

By: Cook of Colorado

H.R. No. 363

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The members and friends of St. Mary's Our Lady of
2 Lourdes Catholic Church in Caldwell are celebrating the church's
3 110th anniversary and the dedication of a Texas State Historical
4 Marker on July 31, 2005; and

5 WHEREAS, The history of this treasured institution dates back
6 to the early 1890s, when Father Charles Kacer traveled from
7 Frenstat to conduct a monthly mass in Caldwell; the first recorded
8 service was held in August 1893, with the Reverend Jacob Lauth
9 presiding, and the congregation's first permanent structure, a
10 small frame building, was erected in 1895 and dedicated to the
11 Blessed Virgin Mary of Lourdes; and

12 WHEREAS, The Galveston hurricane of 1900 destroyed the church
13 and all its contents, with the exception of a painting of Our Lady
14 of Lourdes; the church was rebuilt in 1901, and it served its
15 parishioners well for more than 80 years; in 1984 a new facility was
16 constructed and a bell tower was added in 1997; the painting of Our
17 Lady of Lourdes has been restored and it remains on view in the
18 church; and

19 WHEREAS, Today, members benefit from the leadership of Father
20 Dimitrij Colankin, who has ably served the church for the past
21 decade, following in the tradition of the other dedicated religious
22 leaders whose vision and spiritual guidance have enhanced the lives
23 of countless area Catholics over the past century; and

24 WHEREAS, For 110 years, St. Mary's Our Lady of Lourdes

1 Catholic Church has served as a source of strength and inspiration
2 to those who have worshiped there, and the church stands as a
3 tribute to the dedication and deep commitment of its members, past
4 and present, who have devoted their time, prayers, and financial
5 resources to ensure its continued existence; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
7 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby recognize St. Mary's Our
8 Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church on the occasion of its 110th
9 anniversary and the dedication of a Texas State Historical Marker
10 and extend to all of its members sincere best wishes for the future;
11 and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
13 prepared for the church as an expression of high regard by the Texas
14 House of Representatives.