

**Resolution Number 210**  
**The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. John the Baptist**

**Whereas**, John the Baptist Parish was organized on December 30, 1913, with the appointment of Father John Peters as pastor. The first Mass celebrated in the parish took place on February 1, 1914 at 4626 Gravois. Shortly thereafter land was bought on Delor and Adkins Streets and ground was broken for a building later called Sodality Hall; and

**Whereas**, St. John the Baptist Elementary School opened in September with the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood of O'Fallon teaching in the classrooms in the hall. The cornerstone for a combination of school and church was laid in August 1914 and was completed in November 1914. The sisters lived in the rear of the building while Father Peters lived in Sodality Hall. In 1916, the parish purchased six lots on Adkins Street and Father Peters personally bought a house as a rectory. A second floor was added to Sodality Hall in 1917, as more classrooms were needed. An addition was made to the sisters' residence. The parish purchased Father Peters' house in 1924 and it was used as the rectory until 1957; and

**Whereas**, a new building was constructed south of the church in 1922 and this was the beginning of St. John the Baptist High School. By 1930, the school was a four year accredited parish High School. The present church was started in 1924 and completed in 1930 with the erection of the bell tower. The old church was then converted in to classrooms and more rooms for the sisters. Within a period of 16 years, the parish had built five buildings, including adding to many of them, established and supported an elementary school and high school and acquired land for further expansion; and

**Whereas**, during the next 16 years the high school program expanded and eight more classrooms were added in 1934. In 1938, the gym, cafeteria and four more classrooms were added. In 1946, another wing was added to the house, the library, and additional classrooms as well. In 1957, a new Rectory was built and an addition was added to the convent in 1959. The elementary school was becoming outdated and a new building was started in 1963 and completed in 1964; and

**Whereas**, in 2005, Resurrection of Our Lord Parish and Holy Family Parish merged to become what today is the Parish family of St. John the Baptist. The original shrine from Holy Family Parish was installed in the back of church in 2005; and

**Whereas**, in 2007, the inside of the church underwent major renovation and restoration. In 2008, St. John the Baptist High School closed its doors officially. The Perpetual Help shrine was installed in the Summer of 2008 as well. In Fall 2009, St. John the Baptist Elementary and Pre-School moved in to what was once the old St. John the Baptist High School building; and

**Whereas**, in January 2011, in honor of the episcopal appointment of the previous pastor, they have dedicated their Adoration Chapel in Bishop Rice's name. A sign with this designation has been placed above the entrance to the Adoration Chapel.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY** the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. John the Baptist and we direct the Clerk of this board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to further prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honorees at a time and place appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 31st day of January, 2014 by:

**Honorable Carol Howard, Alderwoman 14th Ward**  
Honorable Alfred Wessels, Jr., Alderman 13<sup>th</sup> Ward  
Honorable Shane Cohn, Alderman 25<sup>th</sup> Ward

Adopted this the 31st day of January, 2014 as attested by:

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David W. Sweeney  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen