

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 46

BY REPRESENTATIVE GREGORY MILLER AND SENATOR SMITH

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church on the occasion of its three hundredth anniversary.

WHEREAS, St. Charles Parish, which was formerly referred to as the German Coast, is the third-oldest settlement in Louisiana after Natchitoches and New Orleans, and it is older than the United States; and

WHEREAS, Karlstein was among the first settlements on the German Coast, and in 1723, missionary priests from the Franciscan Order of Friars Capuchin established the ecclesiastical parish and chapel, La Paroisse de St. Jean des Allemands, or The Parish of St. John, of the Germans, along the west bank of the Mississippi River near present-day Taft, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, in 1740, the ecclesiastical parish and chapel were relocated to their present-day site along the east bank of the Mississippi River and renamed St. Charles in honor of St. Charles Borromeo; after the chapel burned down in 1806, it was replaced by a wood-framed church that was painted red; and

WHEREAS, St. Charles Borromeo Church became known as the "Little Red Church", and it has served as the mother church for many mission chapels in St. Charles Parish; the church cemetery is also the oldest German cemetery in the American South; and

WHEREAS, the "Little Red Church" tragically burned down in 1921 and was replaced with the current St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church; the church was dedicated on January 25, 1922, and in 1929, the rectory was rebuilt with the addition of a convent; and

WHEREAS, this year, St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church celebrates its three-hundredth anniversary; the church is most deserving of the highest recognition on this momentous occasion.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church on the occasion of its three hundredth anniversary; does hereby further recognize the rich history of the church and its deep roots in St. Charles civil parish; and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that the both the church and civil parishes continue to prosper for centuries to come.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE