

(Published by the Authority of the City Council of the City of Chicago)

**MEMORIAL
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**JOURNAL of the PROCEEDINGS
of the
CITY COUNCIL
of the
CITY of CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

Special Meeting--Tuesday, November 19, 1996

at 10:30 A. M.

(Council Chamber--City Hall--Chicago, Illinois)

OFFICIAL RECORD.

RICHARD M. DALEY
Mayor

JAMES J. LASKI
City Clerk

Attendance At Meeting.

Present -- The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor, and Aldermen Granato, Haithcock, Tillman, Preckwinkle, Holt, Steele, Dixon, Shaw, Buchanan, Huels, Frias, Olivo, Burke, Jones, Peterson, Murphy, Rugai, Troutman, Munoz, Zalewski, Chandler, Solis, Ocasio, Burnett, E. Smith, Burrell, Wojcik, Suarez, Gabinski, Austin, Colom, Banks, Giles, Allen, Laurino, O'Connor, Doherty, Natarus, Bernardini, Levar, Shiller, Schulter, Moore, Stone.

Absent -- Aldermen Beavers, Coleman, Evans, Mell, Hansen, M. Smith.

Call To Order.

On Tuesday, November 19, 1996 at 10:30 A.M., The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor, called the City Council to order. The Honorable James J. Laski, City Clerk, called the roll of members and it was found that there were present at that time: Aldermen Granato, Haithcock, Tillman, Preckwinkle, Holt, Steele, Dixon, Shaw, Buchanan, Huels, Frias, Olivo, Burke, Jones, Peterson, Murphy, Rugai, Troutman, Munoz, Zalewski, Chandler, Solis, Ocasio, Burnett, E. Smith, Burrell, Wojcik, Suarez, Gabinski, Austin, Colom, Banks, Giles, Allen, Laurino, O'Connor, Doherty, Natarus, Bernardini, Levar, Shiller, Schulter, Moore, Stone -- 44.

Quorum present.

Placed On File -- CALL FOR SPECIAL MEETING.

The Honorable James J. Laski, City Clerk, informed the City Council that the following call for a special meeting was filed in the Office of the City Clerk on Friday, November 15, 1996, at 4:00 P.M.:

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

November 15, 1996.

*Honorable James J. Laski
City Clerk
City Hall, Room 107
121 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602*

DEAR MR. LASKI -- I hereby call a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Chicago for the purpose of honoring the life and memory of His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, Archbishop of Chicago.

This meeting is to be held on Tuesday, November 19, 1996, at 10:30 A.M., in the Council Chambers in City Hall.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) RICHARD M. DALEY,
Mayor.

Invocation.

The Most Reverend Edwin Conway, Auxiliary Archbishop of Chicago, opened the meeting with prayer.

Rules Suspended -- RESOLUTION IN MEMORY OF HIS
EMINENCE JOSEPH CARDINAL BERNARDIN,
ARCHBISHOP OF CHICAGO.

The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor, on behalf of himself and the members of the City Council, presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Almighty God called Joseph Cardinal Bernardin from this life to his eternal reward on November 14, 1996, at the age of sixty-eight; and

WHEREAS, Cardinal Bernardin was the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Chicago, and was spiritual leader of its 2.3 million Roman Catholics from July of 1982 until his death; and

WHEREAS, Although elevated to one of the highest positions within the Church, Joseph Bernardin was a person of humble origins. He was born in Columbia, South Carolina, on April 2, 1928, to Giuseppe and Maria Bernardin, who had immigrated to this country from Italy. In 1934 his father died, and his mother began working as a seamstress to support herself and her two children. The financial hardships of his youth, and the strains of local anti-immigrant and anti-Catholic sentiment, instilled in the future Cardinal a lifelong sensitivity for those whom society has overlooked or excluded, as well as an abiding desire to allow everyone a voice in important decisions; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Bernardin was ordained to the priesthood in the Diocese of Columbia on April 26, 1952, where he served for fourteen years. In addition to his duties as assistant pastor of Saint Joseph's Parish, he also taught religion and civics in the local Catholic high school and served in several administrative capacities in the diocese; and

WHEREAS, In 1966, at the age of thirty-eight, Father Bernardin was ordained a bishop, becoming the youngest Catholic bishop in the United States, and was assigned to the Archdiocese of Atlanta as auxiliary bishop. He served as vicar general of the archdiocese, as rector of the Cathedral of Christ the King, and in 1968, as administrator of the archdiocese after the death of Archbishop Paul Hallinan until the appointment of a new archbishop; and

