



MOST REVEREND LEONARD P. BLAIR
ARCHBISHOP OF HARTFORD

D E C R E E
In Nomine Domini. Amen.

*This decree concerns the relegation to profane but not sordid use of
Saint Adalbert Church in Enfield, Connecticut.*

WHEREAS, by my decree of October 21, 2022, Saint Jeanne Jugan Parish was created by the merger of the following parishes: Saint Raymond of Peñafort Parish, which was established on June 29, 2017, with the merger of the parishes of Saint Patrick, Saint Adalbert, and Saint Martha; Saint Jeanne Jugan, which was established on June 29, 2017, with the merger of Holy Family and Saint Bernard Parishes; and Saint Martha Parish, which was created in November 2017, after it was canonically separated from Saint Raymond of Peñafort Parish;

WHEREAS, the newly merged juridic entity known as Saint Jeanne Jugan Parish has five sacred edifices: Saint Patrick Church, Saint Adalbert Church, Saint Martha Church, Holy Family Church, and Saint Bernard Church;

WHEREAS, on December 5, 2023, the Pastor of Jeanne Jugan Parish informed Archbishop Blair that, since the successful merger of the aforementioned parishes with five churches, he, the Pastor, has been in ongoing consultations with the Finance Council and Parish Council regarding the future use of Saint Adalbert Church, its associated buildings, and the land owned by the parish of Saint Jeanne Jugan. Saint Adalbert Church, its associated buildings, and the land (“the Church”) will no longer be needed by Saint Jeanne Jugan Parish for divine worship;

WHEREAS, the aforementioned pastor, supported by the parish trustees, recommended to Archbishop Blair that Saint Adalbert Church, located at 90 Alden Avenue, Enfield, be relegated to profane but not sordid use;

WHEREAS, the letter described the church building of Saint Adalbert as a financial burden on the Parish due to the annual operating costs associated with maintaining the church while it is no longer needed for divine worship;

WHEREAS, I convened the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council on March 4, 2024, for consultation on the question of the relegation of Saint Adalbert Church to profane but not sordid use in light of the following facts:

- All other reasonable sources of funding or assistance have been considered and found lacking or inadequate to maintain the church building and facilities in general;

- 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;
- The number of parishioners has decreased;
- Closure will not harm the good of souls;
- The unity of Saint Jeanne Jugan will be promoted.

WHEREAS, all Presbyteral Council members unanimously voted in favor and recommended that Saint Adalbert be relegated to profane but not sordid use;

WHEREAS, I have concluded that the economic hardship of maintaining the building and its lack of usefulness to Saint Jeanne Jugan constitute grave cause sufficient in law to support the relegation of the church building to profane but not sordid use;


WHEREFORE, having carefully considered the law and the facts, having received a formal written request on December 5, 2023, from the Pastor and the Trustees with the support of the Finance and Parish Councils, and having heard the Presbyteral Council on March 4, 2024; having ensured by means of the original deeds and other documents as well as having heard from donors and/or their heirs whose consent is needed to perform this juridic act, in accordance with the norm of canon 1222 §2; thus having safeguarded the intentions/restrictions of the donors, and having ensured that the altars, sacred objects, and religious artifacts will be removed from the church in accordance with canonical norms;

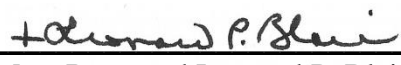
I, the undersigned Archbishop of Hartford, do pronounce, declare, and **DECREE** that the Church of Saint Adalbert, at 90 Alden Avenue, Enfield, Connecticut be relegated to profane but not sordid use (c.1222 §2), effective April 22, 2024. It shall no longer be a sacred place used for divine worship and herewith will lose its blessing, dedication, and consecration.

This decree is to be published to the pastor of Saint Jeanne Jugan Parish. The substance of it is to be communicated to parishioners at the aforementioned parish, including by way of a display in an appropriate place so that parishioners can read it as they enter or exit the churches. It will also be available on the Archdiocese of Hartford website, under News-Public Notices: [<https://archdioceseofhartford.org/public-notices/>]. 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 15th day of March in the Year of Our Lord 2024.


 Reverend Christopher M. Ford, J.C.L.
 Chancellor


 Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair
 Archbishop of Hartford