish. The assets and liabilities of Saint Adalbert and Saint Martha Parishes will become the assets and liabilities of Saint Raymond

of Peñafort Parish. The sacramental registers along with any other parish records and historical documents shall be preserved at the premises of Saint Raymond of Peñafort Parish. The territorial boundaries of Saint Raymond of Peñafort Parish will henceforth be the combined boundaries of it and that of the former Saint Adalbert and Saint Martha Parishes.

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