WHEREAS, In 1968 Cardinal Bernardin was selected by his fellow bishops to be general secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, and in that capacity he coordinated the reorganization of the conference according to the norms established at the Second Vatican Council, in order to narrow the distance between clergy and laity and to enable all the faithful to express and live their faith. The debates over how to achieve these reforms were at times contentious, but under Bishop Bernardin's guidance the tone of debate remained civil so that all points of view could be presented and considered; and

WHEREAS, In 1972 he was appointed Archbishop of Cincinnati, where he assumed personal responsibility for implementing the Vatican II reforms. Archbishop Bernardin also distinguished himself in Cincinnati by his accessibility to the clergy and laity of his fold; and

WHEREAS, On July 10, 1982, Archbishop Bernardin was appointed Archbishop of Chicago. He was formally installed in office on August 25, 1982, and was elevated to the office of Cardinal on February 2, 1983; and

WHEREAS, As Archbishop of Chicago, Cardinal Bernardin was faced with the challenge of strengthening and unifying a diocese that was geographically large, divided along racial, ethnic and economic lines, and facing financial hardship as an institution. Never one to assume an authoritarian role, the new Archbishop introduced himself by stating, "I am Joseph, your brother". With this simple statement he assured the Catholics of Chicago that their mutual love would be a source of common strength to deal with any difficulties they would face; and

WHEREAS, In 1986 Cardinal Bernardin founded the Big Shoulders Fund, which has raised over 62 Million Dollars for inner-city Catholic Schools, in order to assure that the Archdiocese would not abandon those in need of the Church's presence and support; and

WHEREAS, Cardinal Bernardin has been recognized and honored by his colleagues and civil authorities for his accomplishments. He received the 1983 Albert Einstein Peace Award for his efforts to bring about peace in a troubled world. In 1996 President Clinton conferred on him the Medal of Freedom, the highest award given to an American civilian, for the Cardinal's work on behalf of racial equality and arms control. He was also the recipient of numerous other awards and honors; and

WHEREAS, Cardinal Bernardin will also be remembered as one who taught all of us how to approach death with dignity. In his last illness, he made no effort to conceal his medical condition from his flock. He announced that his death was imminent because "this is the sort of thing you share with your family", and he considered all the people of Chicago, regardless of their religious affiliation, to be his family; and

WHEREAS, Cardinal Bernardin is survived by his mother, Maria; his sister, Elaine Addison, and her husband, James Addison; his nephews, Joseph and James; and his nieces, Anna Maria and Angela; and

WHEREAS, This great and gentle man, although physically departed from us, will live forever in the hearts of all Chicagoans and all people of good will everywhere, for we have been truly enriched by his presence among us; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this nineteenth day of November, 1996, do hereby honor the life of Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, whose strength of character, gentle resolve and dignity are a lasting tribute to him; and

Be It Further Resolved, That we join Cardinal Bernardin's family and friends in mourning his passing from this life, even as we rejoice for the time he shared with us; and

Be It Further Resolved, That suitable copies of this resolution be presented to Cardinal Bernardin's family and to the Archdiocese of Chicago as a sign of our sympathy and good wishes.

Alderman Burke moved to *Suspend the Rules Temporarily* to permit immediate consideration of and action upon the foregoing proposed resolution and to permit visiting dignitaries the privilege of the floor. The motion *Prevailed*.

On motion of Alderman Burke, the foregoing proposed resolution was *Adopted* by a rising vote.

SCRIPTURE READING.

The Reverend Stanley L. Davis, Jr., Executive Director of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, offered a passage from the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 15, Verses 11 through 24.

MUSICAL SELECTION.

Soloist Juliana Rambaldi and pianist Mr. William C. Billingham of the Lyric Opera of Chicago performed the musical selection "Pie Jesu" from the requiem mass by Fauré.

TRIBUTES BY MEMBERS OF THE CHICAGO CITY COUNCIL.

Expressions of sorrow and words of remembrance about Joseph Cardinal Bernardin were shared by the following members of the City Council:

Alderman Edward M. Burke, Alderman Burton F. Natarus, Alderman Ray Suarez, Alderman Ed H. Smith and Alderman Patrick J. O'Connor.

EULOGY BY THE HONORABLE RICHARD M. DALEY.

Every two weeks, we meet in this chamber to do the people's business.

We pass ordinances, budget dollars and devise programs that we hope will make our community stronger and healthier.

Today, we meet for a different reason. This is not a day for business-as-usual.

We're here today to honor the life and memory of a man who, through his leadership and example, helped make our community stronger and healthier.

We're here to give thanks for the fourteen years he graced our community with his wisdom and kindness.

Joseph Cardinal Bernardin was, quite simply, a holy man.

His love for people, whatever their station in life, was clear to all.

In fact, Cardinal Bernardin seemed more comfortable with the down-and-out than he did with the high-and-mighty.

He always had time, a prayer, an encouraging word for people in need, even when he, himself, was suffering.

