
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 638 Session of
2000

INTRODUCED BY SCRIMENTI, WOJNAROSKI, BEBKO-JONES, LEDERER,
CAPPABIANCA, ROBERTS, TRAVAGLIO, SURRA, LESCOVITZ, EACHUS,
CALTAGIRONE, HARHAI, SANTONI, MARKOSEK, READSHAW, WALKO,
SOLOBAY, GEORGE, COSTA, TIGUE, FAIRCHILD, PETRARCA, SHANER,
PISTELLA, YUDICHAK, CORRIGAN, L. I. COHEN, JOSEPHS, DeWEESE,
HENNESSEY, DONATUCCI, DERMODY, MELIO, RUBLEY, LUCYK, PIPPY,
BELARDI, BAKER, HERSHEY, DeLUCA, GRUCELA, KAISER, FICHTER,
DALEY AND E. Z. TAYLOR, NOVEMBER 21, 2000

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
NOVEMBER 21, 2000

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Saint Faustina Kowalska as the first saint of the
2 new millennium.

3 WHEREAS, Faustina Kowalska, born in a small village in
4 Poland, served 13 years in the Congregation of the Sisters of
5 Our Lady of Mercy and was canonized on April 30, 2000, by Pope
6 John Paul II as the first saint recognized in the year 2000; and

7 WHEREAS, At 20 years of age Faustina Kowalska joined the
8 Warsaw convent of the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of
9 Mercy, dedicating her life to helping the poor, serving God and
10 keeping a diary of her communion with Christ; and

11 WHEREAS, Sister Faustina's diary account of visions and
12 revelations inspired the Divine Mercy devotion worldwide; and

13 WHEREAS, These messages of hope and mercy were especially
14 significant between World War I and World War II, inspiring a

1 worldwide following; and

2 WHEREAS, Worn out and weakened by tuberculosis, Sister
3 Faustina died on October 5, 1938, at the age of 33; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1978 Pope John Paul II, then Archbishop of
5 Krakow, helped to retract a Vatican ban on Sister Faustina's
6 diary by demonstrating that the ban had been based on misleading
7 translations of her writings; and

8 WHEREAS, On the first Sunday after Easter, April 18, 1993,
9 Pope John Paul II declared Sister Faustina one of the community
10 of the blessed; and

11 WHEREAS, More than 200,000 people made the pilgrimage to
12 attend Blessed Faustina's canonization Mass in Rome on April 30,
13 2000; and

14 WHEREAS, Pope John Paul II declared Saint Faustina the patron
15 saint of Warsaw, Krakow and Plock in Poland and Vilnius,
16 Lithuania; and

17 WHEREAS, Pope John Paul II declared the Sunday after Easter
18 as "Divine Mercy Sunday" throughout the world in honor of the
19 new saint and her message; and

20 WHEREAS, Saint Faustina's message of love and mercy is still
21 relevant for people today; therefore be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives pay a respectful
23 tribute to the memory of Faustina Kowalska, the first saint of
24 the new millennium, who dedicated her brief life to the message
25 of love and the Divine Mercy; and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
27 the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, Box 369, Lake Street, Dallas,
28 Pennsylvania 18612.