

(R-2000-79)

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 291973

ADOPTED ON JUL 26 1999

WHEREAS, Father Joe Carroll was ordained as a Roman Catholic priest at age 33 and, in the eight years that followed, was assigned to parishes in El Cajon, Chula Vista, and San Diego, where he quickly acquired a reputation as a "hustler," someone who could make things happen; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, Father Joe was selected by the late Bishop Leo T. Maher to be the director of the St. Vincent de Paul Center in San Diego, which was envisioned to service the homeless who were sleeping on benches, sidewalks, parks, abandoned buildings, and automobiles; and

WHEREAS, Father Joe convinced the Bishop that a new structure was needed that encompassed the whole city block, modeled on the old Spanish missions, in order to house a clinic, a public school, a courtyard and playground, rooms for 300 residents (including 100 children), and a kitchen, which could prepare in excess of 2,000 meals a day, as well as a section in which non-residents could take showers, get clothes, access a phone for job searches, and use as a mailing address; and

WHEREAS, in 1987, Father Joe's plan to construct this unique, self-contained center became a reality, and in years since then, the "Hustler Priest," has been wheeling and dealing for dollars towards the goal of providing a bed for every person in need by the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, Father Joe's natural charisma and the innovative nature have greatly benefitted the Village's programs, and drawn local and national attention to the work conducted at St. Vincent de Paul; and

WHEREAS, the hallmark of his achievement is to prevail upon society to change forever our paradigm toward the needs of the homeless and extend dignity to our neighbors in need as the fastest, the most efficient, and the best way to bring them back to society; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of The City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby proclaim Saturday, July 10, 1999 to be "FATHER JOE CARROLL DAY" in San Diego, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to San Diego on the occasion of his 25th Anniversary on being ordained a priest.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By Stuart H. Swett
Stuart H. Swett.
Deputy City Attorney

SHS:smf
07/12/99
Or.Dept:Council-Wear
R-2000-79
Form=proclaim.res