

## P R O C L A M A T I O N

*WHEREAS, Saint John the Baptist is one of the recognized Patron Saints of Freemasonry; and*

*WHEREAS, in honor of the anniversary of his birth, we recall to ourselves the mighty lessons he taught and examples he set; and*

*WHEREAS, it is a custom of the Alexandria-Washington Masonic Lodge to assemble in full force, to do honor to their Patron Saint by contributing charity for the poor; and*

*WHEREAS, during this traditional celebration, the Lodge, escorted by the Knights Templar, City Council, and our prominent citizens, listened to a charity oration delivered before the Lodge at Christ Church in Alexandria; and*

*WHEREAS, at the conclusion of these services, a collection was taken up for the benefit of the poor of our City; and*

*WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria recognizes the kind, benevolent gift to its poor and less fortunate citizens by this tradition; and*

*WHEREAS, James Stevenson, presiding Worshipful Master of the Alexandria-Washington Masonic Lodge, its Officers, and its Members, wishes to continue this Alexandria tradition, encouraged and attended by General George Washington himself; and*

*WHEREAS, the continuation of this traditional celebration assists to better unite Washington's Masonic Lodge with the Alexandria Community; and*

*WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria has had, and will continue to have, a long, historic, and close relationship with the Alexandria-Washington Masonic Lodge;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, KERRY J. DONLEY, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby designate Tuesday, June 24, 2003, as:*

**"SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST DAY"**

*in the City of Alexandria and do urge all citizens of our City as well as our neighbors throughout this area to participate in, and be entertained and enlightened by, the Alexandria-Washington Lodge's commemoration of the Saint John the Baptist Day Celebration.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 2003.*

**KERRY J. DONLEY**                      **MAYOR**

*On behalf of the City Council  
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC                      City Clerk