

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH EXPRESSING PROFOUND SORROW AT THE PASSING OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS, AND JOINING THE CATHOLIC FAITHFUL IN HONORING HIS LEGACY AS A GLOBAL SYMBOL OF HUMILITY, COMPASSION, AND UNITY; AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT THIS RESOLUTION TO FR. JUAN ALBERTO AVILES, PARISH ADMINISTRATOR OF SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES, FR. ROBERTO M. CID, PASTOR OF SAINT PATRICK, AND FR. JUAN J. SOSA, PASTOR OF SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCHES IN THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, AS WELL AS TO HIS EXCELLENCY ARCHBISHOP THOMAS WENSKI.**

**WHEREAS**, with deep sadness, the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Miami Beach join people around the world in mourning the passing of His Holiness Pope Francis, born Jorge Mario Bergoglio on December 17, 1936, in Buenos Aires, Argentina; and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis made history on March 13, 2013, becoming the first pope from the Americas, the first Jesuit to serve as pontiff, and the first in nearly six centuries to succeed a pope who had resigned; and

**WHEREAS**, he embraced his role as a humble servant, having spent his early priesthood traveling by bus and underground throughout his diocese, choosing to live in a modest apartment and cook his own meals, and affirming his solidarity with those in poverty, saying, "My people are poor and I am one of them"; and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis consistently called upon the global community to care for the most vulnerable, exemplified by his visits to refugee camps and his efforts to resettle displaced families, and spoke forcefully against economic inequality, advocating for dignity, work, and justice for all; and

**WHEREAS**, he convened grassroots movements at the Vatican and championed the rights of workers, indigenous peoples, and landless communities, urging action to dismantle structures of exclusion and affirming the essential dignity of all; and

**WHEREAS**, he worked to build bridges of understanding and inclusion, welcoming marginalized communities, including LGBTQ individuals, and encouraging a culture of mercy, compassion, and openness within the Church, famously stating, "Who am I to judge?" and supporting civil protections for same-sex unions; and

**WHEREAS**, as a strong advocate for the environment, Pope Francis issued the groundbreaking encyclical *Laudato Si' – On Care for Our Common Home*, calling for urgent action on climate change and environmental degradation, and leading the Vatican toward carbon neutrality; and

**WHEREAS**, he used his moral leadership to speak at international forums such as the United Nations and COP21 in Paris, urging nations to take responsibility for ecological and social justice, and launched the "Season of Creation" as a global observance of prayer and action for the Earth; and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis promoted the inclusion of women in leadership roles within the Church and strongly condemned human trafficking and modern slavery, calling them crimes against humanity and urging nations to act with urgency to protect the vulnerable; and

**WHEREAS**, his life and papacy were rooted in faith, humility, and service, and his example of moral clarity, tenderness, and courage will continue to inspire people of all beliefs to build a more just, caring, and united world.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA**, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby express profound sorrow at the passing of his Holiness Pope Francis, and joining the Catholic Faithful in honoring his legacy as a global symbol of humility, compassion, and unity; and direct the City Clerk to transmit this Resolution to Fr. Juan Alberto Aviles, Parish administrator of Saint Francis De Sales, Fr. Roberto M. Cid, Pastor of Saint Patrick, and Fr. Juan J. Sosa, Pastor of Saint Joseph Catholic Churches in the City of Miami Beach, as well as To His Excellency Archbishop Thomas Wenski.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven Meiner, Mayor

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Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(sponsored by Commissioner Alex J. Fernandez)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM & LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney *FA*

*4/21/2025*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date