

1 [Monsignor Oscar Romero Day - March 26, 2011]

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3 **Resolution declaring March 26, 2011, as Monsignor Oscar Romero Day in San**  
4 **Francisco, to honor a person who dedicated themselves to, and ultimately gave their**  
5 **life for, social justice and human rights protection, and preached the message of**  
6 **peace, non-violence, reconciliation, and love.**

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8 WHEREAS, Oscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdamez, Archbishop of El Salvador, was  
9 murdered at the altar while celebrating Mass in a small chapel in San Salvador on March 24,  
10 1980; and

11 WHEREAS, He was an outspoken advocate for poor people in El Salvador and used  
12 his sermons to plead with both the left and right to end the violence and human rights abuses  
13 taking place throughout the country; and

14 WHEREAS, Other religious leaders, such as Monsignor Gerardi of Guatemala and  
15 Monsignor Ruiz of Mexico, were persecuted for their advocacy on behalf of the poor and  
16 indigenous populations in all of Latin America; and

17 WHEREAS, Faith communities are globally committed to serving the poor,  
18 dispossessed and disempowered; and

19 WHEREAS, Monsignor Romero's assassination was a result of military orders to  
20 silence his criticism of an oppressive governmental regime and the culture of violence  
21 perpetuated by that government against these communities; and

22 WHEREAS, Various United Nations Truth Commissions charged with investigating the  
23 military suppression of these populations found that the United States' government politically  
24 and militarily supported these anti-democratic actions; and

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1           WHEREAS, There will be an interfaith service to honor Monsignor Romero on March  
2 26, 2011 at the Basilica Mission Dolores in San Francisco; and

3           WHEREAS, This Romero commemoration represents interfaith and local community  
4 organizations that wish to celebrate this universal champion of non-violence, reconciliation  
5 and respect for human rights; now, therefore be it

6           RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors declare March 26, 2011 as  
7 Monsignor Oscar Romero Day; and be it

8           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of San Francisco will stand in  
9 solidarity with those faith leaders who seek social justice for the poor, dispossessed and  
10 disempowered throughout the world and work together for justice, peace and human rights.

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