



MOST REVEREND LEONARD P. BLAIR
ARCHBISHOP OF HARTFORD

**DECREE
ERECTING “SAINT MARTHA PARISH”
FROM THE ALREADY EXISTING
“SAINT RAYMOND OF PEÑAFORT PARISH”
IN ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT**

WHEREAS, the parishes of Saint Patrick, Saint Adalbert, and Saint Martha were merged on June 29, 2017, to form a new parish, namely Saint Raymond of Peñafort, with three church buildings: Saint Patrick Church, Saint Adalbert Church, and Saint Martha Church;

WHEREAS, after the merger was effected, some issues developed regarding these extinct entities, requiring further changes in the merger of the three parishes;

WHEREAS, the Office of Pastoral Planning, after consulting the relevant parish committees, including the Finance Council and the Vicar for Clergy, recommended that a workable alternative modification was to separate one Church building from the current Saint Raymond of Peñafort Parish, which has three sacred edifices;

WHEREAS, the intention or will of donors, any restrictions on assets, including land, and any acquired rights have been examined and taken into consideration; the Presbyteral Council was consulted on November 6, 2017, in accordance with canon 515 §2 of the Code of Canon Law in relation to the modification of parishes and posed no objection; and having judged that sufficient just causes are present and that the good of souls will not thereby be impaired,


I HEREBY DECREE the separation and creation of a new parish, to be named Saint Martha Parish, from the existing parish of Saint Raymond of Peñafort, following from canons 122 & 515 §2 of the *Code of Canon Law*, thereby creating two parishes. Therefore, the existing parish of Saint Raymond of Peñafort will be divided into two parishes, and Saint Martha will be a new juridic entity. Saint Martha will have one church building, Saint Martha Church, and Saint Raymond of Peñafort Parish will have two sacred edifices: Saint Patrick Church and Saint Adalbert Church.

Since the merger of June 29, 2017, the assets and liabilities of the aforementioned parishes were not actually merged in the current juridic entity of Saint Raymond of Peñafort. Thus, the assets and liabilities of the former Saint Martha Parish, extinct on June 29, 2017, will be the assets and liabilities of the new juridic entity of Saint Martha parish. Similarly, the assets and liabilities of Saint Raymond of Peñafort will be the combined assets of the extinct parishes of Saint Patrick and Saint Adalbert. The administration of Saint Raymond of Peñafort, along with the sacramental registers, parish records and historical documents, shall be preserved at the premises of Saint Patrick Church, and those of Saint Martha Parish at Saint Martha Church premises. The territorial boundaries of Saint Raymond of Peñafort will henceforth be the combined boundaries of the extinct parishes of Saint Patrick and Saint Adalbert, and the territorial boundaries of Saint Martha Parish shall be its former boundaries.


This decree becomes effective on the First Sunday of Advent, December 3, 2017, prior to which the substance of it is to be communicated to parishioners at the aforementioned parishes, including by way of a 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 7th day of November in the Year of Our Lord 2017.



Reverend Ryan M. Lerner
Chancellor



Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair
Archbishop of Hartford