

2013-J5292

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Bishop Thomas J. Costello upon the occasion of his 60th 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 Bishop Thomas J. Costello upon the occasion of his 60th 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 St. Peter's Church in Rome, Bishop Thomas J. Costello is a 1946 graduate of St. Aloysius Academy; he attended Niagara University and studied for the priesthood at St. Bernard's Seminary in Rochester, and The Catholic University of America in Washington, later earning degrees in Sacred Theology and Canon Law there; and

WHEREAS, Ordained to the priesthood on June 5, 1954, Bishop Thomas J. Costello's first assignment was as Parochial Vicar at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Syracuse, New York; he later returned to serve as Pastor of the parish from 1975 until 1978; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Thomas J. Costello led the Catholic schools of the diocese as superintendent from 1960 to 1975; he was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of the diocese on January 10, 1978, and was consecrated and installed on March 13, 1978; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, his years of service also include Secretary of the diocesan tribunal, Episcopal Vicar of the Southern Region, as well as Vicar for Priests and Vicar General for the diocese, a position he held from 1978 until 2009; today, Bishop Thomas J. Costello resides at St. Anthony's in Syracuse; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Thomas J. Costello 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, 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 Bishop Thomas J. Costello upon the occasion of his 60th 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 Bishop Thomas J. Costello.