

STATE OF KANSAS



PROCLAMATION
BY THE
GOVERNOR

TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, In 1883, the first Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia arrived in Kansas after a long and rugged trip from Rochester, NY; and

WHEREAS, The Sisters have spent 125 years partnering with and serving the needs of the Catholic Church and the "dear neighbor without distinction" in our society, a mission that continues today; and

WHEREAS, Led by Mother Stanislaus Leary, the Sisters have always cared for children; they taught both Catholic and Protestant students in school shortly after arriving at Concordia and soon opened an academy for girls, educating children throughout the state and beyond, and opened Marymount College in Salina in 1922; and

WHEREAS, In 1903, the Sisters opened their first hospital in Concordia, followed thereafter with hospitals in Salina, Sabetha, Seneca, and Manhattan and in Belvidere, IL and El Paso, TX; and

WHEREAS, The Sisters met the challenge of caring for and providing a home for orphaned children and the elderly; and

WHEREAS, The Sisters provide Parish Ministry throughout Kansas as well as throughout the United States and Brazil; and

WHEREAS, The Sisters promote a culture of nonviolence building a sustainable global community founded on interdependence and the principles of human rights; and

WHEREAS, Professional excellence, leadership and readiness are the hallmarks of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia; and

WHEREAS, The Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia spent 125 years demonstrating the qualities of women with gracious and loving hearts and a solid faith in God, the sisters have touched hearts and changed lives; and

WHEREAS, The Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia continue to minister and pray for the people in Kansas communities, Concordia, Beattie, Belleville, Clay Center, Ellis, Goodland, Hays, Minneapolis, Ness City, Overland Park, Pawnee Rock, Plainville, Salina, Topeka, Wakeeney, Washington and Wichita as well as across America and abroad:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK PARKINSON, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF KANSAS, do hereby recognize the

125th Anniversary of Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia

in Kansas and urge all citizens to honor Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia for their outstanding service to the people of the State of Kansas.

DONE: At the Capitol in Topeka
under the Great Seal of the
State this 13th day of
May, A.D. 2009



BY THE GOVERNOR:

Mark Parkinson

For [Signature]

Secretary of State

Assistant Secretary of State