

Resolution Number 130
Monsignor Louis F. Meyer P.A., Pastor Emeritus, St. Mary Magdalen

Whereas, Monsignor Louis F. Meyer, a man who truly embodies the spirit of the “CYC”, now a unit of the Catholic Youth Apostolate, celebrated his 65th anniversary as an ordained priest in May, 2009, and he will be 90 years young in October. During his life-long service to youth, Msgr. Meyer has been recognized locally, regionally and nationally for his contribution and dedication to the youth of this country. He has brought great credit to the CYC through his involvement in our community; and

Whereas, Monsignor Louis F. Meyer has reflected on encounters with future politicians and future sports broadcasters when they were youngsters in his parish. Monsignor Meyer talks about his friendship with Bob Broeg, the late Baseball Hall of Fame sports editor of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. He also talks about football stars he met while saying Mass for opposing professional teams back when the football Cardinals were in St. Louis and his appearances with Brazil’s natural treasure, soccer legend, Pele; and

Whereas, from 1946 to 1978, Monsignor Meyer served as associate director and then director of the Archdiocese of St. Louis' CYC. The CYC offers sports, Scouting and other youth programs. More precisely, in 1960, Fr. Meyer was appointed Director of the Catholic Youth Council, succeeding his friend, and mentor, Msgr. Sullivan. He spent the next 18 years building the Catholic Youth Council’s activities and programs for youth. Monsignor Meyer has been around, while ‘stationed’ at Epiphany, to watch Mike Shannon, future Cardinals broadcaster, who he describes, “As a normal kid with exceptional athletic ability,” and Mayor Francis Slay grow up in the Southside Parish. Both men grew up playing sports with the CYC, which today is the largest youth sports organization in St. Louis. The CYC had nearly 5,000 teams playing sports during 2008; and

Whereas, perhaps no one in the rich tradition of St. Louis University men's soccer had a greater impact than Monsignor Meyer. He played a key role in getting the program started in the late 1950s as a member of a committee that convinced, then SLU president Paul Reinart, to start an NCAA men's soccer program. Monsignor Meyer maintained his association with the sport, and with SLU; and

Whereas, Monsignor Meyer is a member of the St. Louis Soccer Hall of Fame, St. Louis Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame, the Missouri Athletic Club Hall of Fame, the St. Louis University Sports Hall of Fame, and has been nominated for the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame; and

Whereas, The Faithful Steward -- of the St. Louis Archdiocesan Catholic Youth Council; The St. Mary Magdalen Teen-town; The St. Mary Magdalen Credit Union; The St. Louis International Airport multi-faith Chapel and charter chaplain; The St. Mary Magdalen Scholarship for Kids; The Camp Don Bosco and Rosary Villa – Summer Camps for the Youth of the St. Louis Area. Confessor / Counselor to the Sisters of Carondelet; the Quiet Philanthropist of many college-bound-cash-strapped students from the South City Deanery. The South-City friend, if not savior, of the North-City Holy Trinity parish who individually spearheaded the collection of over 10,000 cases of groceries for this inner city parish during his tenure as the ‘shepherd’ of St. Mary Magdalen at Bancroft and Kingshighway; and

Whereas, the past plus six decades, throughout this great Archdiocesan cornucopia, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields for many Christians touched by this Man of God. We are prone to forget the true source of these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed, come from the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. No human counsel hath devised, nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things; these blessings are truly the gracious gifts of the Most High God.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to thank and recognize Monsignor Louis F. Meyer for his many years of service and commitment to the citizens of the City of St. Louis and we further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 7th day of September, 2009 by:

Honorable Stephen M. Gregali, Alderman 14th Ward

Adopted this the 7th day of September, 2009 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen