

2013-J5265

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Father Donald Karlen upon the occasion of his 50th Anniversary in the Priesthood to be celebrated on May 25, 2014

WHEREAS, The character and richness of religious and community life in this noble Empire State is nourished and fulfilled through the faithful concern and selfless devotion of those who would commit their energies and purpose to the ministry of others; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to bring full recognition and just tribute to those individuals who distinguish themselves and the ministry through their unremitting commitment and preeminence of service; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Father Donald Karlen upon the occasion of his 50th Anniversary in the Priesthood to be celebrated with a Mass on Sunday, May 25, 2014, at St. Peter's Church, Rome, New York; and

WHEREAS, A native of Boonville, New York, Father Donald Karlen graduated from Boonville Central High School in 1955, and completed his seminary studies at St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries in Rochester; he was ordained a priest on May 16, 1964; and

WHEREAS, Father Donald Karlen has brought to his ministry an overwhelming spirit of charity and compassion, acting from vision and enlightenment in conducting his administrative and spiritual duties, while always displaying the highest standards of personal and professional integrity and dedication; and

WHEREAS, After his ordination, Father Donald Karlen was Associate Pastor at St. Mary's in Rome, and served on the faculty at Rome Catholic High School; in 1967, he took on the role of Associate Pastor at St. Joseph's in Boonville, and one year later he served as its temporary

administrator; and

WHEREAS, From 1971 to 1973, Father Donald Karlen was the Principal at Rome Catholic High School, and from 1973 until 1978, he was Associate Pastor at Our Lady of Lourdes in Utica, and temporary administrator at St. Catherine's in Vernon; and

WHEREAS, Father Donald Karlen served as Pastor of St. Joan of Arc in Morrisville, and from 1984 until 1988, he served as Pastor at St. Paul's in Norwich, St. Theresa's in New Berlin, as well as Our Lady of the Valley in Leonardsville, before serving as Pastor at St. Paul's in Whitesboro; and

WHEREAS, In 1996, Father Donald Karlen was the Pastor at St. Joseph/St. Patrick and St. George in Utica; he then served as Pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes in Utica until 2002, when he assumed the role of Pastor at his home parish, St. Joseph's in Boonville; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, one year later, Father Donald Karlen assumed the pastorates of St. Patrick's in Forestport, and St. Mary of the Snows in Otter Lake; he served as Regional Vicar of the Eastern Region from 1994 until 2002; and

WHEREAS, Today, Father Donald Karlen is involved in the ministry at Christ the King Retreat House and The Good News Center in Utica, where he has directed retreats for priests; he has also conducted parish missions and assists at various parishes on the weekends; and

WHEREAS, In addition, enjoying the freedom to minister in different places, Father Donald Karlen has had a special connection to carnival workers from as far back as the 1970s when he traveled with the Coleman Brothers Carnivals, offering his assistance and support; he maintained close friendships with the carnival workers, and now visits 10 to 12 county fairs each year and serves on Booneville County Fair's Board; and

WHEREAS, This distinguished man of God has always given enlightenment, guidance and wisdom to the many entrusted to his care and has administered abundantly and unstintingly to the spiritual and corporal needs of

all; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when a person of such noble aims and accomplishments is brought to our attention it is appropriate to publicly and jubilantly proclaim and commend that individual for the edification of others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Father Donald Karlen upon the occasion of his 50th Anniversary in the Priesthood, noting his unremitting and compassionate faith and his exemplary service to God, man, and his community, and extending to him the heartfelt best wishes of this Legislative Body for a future of purposeful success and well-being; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Father Donald Karlen.