

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 104**

**WHEREAS**, On July 27, 2003, the members of Saint Ann's Catholic Church in Somerville, Texas, will celebrate the 90th anniversary of their church with a special Mass celebrated by His Excellency, the Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond, Bishop of the Diocese of Austin; and

**WHEREAS**, The sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred upon six youths from Saint Ann's community in Somerville and two from Blessed Virgin Mary's community in Old Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, The church was established in 1914 in the newly chartered town of Somerville; the original building that housed Saint Ann's Catholic Church had stood for 55 years on land ceded to the Bishop of Galveston on December 29, 1913; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1968, a new facility was built featuring a recreation center to provide activities for the youth of the parish, followed by the construction of the church on Thornberry Drive; the church has an outstanding campus, which now includes a family center and meets the needs of parishioners, as well as other Somerville citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, A vital part of the community, Saint Ann's parish has established strong ties to Somerville and Burleson County, becoming a community resource and making available its facilities to various organizations, such as a community quilting club and the Burleson County Law Enforcement Association; it also lends its baseball field to city schools; and

**WHEREAS**, Saint Ann's parish believes in participating in the civic life of the community; its members work to support and promote ecumenism among all Christian traditions, collaborating with the Lyons/Somerville Ministerial Alliance and contributing to the outreach program of the Somerville Area Assistance Ministries; and

**WHEREAS**, The Church's Ecumenical preschool and former Ecumenical Day Care Center, administered by the Ecumenical Missionary Sisters, has educated hundreds of children in the community over the last 39 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Saint Ann's community is recognizing seven parishioners in their 90s; these seven persons are representative of the diversity of the parish communities whose members have diligently lived and sustained their Catholic faith in Burleson, Lee, and Washington counties; the Saint Ann's community will also recognize the many priests who have ministered to the parish; and

**WHEREAS**, A parish festival, open to the entire community, will be held the day before the official anniversary celebration; and

**WHEREAS**, A burse for the education of seminarians and the continuing education of the clergy will be presented to the Clerical Endowment Fund of the Diocese of Austin, in honor of Father Robert Mahoney and in recognition of his 22 years of ministry at Saint Ann's; and

**WHEREAS**, A source of great pride among the members of its congregation, Saint Ann's Catholic Church has served the larger community for several generations, providing individuals with a special place of worship and Christian fellowship; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby recognize the members and clergy of Saint Ann's Catholic Church and join them in celebrating the 90th anniversary of this venerable institution; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared as a memento of this grand occasion.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on July 22, 2003.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate