

I MINA' TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2011 (FIRST) REGULAR SESSION

Resolution No. 37-31 (LS)

Introduced By:

T.R.Muna Barnes

Relative to recognizing and commending the Santa Teresita Church for their outstanding public service to the local community in the island of Guam.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I MINA' TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

1 **WHEREAS**, the Santa Teresita Church first opened its doors to the public
2 community in the pre-war World War II era. The original Building was a coconut
3 thatched roof hut that was destroyed during the Japanese occupation; and

4 **WHEREAS**, after the war, the Navy built a base in Mangilao and later released
5 the chapel building to the Brown Pacific Maxim Construction Company, giving birth to
6 the BPM area in Mangilao; and

7 **WHEREAS**, in the early 1950's a cement structure was built as a temporary
8 church for the community. Father Theophane Thomas was in charge of supervising the
9 construction of the building, which was destroyed twice by fire. Each time the building
10 had been destroyed, parishioners gathered together and did what was needed to
11 rebuild their church; and

2011 FEB 28 AM 10:04

WHEREAS, in the summer of 1984, the church was moved temporarily to the BPM area, while construction on a newer structure was being done; and

WHEREAS, in February of 1986, the parishioners of Santa Teresita moved into the “new” church building, which had no tiles, carpeting, or pews in the church. The first mass was held on Ash Wednesday and two months later the church building was completed and a dedication was held on April 20, 1986; and

WHEREAS, the present location was donated by Ana Delgado Pereira Pangelinan (Abing); and

WHEREAS, from its lowly and humble beginnings in February 25, 1951, the parish family of Santa Teresita has been one of constant positive growth, an undying spirit of service, and a beacon of light to those who have wandered and continue to wander in this world of darkness; and

WHEREAS, the parish plays a vital part in a village that boasts many educational institutions, Government of Guam agencies, and countless sports organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Teresita Parish was established prior to World War II, moving from different chapels to its current location alongside Vietnam Veterans Highway; and

WHEREAS, despite having to move locations and battle disasters, most recently when the roof of the now-Social Hall was blown off by Supertyphoon Pongsona on

December 8, 2002, the spirit, strength, and heart of its parishioners has remained constant and resilient; and

WHEREAS, today, the parish celebrates and grows in faith in its newest worship space, which is now able to accommodate thousands of parishioners, including an ever-growing Catholic Chuukese community and the hundreds of members in the Santo Nino de Maligaya Prayer Group; and

WHEREAS, the parish continues to be vibrant, complete with over a dozen choirs, countless ministers, many consistent volunteers, hundreds of CCD students, and a dozen youth ministries. Despite all the numbers, however, the mission remains the same: to love and serve God and His people; and

WHEREAS, the parish mission continues to be lived out on a daily basis, through the humble works of parishioners going out visiting the imprisoned and the sick, tending to the needs of the elderly, and teaching and servicing the youth; and

WHEREAS, the parish also shares its time and talents as volunteers at different schools, in the business community, and in leadership positions with many island-wide organizations.; and

WHEREAS, every parishioner at Santa Teresita Church, young and old, is given the opportunity to share their God-given gifts through an array of ministries, prayer groups, organizations, and movements; and

51 **WHEREAS**, adult parishioners are able to assist in the life of the parish, most
52 notably in the Celebration of the Holy Mass. There are countless Lectors and
53 Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Cantors, Porters, and Sacristans. Others
54 are members of the Faith in Harmony Choir, the 8AM Choir, the Santa Teresita Choir,
55 and the Sunrise Choir; and

56 **WHEREAS**, elders help as Techas (prayer leaders) and Ushers, while others
57 serve as advisors for our liturgical youth ministries; and

58 **WHEREAS**, in addition, the Knights of Columbus, the Grounds Team, Finance
59 Council, CCD Staff, RCIA Staff and the Social Committee come together to share their
60 personal gifts in their own respective ways. Adult parishioners also play a part in the
61 preparation of our families for the sacraments of Matrimony, Penance, Baptism, and
62 Eucharist. We also have representatives to the ProLife Committee, Lina'La Sin Casino,
63 the Sponsor Couple Program, and the Catholic Charities Appeal Team; and

64 **WHEREAS**, the mission of the Santa Teresita Youth Ministry, under its umbrella
65 youth group, Mangilao M.A.G.I.C. (Manhoben And God Inspiring the Community), is
66 simply to work in bringing as many youth closer to the love of God; and

67 **WHEREAS**, the Santa Teresita parish is blessed with dozens of altar servers and
68 has welcomed additional youth ministries and organizations under the guidance of
69 Youth Director, Kevin Anthony Delgado; and

70 **WHEREAS**, youth in the parish are able to engage in an array of liturgical youth

71 ministries and groups, serving the Church in the celebration of the Mass as Altar
72 Servers, Liturgical dancers, Lectors, hospitality team members and ushers, Cantors,
73 instrumentalists, and Choir members; now, therefore, be it

74 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'Trentai Unu Na Liheslaturan*
75 *Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, highly commend the Santa
76 Teresita Church for their dedicated service in the community in and out of the church;
77 and be it further

78 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee of Rules
79 certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and that copies of
80 the same be thereafter transmitted to the Santa Teresita Church, Father Felixberto Leon
81 Guerrero , Deacon Itoy Ruda, Archbishop Anthony Apuron; and to the Honorable
82 Edward B. Calvo, *I Maga'láhen Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAI UNU
NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THIS 26TH DAY OF FEBRUARY
2011.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.
Speaker

TINA ROSE MUNA BARNES
Legislative Secretary