

## 2013-J5825

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Monsignor Francis Willenburg upon the occasion of the 60th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood

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 Monsignor Francis Willenburg upon the occasion of the 60th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood; he celebrated this milestone in February of 2014; and

WHEREAS, Born in Rome, Monsignor Francis Willenburg's home parish is St. Peter's; he completed his elementary and secondary education at St. Aloysius Academy in Rome; and

WHEREAS, After graduating in 1946, he studied at Niagara University and completed his seminarian studies at St. Bernard's Seminary in Rochester; on February 2, 1954, Monsignor Francis Willenburg was ordained, and assigned as Associate Pastor at St. Agnes in Utica; and

WHEREAS, From 1956 to 1958, Monsignor Francis Willenburg served as Assistant Director of Catholic Charities in Utica and Resident Chaplain at St. John's and St. Joseph's Home in Utica; in 1958, he began to serve as Director of Catholic Charities in the Utica/Rome area and Camp Nazareth; and

WHEREAS, From 1970 to 1974, Monsignor Francis Willenburg was in residence at St. Thomas in New Hartford; from 1974 until his retirement in

2009, he served as Pastor of St. Agnes in Utica, and also assisted and served as the Administrator at St. Louis Gonzaga in Utica; and WHEREAS, Furthermore, Monsignor Francis Willenburg served as Chaplain at the Newman Club at Mohawk Valley Technical Institute in Utica, Counselor for the Utica division of Oneida County Children's Court, a Catholic clergy representative for the Utica metropolitan area civil defense organization and a founding board member of St. Joseph's Nursing Home in Utica; and

WHEREAS, Since 1954, Monsignor Francis Willenburg has been a member of the Utica Council 189 Knights of Columbus; and

WHEREAS, Monsignor Francis Willenburg 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 practice 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 Monsignor Francis Willenburg upon the occasion of the 60th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood, noting his unremitting and compassionate faith and his exemplary service to God, man, and his

community, and extending to him best wishes for continued purposeful success and well-being; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Monsignor Francis Willenburg.