

BY ALDS. MURPHY, KOVAC, HAMILTON, STAMPER, BOHL, COGGS, PEREZ, WITKOWSKI

Resolution recognizing Fr. Jack Kern on his retirement from St. Catherine Church.

**WHEREAS,**

**FATHER JACK R. KERN**

*retired with pride and satisfaction from his years of distinguished work and ministry at St. Catherine Church, 5101 W. Center St., on June 15, 2014; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Fr. Jack R. Kern served as pastor of St. Catherine Church for 10 years, providing valuable services for countless youth, adults and senior citizens; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Fr. Jack R. Kern made it his mission to tend to his flock and to serve his church members, living by his motto, “The doors of the church open out!” through his “Knock, Knock” ministry, boys’ open gym basketball program, neighborhood block club, Girls Club, Neighborhood Block Party and Leaders’ Lasagna Dinner; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Spending almost all his ministry in urban parishes, Fr. Jack R. Kern was ordained in 1968, and before coming to St. Catherine Church, served at St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Leo, St. Agnes, Sts. Peter and Paul, and St. Richard; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Fr. Jack R. Kern worked diligently for St. Catherine’s St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Catherine’s Food Pantry and the numerous support groups which met at the St. Catherine’s Community Center; and*

**WHEREAS,** *The doors and walls of Fr. Jack R. Kern’s office were adorned with grateful students’ art work, a testament to his consistent presence in the parish school; and*

**WHEREAS,** *A founding member, Fr. Jack R. Kern gathered parishioners and neighbors to join Common Ground and back the Milwaukee Rising campaign to fight the foreclosure crisis, and his love for the neighborhood showed through his involvement in the Sherman Park Action Team, Center Street Business Improvement District board and Sherman Park Area Religious Communities; now, therefore, be it*

**RESOLVED,** *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith congratulates Fr. Jack R. Kern on his retirement from St. Catherine Church, and wishes for him a happy and healthy retirement; and, be it*

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** *That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to Fr. Jack R. Kern.*

**Introduced by Common Council members Michael J. Murphy, Nik Kovac, Ashanti Hamilton, Russell W. Stamper II, Jim Bohl, Nik Kovac, Milele A. Coggs, José G. Pérez and Terry L. Witkowski and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on June 24, 2014.**