



MOST REVEREND LEONARD P. BLAIR
ARCHBISHOP OF HARTFORD

DECREE

This decree concerns the merger of **Saint Catherine of Siena Parish in Broad Brook, Connecticut**, with **Saint Philip in East Windsor, Connecticut**, within the Enfield Deanery.

WHEREAS, Saint Catherine of Siena Parish was established in 1886 to care for the Irish immigrant laborers working at the nearby Enfield Falls Canal and Saint Philip Parish was established in 1959, after a committee of Saint Mary Church in Windsor Locks proposed a mission at Warehouse Point;

WHEREAS, Saint Catherine of Siena Parish and Saint Philip Parish were “linked” on April 25, 2004, and they share a pastor;

WHEREAS, from 2010 to 2015, registered households decreased by 28.8% and sacramental activities by 43.4% at the two “linked” parishes;

WHEREAS, the linking of the Parishes has met with success with a shared pastor, some staff, some religious education program activities, and other resources, and following discussion among the two parish communities, the pastor and respective trustees recommended that Saint Catherine of Siena Parish and Saint Philip Parishes be merged to create a new parish;

WHEREAS, the intention or will of donors, any restrictions on assets, including land, and any acquired rights have been examined and taken into consideration, and the Presbyteral Council was consulted on May 1, 2017, in accordance 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 “merger,” following from canons 121 & 515 §2 of the Code of Canon Law, of Saint Catherine of Siena and Saint Philip Parishes; the separate juridic (legal) personalities of Saint Catherine of Siena and Saint Philip Parishes will cease to exist, and they will no longer be subjects of obligations and rights under canon law; a new parish is now established, namely, Saint Marianne Cope, while both church buildings of the former Parishes will remain as sacred places for divine worship.

The assets and liabilities of the former parishes will become the assets and liabilities of the new parish, Saint Marianne Cope. The administration of the church buildings and premises will be based at the premises of Saint Catherine of Siena Church, Broad Brook, Connecticut. The sacramental registers along with any other parish records and historical documents, shall also be preserved at the aforementioned premises, according to the norm of canon 535. The territorial boundaries of the new parish will henceforth be the combined boundaries of the former Saint Catherine of Siena and Saint Philip Parishes, including the Saint Catherine cemetery, which was operated by the former Saint Catherine Parish.

This decree becomes effective June 29th, 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 (c. 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