By: Deshotel H.R. No. 1546

## RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, On June 1, 2003, the congregation of St. Mary 2 Catholic Church in Port Arthur is celebrating the centennial of 3 this remarkable place of worship; and

WHEREAS, The church membership is pleased to welcome the Most Reverend Curtis J. Guillory as presider and homilist at the celebratory mass, which is being followed by a reception, luncheon, and fellowship; and

WHEREAS, Established on January 3, 1903, St. Mary is the second-oldest Catholic church in the diocese of Beaumont and the oldest in the southern part of Jefferson County; the church has been blessed with inspired leadership since its beginning, when the Reverend Ed A. Kelly guided the earliest congregants; today, Father Oliver Obele is dedicated to providing moral and spiritual guidance to the laity; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the years, this institution has combined the qualities of fellowship and reverence, bringing people together in faith, friendship, and praise to affirm devotion to God, and in so doing, the church has made an immeasurable contribution to its community; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
21 Legislature hereby congratulate Father Obele and the members of St.
22 Mary Catholic Church on the joyous occasion of the church's 100th
23 anniversary and commend them for playing a pivotal role in the lives
24 of generations of Texans; and, be it further

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- 1 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
- 2 prepared for the church as an expression of high regard by the Texas
- 3 House of Representatives.