



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

**DECREE**

*In nomine Domini, Amen.*

WHEREAS, by my decree of May 2, 2017, the Parishes of Saint Anne, Our Lady of Lourdes, Sacred Heart, Saint Lucy and Saint Stanislaus Kostka of Waterbury, Connecticut, were merged by an extinctive union on June 29, 2017, creating the new juridic entity named All Saints/*Todos los Santos* Parish with six worship sites, that is, the Churches of Saint Anne, Our Lady of Lourdes, Sacred Heart, Saint Margaret of Scotland, Saint Lucy and Saint Stanislaus Kostka; and

WHEREAS, no recourse was filed against this decree in the Congregation for the Clergy; and

WHEREAS, on December 13, 2017, the pastor, supported by the trustees, finance council, and pastoral council members of the above-mentioned parish, requested by letter that Saint Margaret of Scotland Church be relegated to profane but not sordid use and that the building be sold to an appropriate buyer for some other appropriate use; and

WHEREAS, I convened the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council on January 9, 2018, for consultation on the question of the relegation of Saint Margaret of Scotland Church to profane but not sordid use in light of the following facts:

- i. All other reasonable sources of funding or assistance have been considered and found lacking or inadequate to maintain the church building and/or facilities in general;
- ii. The strategic pastoral planning for the Archdiocese was to reduce the number of churches so that our local churches are characterized by spiritual vitality, organizational efficacy and accountability, and social and financial responsibility;
- iii. The Church building of Saint Margaret of Scotland cannot accommodate the increased number of parishioners due to the merger;
- iv. Closure will not harm the good of souls;
- v. The unity of the parish will be promoted.

And WHEREAS, the Presbyteral Council approved unanimously to recommend that Saint Margaret of Scotland Church be relegated to profane but not sordid use; and

WHEREAS, the newly established parish of All Saints/*Todos los Santos* Parish has come together so admirably and has been welcomed enthusiastically by so many members of the Faithful in Waterbury. All Saints/*Todos los Santos* Parish simply cannot afford to sustain, either financially or pastorally, yet another church building in such close proximity (i.e., Saint Margaret of Scotland), nor is there any pastoral need to do so, as indicated in the aforementioned reasons.

WHEREAS, I have concluded that the economic hardship of maintaining the building and its lack of usefulness to All Saints/*Todos los Santos* Parish constitute grave cause sufficient in law to support the relegation of the church building to profane but not sordid use;

I, Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair, in my capacity as Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Hartford, having in mind my responsibility to best address the spiritual needs of the people of All Saints/*Todos los Santos* Parish specifically and the needs of the Archdiocese of Hartford generally, hereby decree:

1. The parish church of the former Saint Margaret of Scotland Parish shall be relegated to profane but not sordid use effective January 29, 2018. Should any interested party file a petition seeking recourse against this decree, the decree shall be held in abeyance until the final resolution of such petition.
2. All Saints/*Todos los Santos* Parish, in consultation with the Archdiocese of Hartford, shall dispose of the church building in a manner that accords with Catholic faith and morals and its dignity as a former place of Divine worship.
3. This decree is to be published to the pastor of All Saints/*Todos los Santos* Parish.
4. The substance of the decree is to be communicated to parishioners at the aforementioned churches, including by way of display in an appropriate place so that parishioners can read it as they enter or exit the churches. It will also be published in the *Catholic Transcript* and shall be available on the website [stewardsfortomorrow.org](http://stewardsfortomorrow.org).
5. Canonical recourse may be made within the preemptory 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 12<sup>th</sup> day of January in the Year of Our Lord 2018.

*+ Leonard P. Blair*

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Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair  
Archbishop of Hartford



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Reverend Ryan M. Lerner  
Chancellor