

City of Chicago



R2015-750

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:

9/24/2015

Sponsor(s):

Burke (14)

Type:

Resolution

Title:

Tribute to late Reverend Byron Papanikolaou

Committee(s) Assignment:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Reverend Byron Papanikolaou has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of 81; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of his passing by Alderman Edward M. Burke; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Byron Papanikolaou was one of the longest-serving Greek Orthodox priests in the nation and the loving husband of Presbytera, nee Kassos; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Byron Papanikolaou was the much-adored father of Sultana, Evans and Aristotle and the grandfather of six; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Byron Papanikolaou served with holiness and compassion for 55 years at Saints Constantine and Helen Church in Palos Heights; and

WHEREAS, Over the course of his ministry, the Reverend Byron Papanikolaou presided over 903 weddings, 3,748 baptisms and 1,947 funerals and made an astounding 65,000 hospital visits to care for the sick; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Byron Papanikolaou immigrated with his parents from Greece in 1952 and completed his religious training at Holy Cross, the Brookline, Massachusetts Greek Orthodox Seminary for the United States; and

WHEREAS, In 1960 the Reverend Byron Papanikolaou was married and then ordained; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Byron Papanikolaou came to Chicago with his wife and was named in 1964 to head Saints Constantine and Helen which was "the first Greek Orthodox church built by Greeks in Chicago"; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Byron Papanikolaou played an instrumental role in teaching Greek to the children of his parish and the values of patience and perseverance; and

WHEREAS, The hard work, sacrifice and dedication of the Reverend Byron Papanikolaou serve as an example to all; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Byron Papanikolaou will be dearly missed and fondly remembered by his many relatives, friends and admirers; and

WHEREAS, To his beloved family, the Reverend Byron Papanikolaou imparts a legacy of faithfulness, service and dignity; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this twenty-fourth day of September 2015, do hereby commemorate the Reverend Byron Papanikolaou for his grace-filled life and do hereby express our condolences to his family; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of the Reygrend Byron Papanikolaou.

Alderman - 14th Ward