

2013-J3433

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of The Daughters of Divine Charity

WHEREAS, Religious institutions, and the many spiritual, social and educational benefits they confer, play a vital role in the development of the moral fabric of a responsible citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is the tradition of this State and this Nation to pay tribute to those institutions and individuals who have contributed to the ethical and spiritual values of their communities; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body takes pleasure in commemorating the 100th Anniversary of The Daughters of Divine Charity; and

WHEREAS, The Daughters of Divine Charity arrived in the United States on October 9, 1913, at the request from Bishop Joseph; and

WHEREAS, In 1920, The Daughters of Divine Charity formed the first of what would be three American provinces; St. Joseph Province was formally recognized by the Congregation and Mother Kostka Bauer was named the first Provincial Superior of the newly formed Province; and St. Joseph Hill Convent was the seat of the provincial government; and

WHEREAS, The Daughters of Divine Charity started in Akron, Ohio, on August 18, 1943, when four sisters arrived to work with Croatian immigrants who made their living in the Pittsburgh Steel Mills; the St.

Mary Province was established in Akron, Ohio, in 1950; and

WHEREAS, In the 1970s, a series of meetings were held and it was decided to create a new province in the Midwest, Holy Trinity Province; Sisters who came from the Midwest were each given the choice to remain as a member of the St. Joseph Province, or to become a member of the newly formed Holy Trinity Province; and

WHEREAS, In 1972, Holy Trinity Province was formally established and Sister M. Jerome Veres was named its first Provincial Superior; and

WHEREAS, At the urging of Sister Lucyna Mroczek, the three provinces merged into one with Sister M. William McGovern named the first Provincial of the new Province beginning January, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Sisters Josita, Hyacinthe, Antoinette and Mary served on the Provincial Council, Sister M. Regina became the Provincial Secretary, and Sister M. Charlotte was named the Canonical Treasurer; and

WHEREAS, The Holy Family Provincialate is located at St. Joseph Hill Convent, Staten Island, New York, and the Holy Family Noviate is at Leonora Hall, Akron, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, The Daughters of Divine Charity established that Sisters from the former St. Joseph Province own and manage St. Mary's Residence in New York City; while the building is very different, it is this same facility that Sister Kostka and Mother Valaria began in 1913; in addition, the Sisters operate St. Joseph Hill Academy, a premier educational facility on Staten Island, educating children from pre-school to high school graduation; and

WHEREAS, The Daughters of Divine Charity stands on the threshold of tomorrow, prepared to meet the challenges of the coming decades while retaining that spiritual resolve which characterizes its past; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of enduring religious institutions and to bring such institutions to the attention of the people of this Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of The Daughters of Divine Charity, fully confident that this commemoration reflects the belief in those values which enhance the dignity and purpose of life; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Daughters of Divine Charity.