



COPY

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

DECREE

In Nomine Domini. Amen.

This decree concerns the amalgamation/extinctive union type II (cc. 121 and 515 §2) of Saint Aedan Parish in New Haven, Connecticut, and Saint Brendan Parish, in New Haven Connecticut, such that Saint Brendan Parish would be subsumed into Saint Aedan Parish under the title of "Saints Aedan and Brendan Parish" with the principal Church at 112 Fountain Street, New Haven, Connecticut. The principal motive is to provide more suitably for the good of souls (Christus Dominus no. 32) and is prompted by the petition of the pastor and Christian faithful of the two parishes.

WHEREAS, Saint Aedan Parish was erected in 1900 to serve the growing Irish Catholic population in New Haven, and Saint Brendan was erected in 1915 to accommodate further the needs of the large Catholic population in that section of the same city;

WHEREAS, the New Haven Deanery, wherein Saint Aedan Parish and Saint Brendan Parish are located, includes thirteen (13) small-to medium-sized parishes;

WHEREAS, on November 3, 2001, the parishes of Saint Aedan and Saint Brendan were linked and share a Pastor;

WHEREAS, the two parishes are located in the same municipality, sharing the same school system and socio-economic composition;

WHEREAS, the two parishes have shared one school since 2009, have a joint parish council, one religious education program (child and adult), shared clergy and director of music, and shared events and programs;

WHEREAS, the financial resources of Saint Brendan Parish are nearly depleted and the parish will be insolvent by the end of 2016 and unable to maintain its buildings and physical plant, and Saint Aedan Parish is financially stable and able to take on the new parishioners and accompanying financial obligations so that when merged the parish will be strengthened for the mission of evangelization in that section of New Haven;

obligations so that when merged the parish will be strengthened for the mission of evangelization in that section of New Haven;

WHEREAS, only the Diocesan Bishop can significantly alter a parish in his jurisdiction according to the prescriptions of c. 515 §2 of the Code of Canon Law; and in accord with prescriptions of c. 121, having judged that sufficient just causes are present and that the good of souls will not thereby be impaired, and having heard the parishioners of both parishes through parish leadership with input from the parishes at large, including the recommendations of the two finance councils, having received the recommendation of the Pastoral Planning Committee which reviewed the recommendations of the parishes party to this decree, and under the careful direction of the Vicar for Pastoral Planning, and having consulted the Presbyteral Council on June 20, 2016, in accord with c. 515 §2,

I, the Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair, the Archbishop of Hartford, hereby **DECREE** that:

The Parish of Saint Aedan and the Parish of Saint Brendan, are to be merged, such that the Parish of Saint Brendan is subsumed into the Parish of Saint Aedan and will for the present be called and named Saints Aedan and Brendan Parish in New Haven, with two church buildings, that is, Saint Aedan Church and Saint Brendan Church, both in New Haven.

The merger is an effort to strengthen the preaching of the Gospel and to ensure the vitality of parish life in that portion of the New Haven Deanery, with concern for the best stewardship of resources and the right of the People of God to receive assistance from the Church, especially the Word of God, spiritual sustenance and the sacraments. Saint Brendan Parish, as a separate juridic entity, will cease to exist. All Catholics having domicile or quasi-domicile within the current boundaries of the aforementioned parishes are hereby considered members of Saints Aedan and Brendan Parish and, as such, are entrusted to the care of one pastor. The rich legacy and history of Saint Brendan Parish will be promoted and honored at Saints Aedan and Brendan Parish. Together, all of the parishioners are encouraged to unite with the newly merged parish through the union with Jesus Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

The intentions of the founders and donors regarding the temporal goods and patrimonial rights proper to the extinct Parish of Saint Brendan, as well as the acquired rights, shall be honored and respected. In addition, the temporal goods, patrimonial rights, and the obligations of Saint Brendan Parish shall be assumed by Saints Aedan and Brendan Parish in accordance with the norm of law (c. 121). The Parish of Saints Aedan and Brendan shall comprise all of the present territory of Saint Aedan Parish and the territory of the former Parish of Saint Brendan. This parish will remain in the New Haven Deanery.

All the parish and sacrament records of the extinct Parish of Saint Brendan are to be properly preserved and safeguarded in Saints Aedan and Brendan Parish, in accordance with the norm of law (cc. 535 §§1-5).

This decree becomes effective August 1, 2016, prior to which the substance of it is to be communicated to the parishioners by means of notice in the weekend bulletins of both parishes, as well as by publication in the Archdiocesan newspaper, *The Catholic Transcript*. Canonical recourse may be made within the peremptory time limit of ten (10) days from the legitimate notification of the decree and in accordance with the norm of law (c. 1734 §2).

Anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the Chancery of the Archdiocese of Hartford

On this 12th day of July, 2016



Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair
Archbishop of Hartford



Reverend Ryan M. Lerner
Vice-Chancellor