

## 2015-J4096

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Father Thomas Wheeland upon the occasion of celebrating the 50th 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, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Father Thomas Wheeland upon the occasion of celebrating the 50th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood, to be celebrated at the Celebration of Green Gala on Saturday, March 5, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Born and raised in Elmira, New York, Thomas Wheeland graduated from St. Bernard's School of Ministry and Theology; and

WHEREAS, Since his ordination on June 4, 1966, Father Thomas Wheeland has been assigned to four churches within the Rochester community; and

WHEREAS, Father Thomas Wheeland has been the Pastor of Holy Cross Parish since June of 1982, during which time he has seen the great spirit of the parish and has been enriched by the commitment of the people and parish staff; and

WHEREAS, In this capacity, Father Thomas Wheeland welcomes and embraces technology that will allow Holy Cross to touch as many people as possible, planning carefully for the future while maintaining the present; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, his personal passion continues to be the direct

interaction with parishioners in all of their joys, sorrows and healing;  
and

WHEREAS, Father Thomas Wheeland truly enjoys the goodness of the people of Holy Cross and the natural beauty of the area; he serves the wider community through his involvement with Diocesan committees, his ministry as Chaplain to the Rochester Police Department, and his involvement as a member of the Holy Sepulchre Cemetery Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Father Thomas Wheeland has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, The spiritual guidance and nurturing of the citizens of the State of New York are of great importance to the vitality and well-being of our communities; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to bring full recognition and just tribute to men and women of religious commitment who accept the responsibility of moral leadership and render the wisdom of human understanding; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Father Thomas Wheeland upon the occasion of celebrating the 50th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Father Thomas Wheeland.