

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 124

BY SENATORS MILKOVICH AND PEACOCK

A RESOLUTION

To commend Father Peter Mangum of the Diocese of Shreveport, Louisiana, and Cheryl White, PhD in history at Louisiana State University in Shreveport, on the success of their efforts to bring the full-size replica of the Shroud of Turin to be publically displayed.

WHEREAS, the Shroud of Turin is an artifact that millions around the world believe to be the burial cloth of Jesus Christ, bearing the imprint of His wounds; and

WHEREAS, the full scale replica is currently displayed at the Cathedral of St. John Berchmans in Shreveport, through the efforts of Fr. Mangum and Dr. White, who are both part of the American Confraternity of the Holy Shroud, which is a group of custodians and curators of the relic since 1597; and

WHEREAS, the Shroud clearly bears the image of a man with major wounds at the wrists and wounds on his head, presumably made by the crown of thorns that Jesus was said to have had placed on His head prior to His crucifixion; and

WHEREAS, rigorous testing, from carbon dating to 3-D scans, revealed that the markings on the cloth were made by blood, sweat, and tears, and could not have been made by any known pigments, dyes, or other processes; and

WHEREAS, Dr. White has stated, "The image ... is not an artwork, it is not a painting ... and the more we know about it the more the historian has to concede that we don't know of any medieval technology or process that could have produced something like this"; and

WHEREAS, Fr. Mangum remarks that, "Whoever this man was, whether one believes him to have been Jesus Christ or not, this shroud carries the marks of the wounds Jesus Christ was said to have suffered before His crucifixion, including the scourging marks"; and

WHEREAS, Fr. Mangum also observed that, "This powerful replica is having a spell-bound affect on those who see it"; and

WHEREAS, the Shroud was on display at the holiest time of the year for Christians, the seasons of Lent and Easter, and in March, one of those leading the research on the original Shroud of Turin, Barrie Schwartz, spoke about his work on the Shroud of Turin, beginning in 1978, at a public viewing of the Shroud; and

WHEREAS, as a result of their years of study of the Shroud of Turin and their commitment to its maintenance and study, Father Mangum and Dr. White were able to bring the full scale replica of what is most probably the holiest of relics in the Christian church, and to allow the people of Shreveport to see it and to reach their own conclusions as to its origins and significance.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Father Peter Mangum, of the Diocese of Shreveport, Louisiana, and Cheryl White, PhD in history at Louisiana State University in Shreveport, on the success of their efforts to bring a full scale replica of the Shroud of Turin to be publically displayed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Father Peter Mangum at the Cathedral of St. John Berchmans and to Cheryl White, PhD at Louisiana State University in Shreveport.

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE