



Office of the Chicago City  
Clerk



R2012-434

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	4/18/2012
<b>Sponsor(s):</b>	O'Shea, Matthew J. (19)
<b>Type:</b>	Resolution
<b>Title:</b>	Congratulations extended to Reverend L. Scott Donahue
<b>Committee(s) Assignment:</b>	

WHEREAS, Rev. L. Scott Donahue is the president and CEO of Mercy Home for Boys & Girls and the principal celebrant of the popular televised "Sunday Mass at Mercy Home" program, which reaches more than 50,000 Chicago-area shut-ins, and;

WHEREAS, Louis Scott Donahue was born in Chicago and raised in suburban Mt. Prospect. He graduated from St. Viator High School in Arlington Heights, Ill., in 1972. In 1977, he earned bachelor's degrees in Political Science and Accounting from Loyola University of Chicago, and;

WHEREAS Fr. Scott entered St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, in Mundelein, Ill., in the fall of 1977. After becoming a deacon in 1981, he was assigned to St. Juliana's Parish on Chicago's Northwest Side, and;

WHEREAS, In 1982, Fr. Scott was ordained a priest and was initially assigned to St. Barnabas Parish in the Beverly neighborhood on Chicago's Southwest Side and is celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his ordination, and;

WHEREAS, Fr. Scott holds master's degrees in Social Work from Loyola University, Theology from St. Mary of the Lake Seminary and Applied Spirituality from the University of San Francisco, and;

WHEREAS, In 1984, Fr. Scott was elected to a two-year term as Vice Chairman of the Association of Chicago Priests. Joseph Cardinal Bernardin appointed Fr. Scott Vocation Director for the Archdiocese of Chicago in 1985, a position he served for 10 years. He returned to St. Juliana's as a resident priest in 1987. Fr. Scott currently resides at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish on Chicago's Northwest side, and;

WHEREAS, Fr. Scott has worked with Mercy Home since 1990, when he joined its Board of Regents. In 1993, Fr. James Close, then-president of Mercy Home, invited Fr. Scott to join him in working directly with the children. Fr. Scott was named Mercy Home's Associate President in 1996, a position he held for 10 years, and;

WHEREAS, During his tenure as associate president, Fr. Scott instituted Mercy Home's MercyWorks faith-based volunteer program and assisted Fr. Close in raising \$10 million in order to expand and provide for even more kids in crisis. Thanks to the efforts of the two priests and the support of committed donors, the Rev. James J. Close Home opened in August 2003, enabling Mercy Home to accommodate 40% more youth than ever before, and;

WHEREAS, In 2006, Fr. Close retired after 33 years of leadership. With the blessing of Francis Cardinal George, Fr. Scott became Fr. Close's successor and Mercy Home's eighth president, and;

WHEREAS, As Mercy Home's president, Fr. Scott continues to lead the agency's strategic vision to enhance the depth of services it provides to children in light of its 2003 expansion. As part of this vision, Fr. Scott instituted The Academy, Mercy Home's in-house education program, and re-structured the services provided to enhance our young peoples' educational and vocational achievement, and;

WHEREAS, Fr. Scott also oversaw the dramatic expansion of the AfterCare program, which offers life-long resources and encouragement to Mercy Home's former residents, and has worked to strengthen young people's faith foundations to help guide them throughout their lives. He carefully stewards the trust and support of donors across the country who provide Mercy Home nearly all of its operating funds, and;


WHEREAS, In 2012, Mercy Home is celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A centerpiece of this year-long celebration is the Home's expansion on the south side, where it will open a supportive housing program for qualified former residents and their families, and;

WHEREAS, The anniversary year also marks the public opening of its Legacy of Learning campaign that will ensure that every young person who comes to Mercy Home today and in the future will have access to a quality education, and;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago in Council meeting of April 18<sup>th</sup> 2012, have been notified of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Rev. L. Scott Donahue's ordination and that on behalf of all the citizens of the City of Chicago we do hereby express our appreciation and heartfelt thanks to Rev. L. Scott Donahue for his dedication and personal sacrifice, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of the resolution be prepared and presented to Rev. L. Scott Donohue.

  
OFFICE OF THE  
CITY CLERK

  
Matthew J. O'Shea  
Alderman, 19th Ward

2012 APR 10 AM 9:16

RECEIVED  
CITY COUNCIL DIVISION