

1           A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor and loving memory of Father  
2 Norman Anthony Fischer, Jr.

3           WHEREAS, Father Norman Anthony Fischer, Jr., was born on August 20, 1973, to  
4 Norman Anthony, Sr., and Lecita Fischer in Prince George's County, Maryland; and

5           WHEREAS, Father Norman was raised in Perryville, Kentucky, and after majoring  
6 in psychology and art at Centre College in Danville, he received his Master of Divinity  
7 from Mundelein Seminary at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake in Mundelein,  
8 Illinois; and

9           WHEREAS, Father Norman was ordained a priest on May 27, 2000, when he  
10 became the first Black or Filipino priest in the Diocese of Lexington; and

11           WHEREAS, Father Norman served at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in  
12 Lexington, St. Joseph Church in Winchester, and St. Patrick Church in Mount Sterling,  
13 and his most recent pastoral service was at St. Peter Claver Church in Lexington, where  
14 he recently spearheaded a \$3.5 million campaign to construct a new sanctuary; and

15           WHEREAS, Father Norman served for more than 18 years as chaplain at Lexington  
16 Catholic High School, where he was known for his gregarious personality and for  
17 founding the school's first Black affinity group; and

18           WHEREAS, Father Norman's ecumenical impact in the Lexington region was  
19 widely felt, and he was known for his efforts in nurturing racial healing in partnership  
20 with local ministers, churches, and schools. Father Norman was also active in the  
21 charismatic movement, which brought together Christians of different traditions; and

22           WHEREAS, Father Norman was recognized not only for his impact on his  
23 community, receiving the 2024 Grassroots Black Leadership Award from the Blue Grass  
24 Community Foundation, but also for his national impact, as he was the first Afro-Asian to  
25 be elected president of the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus in September 2023;  
26 and

27           WHEREAS, beyond his pastoral assignments, Father Norman was known for

1 serving others by leading groups on pilgrimages and to conferences and camps,  
2 volunteering his time for youth and young adult ministries locally and across the country,  
3 and constantly serving those in need, often behind the scenes, in many different  
4 capacities; and

5 WHEREAS, Father Norman was not only a gifted preacher, but he was also a  
6 talented singer and visual artist, and he exhibited several of his recent paintings at the  
7 Hockensmith Fine Art Editions Gallery; and

8 WHEREAS, Father Norman departed this earthly life on July 14, 2024. He is  
9 survived by his parents; siblings, Ricardo Monte Fischer and Maria Fischer-Boothe;  
10 nieces, Reagan Fischer, Rachel Fischer-Hahn, and Therese Boothe; brother-in-law,  
11 Brian Boothe; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins;

12 NOW, THEREFORE,

13 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*  
14 *Kentucky:*

15 ➔Section 1. The Senate hereby expresses its most profound sympathy upon the  
16 passing of Father Norman Anthony Fischer, Jr.

17 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor and loving  
18 member of Father Norman Anthony Fischer, Jr.

19 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this  
20 Resolution to Senator Reginald Thomas for delivery to the family.