



HR0425

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, It has come to the attention of this body that the Bishop Creek Community and St. Aloysius Church is celebrating the 150th anniversary of the founding of the parish; and

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WHEREAS, The Parish of St. Aloysius in Bishop Creek was officially established in 1865; highlights of the first 100 years of the parish include several noteworthy events; the cornerstone of the first church was laid on April 20, 1865; the cornerstone of the second and present church was laid on April 8, 1893; in 1939, the church was wired for electricity and, in 1954, a parish hall was constructed; the grand opening was celebrated on April 15, 1954; and

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WHEREAS, During the past 25 years, the parish has practiced both new and old traditions, including PreCana sessions for couples who wish to be married, Cana Night for all married couples to rejuvenate their marriages and enjoy a night out, and the March for Life for a group of teens and adults from the area to walk in the Right for Life March in Washington, D.C.; and

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WHEREAS, The St. Isidore Parish Council of Catholic Women is a group that has come together to benefit families and the parish community; the group takes responsibility for cleaning

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1 the churches, cleaning the hall, helping with the spring
2 breakfast, making quilts for raffles, and supplying food for
3 families in mourning during funerals; and

4 WHEREAS, The Ladies Sodality of the Tri-Parish Community
5 combined in January of 2007; the group initiated many new
6 commitments and projects, such as the Appalachian Candy Drive;
7 in 2008, women began sewing stockings for an organization known
8 as Operation Santa; in the past 7 years, over 3,700 stockings
9 have been sent to our soldiers; and

10 WHEREAS, The parish celebrated the 40th Jubilee for Fr.
11 Sylvano on August 14, 1992; and

12 WHEREAS, The parish community grew with the consolidation
13 of St. Aloysius Church, Immaculate Conception Church in
14 Dieterich, and St. Joseph Church in Island Grove into a
15 Tri-Parish Community beginning in 1993; the consolidation was
16 finalized in 1995 and the first Tri-Parish confirmation was
17 held at St. Aloysius in March of 1995, continuing the
18 consolidation of the 3 separate churches into one parish
19 family; and

20 WHEREAS, In January of 1996, the first Tri-Parish Mission
21 was held; the mission was to bring ongoing religious education
22 to members of all three churches and to encourage fellowship

1 and togetherness for the Tri-Parish; in 1999, the Parish
2 Planning Committee was formed to discuss the future needs of
3 the parish after the rapid growth and success of the PSR
4 program; and

5 WHEREAS, After over a year of planning and preparation, the
6 St. Aloysius Parish Center was completed in September of 2002;
7 this new building housed 8 classrooms, a Director of Religious
8 Education office, restrooms, and a larger auditorium; in 2004,
9 the process of forming one new parish from the 3 separate
10 parishes began; there are now 3 parish halls and 2 churches,
11 but one united parish; and

12 WHEREAS, On January 9, 2006, the parish hosted a farewell
13 open house for Fr. Edwin Albers; Fr. Albers was the pastor for
14 13 1/2 years, making him the second longest resident pastor of
15 the parish; on January 17, 2006, Fr. Joseph Carlos was
16 appointed the new pastor; Fr. Carlos continues to lead the
17 parish family today; and

18 WHEREAS, 2013 began the "Year of Faith", with monthly study
19 sessions beginning in January and ending in October; on
20 September 7, 2014, a balloon release was held during the annual
21 Parish Picnic to kick off the year-long celebration to
22 commemorate the sesquicentennial of the Bishop Creek Community
23 and St. Aloysius Church; and

1 WHEREAS, The core values of the Bishop Creek Community and
2 St. Aloysius Church include upward growth to God in obedience
3 to God's Word, prayer, and worship; inward growth to God
4 through community, discipleship and stewardship; and outward
5 growth to the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and

6 WHEREAS, After 150 years of ups and downs for the parish,
7 it is clear that what really makes the parish are the hundreds
8 of good, dedicated, self-giving, and religious-minded men,
9 women, and children who cheerfully serve their parish in small
10 and simple ways; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
12 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
13 congratulate the members of the Bishop Creek Community and the
14 members of St. Aloysius Church on the occasion of the 150th
15 anniversary of its founding, commend their dedication and
16 selfless service, and extend our best wishes to them for
17 continued success in the future; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to the members of the Bishop Creek Community and St.
20 Aloysius Church as a symbol of our respect and esteem.