

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

25-47

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

April 4, 2023

To recognize and honor Monsignor John Enzler, for his 50 years of faithful ministry and exemplary leadership of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, DC and for his outstanding years of public service in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, Monsignor John Enzler, a native Washingtonian, devoted his life and career to working for the betterment of the most vulnerable communities and the greater good of society;

WHEREAS, Monsignor John Enzler was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Washington in 1973 and was named monsignor by Pope John Paul II in 1985;

WHEREAS, Monsignor John Enzler, affectionately known as Father John, is the president and CEO of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, a comprehensive social services agency which helps 167,000 people annually;

WHEREAS, Father John has served the District of Columbia with incredible devotion and deep passion during his 12-year tenure as CEO of the Catholic Charities;

WHEREAS, since becoming CEO in May of 2011, Father John expanded social service programs to fill many of the unmet needs across the District of Columbia including St. Maria's Meals, Compass, Newcomer Network, Financial Stability Network, Cup of Joe, and the Family Peace Initiative;

WHEREAS, under Father John's leadership, Catholic Charities has served 1 million Cup of Joe breakfast bags to people experiencing food insecurity and provided financial mentoring to 2,647 individuals since the Financial Stability Network began 6 years ago;

WHEREAS, Father John's commitment to low income and underserved residents extends beyond his work for Catholic Charities to include service on the boards of many local organizations such as the San Miguel School of Washington and Christ Child Society;

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WHEREAS, prior to being appointed to lead Catholic Charities, Father John served as pastor at 3 parishes, most recently at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Washington, DC;

WHEREAS, the Catholic Charities Board of Directors has praised Father John for positioning Catholic Charities as the city’s most critically important social services agency for years to come;

WHEREAS, Father John has been active in local interfaith networks and is a recognized and respected figure in the DC Community;

WHEREAS, on September 24, 2015, Father John welcomed Pope Francis to Washington, DC to meet with and be among the more than 500 people who were being helped by Catholic Charities;

WHEREAS, on the 50th anniversary of his ordination as a priest in spring 2023, Father John will retire as president and CEO of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington and move to a supporting role at the agency where he will continue to advocate for those who live in poverty;

WHEREAS, Father John will also become chaplain of St. John’s College High School in Washington DC, his alma mater; and

WHEREAS, Father John is a strong advocate for vulnerable communities and through his service has given thousands of individuals and families in the District of Columbia and beyond a hand up to self-sufficiency.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Monsignor John Enzler Ceremonial Recognition Resolution of 2023.”

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors Monsignor John Enzler, for his passion to protect and provide for vulnerable communities across the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.