

House Resolution No. 3654

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives take great pride in acknowledging a significant milestone in the history of a blessed religious institution that has come to play an important role in the lives of many Slater, Missouri, area residents; and

Whereas, St. Joseph Catholic Church in Slater, Missouri, will celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Parish and the 80th Anniversary of the dedication of the church building on May 20, 2007; and

Whereas, the first Catholic settlers in Slater were members of the Maurice O'Hearn family who came from Fort Dodge, Iowa; and

Whereas, Father John Murphy, pastor of Marshall's Catholic Church, celebrated the first Mass in town in the Chicago and Alton Railroad Section House in the fall of 1879; and

Whereas, Mr. T.B. Blackstone, president of the C and A Railroad, donated the site where the present church is located on West Emma and Locust Streets in May 1882 and the first church was completed the following year and dedicated to St. Joseph on March 13, 1883, under the pastorate of Father Edward Ryan; and

Whereas, plans for a new and bigger church began during the pastorate of Father John Cronin and the cornerstone of the present church was laid on September 7, 1925, with the first Mass celebrated on Easter Sunday 1926 and church dedication on May 15, 1927; and

Whereas, in 1971, extensive remodeling of the church building's interior was completed and rededicated by Bishop Michael McAuliffe on May 23 of that year; and

Whereas, known, admired, and respected throughout the community as a divine proclaimer of faith and as a friend to those in need, St. Joseph Catholic Church continues a fine tradition through commitment to meeting the spiritual needs of its members, changing with the times, and looking ahead to a glorious future with God:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join in extending our most hearty congratulations to the entire congregation of St. Joseph Catholic Church upon the glorious occasion of these special anniversary events; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for St. Joseph Catholic Church in Slater, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Joe Aull
District No. 26

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 3654, adopted May 15, 2007.

Rod Jetton, Speaker