



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in 2003 World Water Monitoring Day was established by the America's Clean Water Foundation (ACWF) as a global educational outreach program aiming to build public awareness and involvement in protecting water resources around the world by empowering citizens to carry out basic monitoring of their local water bodies; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, following a number of years of severe weather horrific, deadly hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, droughts, typhoons, cyclones, earthquakes, and tsunamis, environmentalists from Blue Island, Beverly and the far-south side came together to pray for the planet earth on the banks of the Cal Sag Channel; and

WHEREAS, that call to action inspired the blessing of the waters in Blue Island; and

WHEREAS, led by the late Reverend Rod Rhinehart of St. Joseph/St. Aiden's Episcopal Church in Blue Island and Tom Shepherd, then-president of the Southeast Environmental Task Force, an annual ritual began to "Bless the Waters - Heal the River," which, the following year, moved to the Waterfall in Blue Island at the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District aeration facility on the Cal Sag Channel.; and

WHEREAS, after more thirteen years, the tradition of the interfaith day of prayer to heal and renew the environment continues today and the 14th annual ceremony will be held in Blue Island, on Sunday, September 20, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.; and

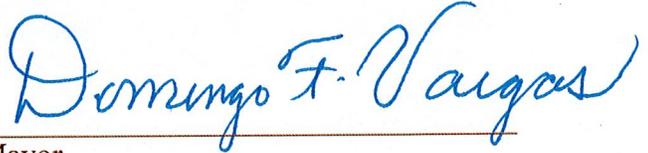
WHEREAS, we join EarthEcho International in September as we celebrate World Water Monitoring Day (September 18) to connect to water resources and inspire action.; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Domingo F. Vargas, Mayor of the City of Blue Island, do hereby proclaim September 18, 2020 as

WORLD WATER MONITORING DAY

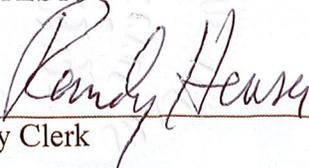
and recognize the 14th **BLESSING OF THE WATERS** in Blue Island, Illinois.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the City of Blue Island this 8th day of September, A.D. 2020.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk