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Australia

DENIS JAMES HART

ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE

METROPOLITAN

**DECREE AMALGAMATING THE PARISHES OF
BALWYN NORTH AND KEW EAST INTO THE
PARISH OF ST ANNE AND ST BEDE**

1. A parish is a certain community of Christ's faithful stably established within a diocese, whose pastoral care, under the authority of the diocesan bishop, is entrusted to a parish priest as its proper pastor¹. Each diocese must be divided into parishes, which are distinct parts of the whole diocese. It is the responsibility and authority of the diocesan bishop, and he alone, to erect, alter or suppress parishes, after considering the advice of his presbyteral council.² The Fourth Plenary Council of Australia and New Zealand of 1937 also decreed that consultation must be had with the College of Consultors.³
2. In 1937 the parish of Kew East was erected under the patronage of St Anne, out of the territory of the parish of Kew. The parish of Balwyn North was erected in 1950 out of the territory of the parish of Kew East,.
3. In January 2013, the two parishes were partnered under the leadership of the same parish priest. Soon after the process of cooperation and partnering of relevant parish organisations was begun, and a process of discernment and consultation regarding the future of the two parishes was initiated. This culminated in meetings of parishioner of both parishes in 2015 which supported the reunification of the two parishes.
4. After carefully considering the motivations and observations presented to me, and after the required formal canonical consultation of the College of Consultors of the Archdiocese of Melbourne given

¹ Cf. *Code of Canon Law*, can. 515#1

² Cf. *ibid*, can. 515#2

³ Cf. *Concilium plenarium IV Australiae et Novae Zelandiae habitum apud Sydney anno Domini 1937*, decr. 148(d).



on 8 December 2015, and after consultation with the Archbishop's Council of Priests on December 2015, I hereby decree the following:

5. That the parishes of Kew East and Balwyn North be amalgamated, so that the new parish of St Anne and St Bede shall encompass all the territory previously contained in the two separate parishes, that is: commencing at the point where the Chandler Highway crosses the Yarra River, and thence upstream along the Yarra River to the junction of Koonung Creek, and then follow Koonung Creek upstream to a point north-east of the junction of Helston Street and Wilburton Parade Street;
6. thence follow a direct line south-westwards to and along the rear of the properties on the eastern side of Helston Street as far as the rear of the properties on the northern side of Oravel Street, thus locating both sides of Helston Street in the amalgamated parish, and both sides of Tannock Street in Greythorn Parish; thence follow a line eastwards along the rear of the properties on the northern side of Oravel Street as far as a point in line with the rear of the properties on the eastern side of Sylvander Street; and then follow a direct line southwards to and along the rear of the said properties to Doncaster Road, thus locating both sides of the western end of Oravel Street and both sides of Sylvander Street in the amalgamated parish, and both sides of the eastern section of Oravel Street and all of Tannock Street in Greythorn Parish;
7. thence follow Doncaster Road to Dempster Street, Dempster Street to Robert Street, Robert Street to Tormey Street, Tormey Street to McShane Street, McShane Street to Tovey Street, to Balwyn Road;
8. then follow Balwyn Road southwards to the intersection of Belmore Road, and westwards along Belmore Road and its continuation across Burke Road as Harp Street to Normanby Road; thence south on Normanby Road to Argyle Road and then west on Argyle Road to Adeney Avenue and then northwards along Adeney Avenue to High Street;
9. thence south-westwards of High Street to Childers Street and a short distance northwards on Childers Street to Eglinton Street, and westwards along Eglinton Street to Princess Street, and thence northwards on Princess Street to Chandler Highway, and then northwest along Chandler Highway to the point where the



Chandler Highway crosses the Yarra River – the commencing point.

9. Unless otherwise stated all boundaries run along the centreline of rivers, creeks, roads, streets, etc.
10. Consequently, all the faithful with a domicile or quasi-domicile within this territory shall henceforth belong by law to the Parish of St Anne and St Bede.⁴
11. I declare the juridical person of the Parish of Balwyn North to be extinguished. The ecclesiastical goods that were the patrimony of the parish shall devolve to the new Parish of St Anne and St Bede.
12. I declare the juridical person of the Parish of Kew East to be extinguished. The ecclesiastical goods that were the patrimony of the parish shall devolve to the new Parish of St Anne and St Bede.
13. The churches of St Bede's, Balwyn North, St Anne's, Kew East and St Joachim's, Kew East shall continue to enjoy all the rights, duties and prerogatives that they have hitherto acquired.
14. This decree will take effect from 15 February 2016. I order that this decree be published by copies of it being displayed on the noticeboards of St Bede's, Balwyn North, St Anne's, Kew East and St Joachim's, Kew East for one calendar month, and by the decree being drawn to the attention of the faithful by the celebrant of Mass at all parochial Masses in those churches on Saturday evening, 13 February 2016 and Sunday 14 February 2016.
15. I order that copies of this decree be carefully preserved in the parochial archives of the Parish of St Anne and St Bede, as well as the archives of the Archdiocese of Melbourne.
16. The Second Vatican Council proclaimed that "the parish offers an outstanding example of community apostolate, for it gathers into a unity all the human diversities that are found there and inserts them into the universality of the Church."⁵ I pray that these arrangements that I have decreed will be a rich opportunity for the parishioners of the Parish of St Anne and St Bede to renew their commitment to the Lord, and to the building up of his Church. I invoke the blessings of Almighty God on the priests and parishioners of this parish.

⁴ Cf. *Code of Canon Law*, cann. 102-107, 518

⁵ Cf. Vatican II, *Apostolicam Actuositatem*, 18 November 1965, n. 10 (*Vatican Council II*, Austin Flannery O.P. (ed). p. 777)



17. Given at James Goold House, East Melbourne, Victoria on this
fifteenth day of the month of January, in the year of Our Lord, 2016.

+ *Denis J. Hart*

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Most Reverend Denis J. Hart, DD
Archbishop of Melbourne

Nakibon

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Notary