



MOST REVEREND LEONARD P. BLAIR  
ARCHBISHOP OF HARTFORD

**D E C R E E**

*In Nomine Domini. Amen.*

**DECREE OF DECONSECRATION AND RELEGATION  
TO PROFANE BUT NOT SORDID USE OF  
SAINT STANISLAUS KOSTKA CHURCH IN WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT**

WHEREAS, by my decree of May 2, 2017, Saint Anne, Saint Lucy, Sacred Heart, Saint Margaret, Our Lady of Lourdes, and Saint Stanislaus Kostka Parishes of Waterbury, Connecticut, were merged on June 29, 2017, the other five parishes being subsumed into Saint Anne, creating a new juridic entity named All Saints/Todos Los Santos Parish, which subsumed the legal and equitable assets and liabilities of the aforementioned parishes with their church buildings; and

WHEREAS, no recourse was filed against this decree; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 2019, the pastor of All Saints, supported by the trustees, finance council, and parish council, requested by letter that Saint Stanislaus Kostka Church be relegated to profane but not sordid use, with an intent to sell the property; and

WHEREAS, the letter described the church building of Saint Stanislaus Kostka as a financial burden due to the financial health of the parish and operating costs associated with maintaining the facilities; and

WHEREAS, I convened the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council on July 30, 2019, for consultation on the question of the relegation of Saint Stanislaus Kostka Church to profane but not sordid use, in light of the following facts:

- All Saints Parish cannot afford the cost of maintaining the facilities of Saint Stanislaus Kostka, and has no other sources of funding with which to do so;
- The Parish still has two churches used for divine worship and Saint Stanislaus Kostka Church is not being used for such; thus, the right of worship will not be denied the faithful;
- 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 financial responsibility;

And WHEREAS, the Presbyteral Council voted unanimously to recommend that Saint Stanislaus Kostka Church be relegated to profane but not sordid use; and

WHEREAS, I have concluded that the economic hardship of maintaining the church building and its lack of usefulness to All Saints Parish 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 June 19, 2019, from the Pastor and the trustees with the support of the parish finance council, and having heard the Presbyteral Council on July 30, 2019; having ensured by means of the original deeds and other documents as well as having heard from others that there are no donors and/or their heirs whose consent is needed to perform this juridic act, in accordance with the norm of canon 1222 §2; and having ensured that its altars, sacred objects, and religious artifacts will be removed from the church in accordance with canonical norms; and

**WHEREFORE,**


I, the undersigned Archbishop of Hartford, do pronounce, declare, and **DECREE** that the former parish church of Saint Stanislaus Kostka, located at 100 East Farm Street, Waterbury, Connecticut, be relegated to profane but not sordid use (c.1222 §2), effective August 27, 2019. It shall no longer be a sacred place for divine worship, and herewith will lose its blessing, dedication, and consecration. It will no longer be used for divine worship.

This decree is to be published to the pastor of All Saints Parish. The substance of the decree is to be communicated to parishioners at the aforementioned parish, including by way of display in appropriate places so that parishioners can read it as they enter or exit the churches. It will also be available online on the *Catholic Transcript* and the [stewardsfortomorrow.org](http://stewardsfortomorrow.org) websites.

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 5<sup>th</sup> day of August in the Year of Our Lord 2019.



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Reverend Ryan M. Lerner  
Chancellor



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Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair  
Archbishop of Hartford