



MOST REVEREND LEONARD P. BLAIR  
ARCHBISHOP OF HARTFORD

**DECREE**  
**ON THE AMALGAMATION OF THE PARISHES OF SAINT**  
**CHRISTOPHER, OUR LADY OF PEACE, AND BLESSED SACRAMENT,**  
**OF EAST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT**

WHEREAS, 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; 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;

WHEREAS, Blessed Sacrament Parish was erected in 1948, Saint Christopher Parish established in 1965 but originally a mission of Blessed Sacrament, while Our Lady of Peace was erected in 1971, initially a mission of Saint Christopher Parish; a recommendation was made to merge the Parishes, for the following reasons:

- 1) The three parishes have experienced a noted decline in registered households, Mass attendance and general sacramental practice.
- 2) Our Lady of Peace has only about 409 registered households, Blessed Sacrament 197 and St. Christopher 1069.
- 3) The future burden, financial and otherwise, of maintaining each Parish has been judged to be intolerable.

WHEREAS, having judged that sufficient just causes are present and that the good of souls will not thereby be impaired, and that it is best for the future viability of the communities to come together,

I HEREBY DECREE, following from canons 121 & 515 §2 of the Code of Canon Law, the amalgamation of Our Lady of Peace and Blessed Sacrament Parishes, by which they are subsumed into Saint Christopher Parish; the separate juridic (legal) personalities of Our Lady of Peace and Blessed Sacrament Parishes will cease to exist and will no longer be subjects of obligations and rights under canon law; Our Lady of Peace and Blessed Sacrament church buildings will remain at present as sacred places for divine worship but with no regularly

scheduled Masses at Blessed Sacrament. Saint Christopher will henceforth be named as Saint Edmund Campion Parish.

The administration of the church buildings and premises will be based at Saint Edmund Campion Parish. The assets and liabilities of the former Our Lady of Peace and Blessed Sacrament Parishes will become the assets and liabilities of Saint Edmund Campion Parish. The sacramental registers along with any other parish records and historical documents shall be preserved at the premises of Saint Edmund Campion Parish. The territorial boundaries of Saint Edmund Campion Parish will henceforth be the combined boundaries of it and the former Parishes of Our Lady of Peace and Blessed Sacrament.

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