



HR0236

LRB096 12187 KXB 24671 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to honor Father John Trout for his service to Queen of All Saints Basilica in Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, Father John Trout began his current appointment as Associate Pastor at Queen of All Saints Basilica on March 10, 2005; his duties as Associate Pastor include: presiding at liturgical celebrations, including Sunday Mass, weekday Mass, funerals, weddings, and special liturgical celebrations; serving as Director of Rite of Christian Initiation, teaching religious education to adults wishing to become members of the Catholic Church; visiting those in hospitals or homebound; responding to emergency calls for those in in need of the last rites and offering spiritual comfort and support to the elderly and infirm homebound; assisting the Pastor in various pastoral projects; serving as Spiritual Director to the Men's Group and acting as liaison for the mentors group with Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program; and developing neighborhood Christian Communities, including meeting with neighborhood groups on a weekly basis; and

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WHEREAS, After studying for the priesthood at St. Patrick's Missionary Society seminary in Kiltegan, Ireland, he was ordained in his hometown of Athy Town, County Kildare, Ireland,

1 in June of 1989; his first position was as Pastor of a parish  
2 in a rapidly developing suburb of Lagos, Nigeria called Ketu;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, The parish community in Ketu, which comprised  
5 approximately 5,000 families, did not have any parish buildings  
6 in place; situated in a sprawling low income swampy area, most  
7 of the land had to be sand-filled before basic buildings could  
8 be erected; and

9 WHEREAS, During his ten years in Ketu, he had the  
10 opportunity to initiate some new approaches to parish  
11 development, including the Small Christian Community movement;  
12 today, the parish of Ketu has started four other churches, and  
13 the parishioners are in the process of building a very fine  
14 church; and

15 WHEREAS, His involvement in the HIV/AIDS pandemic emerged  
16 during his next position, which was at Queen of All Saints as a  
17 resident Priest from 2000 to 2003; he was in Chicago studying  
18 for a Master's degree at Loyola University, in conjunction with  
19 Vanderbilt University; his research in the area of African  
20 community development focused on the breakdown of family and  
21 tradition as one of the driving forces behind the spread of  
22 HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa; this research was subsequently  
23 published in the Journal of Community Psychology; and

1           WHEREAS, As a result of the generosity of the people of  
2 Queen of All Saints, Father Trout returned to Africa five years  
3 ago; he began operating a chicken farm, and today the chicken  
4 farm is providing a sustainable livelihood for 12 women who  
5 have been widowed because of the HTV/AIDS pandemic; it is among  
6 one of several successful projects he was able to initiate;  
7 others include a craft business for people living with HIV,  
8 vegetable gardens for food security, and a bead shop for young  
9 unemployed people to raise funds for their education; and

10           WHEREAS, Father Trout returned to Queen of All Saints  
11 Basilica with the aid of Father Prist and will work there until  
12 June of this year; therefore, be it

13           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
14 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
15 honor Father Trout for his hard work and devotion to others,  
16 both in the United States and abroad; and be it further

17           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
18 presented to Father John Trout as a symbol of our respect and  
19 esteem.