But he seemed to shy away from the personal accolades that came his way.

He was a relentless force for greater understanding -- a sturdy bridge between people of different faiths and backgrounds.

In a society riddled by division, Cardinal Bernardin never stopped searching for common ground.

He believed deeply that we all are children of God, and he treated everyone he met as a brother or sister.

And today, our entire community mourns his loss.

In all the years we knew him, we never heard Cardinal Bernardin raise his voice. Yet his words carried extraordinary power because of the respect he engendered.

When he spoke, he spoke with the authority of a man whose motives were pure and goals were lofty.

His words were amplified by his fundamental decency and informed by thoughtful reflection.

Within the Catholic world, Cardinal Bernardin's words and writings carried enormous weight.

Whether the issue was the need to end the arms race, or to reconcile differing views within the church, he was a leader and an inspiration to theologians and lay people.

As mayor of the City of Chicago, my respect for the Cardinal was great. I appreciated his deep commitment and wise counsel.

Over his years here, I watched as he worked to help address so many problems -- homelessness and hunger, inadequate health care and struggling schools.

He was a full and valued partner in the life of our community.

But my admiration for him only grew over the past three years, as he faced tremendous adversities with unwavering faith and unflagging good humor.

Even when falsely accused of an unthinkable act, he responded gently -- with love, not anger.

Those of us in public life could hardly imagine handling such a burden with the strength and grace the Cardinal displayed during those trying days.

Instead of being diminished, he was enhanced. And through his example, he taught us all.

And for the past sixteen months, Cardinal Bernardin treated us to another lesson in courage and faith.

He took the news of his illness without complaint or a hint of self-pity.

Instead, he redoubled his efforts to minister to others, and resolved that he could help those who were seriously ill by making peace with his own, imminent death.

So even in the face of death, he never lost or stopped communicating his joy and appreciation for life and for people.

He never lost his smile or the twinkle in his eye that seemed to light up every room he entered.

When Cardinal Bernardin told us, last summer, that his cancer had returned, and that it was terminal, he was asked why he chose to make a public announcement.

He said he did it because this community was his "family" -- not just Catholics, but the entire community.

And I believe all of us, Catholics and non-Catholics, felt the same way.

In these past fourteen years, he had become family to all of us in the Chicago area, and we will miss him very much.

But the Cardinal had the ultimate faith that his death was merely a transition to eternal life. And that faith sustained him through the last, difficult days.

So today, let's not mourn for him. For he is at peace.

Rather than mourning our loss, let us be thankful for the fourteen wonderful years during which we were blessed by his presence and leadership.

And let us resolve that Cardinal Bernardin and his shining example will live forever in our hearts.

Thank you.

PRAYER FOR DEPARTED.

The Very Reverend Demetri Kantzavelos, Chancellor of the Greek Orthodox Diocese of Chicago, offered a prayer for the departed on behalf of Joseph Cardinal Bernardin.

TRIBUTE.

Dr. Ghulam H. Aasi of the Council of Islamic Organizations of Chicago, on

behalf of the Muslim community in the United States, expressed admiration for the life and teachings of Joseph Cardinal Bernardin and sympathy on his passing.

PRAYER FOR PEACE.

Bishop Arthur M. Brazier, Pastor of the Apostolic Church of God, delivered what he described as a favorite prayer of His Eminence, Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, the Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi.

CLOSING MUSICAL SELECTION.

Soloist Juliana Rambaldi, accompanied on piano by Mr. William C. Billingham, performed the musical selection "Ave Maria" by Franz Schubert.

BENEDICTION.

Rabbi Herman E. Schaalman, Rabbi Emeritus of Emanuel Congregation, delivered the benediction.

PRESENCE OF VISITORS NOTED.

The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor, called the Council's attention to the presence of the following visitors:

Mrs. Elaine Addison, sister of His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, accompanied by her husband, Mr. James Addison;

The Honorable Bruno Simione, Mayor of Siera di Primiero, Italy, Reverend Gianpiero Simione, Mr. Pablo Simione, Mr. Giovanni Simione and Mr. Luigi Zagonel, cousins of His Eminence Josph Cardinal Bernardin, visiting from Italy;

The Most Reverend Raymond Goedert, Diocesan Administrator, Archdiocese of Chicago;

Monsignor Kenneth Velo, President of the Catholic Extension Society;

Father Jeremiah Boland, Executive Secretary of Diocesan Priests Personnel System;

Father John Pollard, Executive Director for the Office of the Catechism for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops;

The Honorable Mary Ann G. McMorrow, Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court.

Adjournment.

Thereupon, Alderman Burke moved that the City Council do *Adjourn*. The motion *Prevailed* and the City Council *Stood Adjourned*.

JAMES J. LASKI,
City Clerk.