

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 408

Approved September 12, 2005

WHEREAS, the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations was founded on principles of religious tolerance; and

WHEREAS, the Cathedral of St. John, a vibrant, multicultural congregation of the Episcopal Church in the City of Providence, has embodied those principles for many years, during which the Cathedral has served as a place of prayer for all people; and

WHEREAS, during the past seven years, the Cathedral has been ably led by its Dean, the Very Rev. Maria DeCarvalho, who will celebrate her final Eucharist on August 28, 2005; and

WHEREAS, Maria DeCarvalho lives in the City of Providence, received her undergraduate degree from Yale University and the Master of Divinity degree from The Weston Jesuit School of Theology; and

WHEREAS, Maria DeCarvalho then served as Special Assistant to the late United States Senator John H. Chafee and held the office of Second Vice President in the International Department of The Chase Manhattan Bank in New York City; and

WHEREAS, Maria DeCarvalho joined the staff of the Cathedral after spending several years leading workshops and retreats around the United States and abroad; and

WHEREAS, under the guidance of the Dean, the Cathedral has become a center for public gathering in times of celebration and confusion as well as mourning, including occasions of public prayer after September 11, the Challenger disaster, and the Station Fire; an inter-faith conversation about the controversial movie, "The Passion of the Christ;" and a service of recognition and thanksgiving for the essential work done by the Providence Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Maria DeCarvalho has served on the Mayor's Council of Community Leaders as well as participating with the Providence Police Department's task forces; and

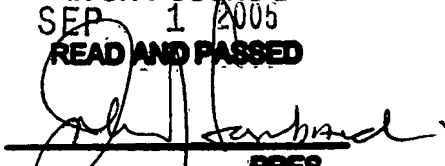
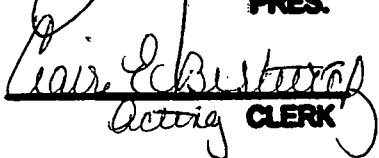
WHEREAS, Maria DeCarvalho was honored by the National Council for Community and Justice for her contributions to the interfaith dialogue in the City of Providence; and

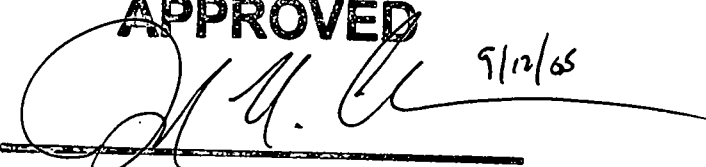
WHEREAS, Maria DeCarvalho continues her work as a Spiritual Director, and columnist on spirituality for *The Providence Journal*; and, under the auspices of her new undertaking, *Another Way*, intends to offer serious tools for transformation of individuals and organizations; and

WHEREAS, the personal character of Maria DeCarvalho, which has been defined by spirituality, service, integrity, honor, and compassion, inspired many Providence residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council extends its congratulations and best wishes to the Very Rev. Maria DeCarvalho as she steps down as Dean of the Cathedral of St. John.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Clerk be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the Rt. Rev. Geralyn Wolf, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island.

IN CITY COUNCIL
SEP 1 2005
READ AND PASSED

PRES.

Acting CLERK

APPROVED

MAYOR