

## 2015-K1537

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Very Reverend James Barry Lonergan upon the occasion of celebrating the Golden Jubilee of his ordination to the Catholic Priesthood on June 18, 2016

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 the Very Reverend James Barry Lonergan upon the occasion of celebrating the Golden Jubilee of his ordination to the Catholic Priesthood on Saturday, June 18, 2016, at Saint Mary's Church, Glens Falls, New York; and

WHEREAS, Father James Barry Lonergan 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, Born in Ticonderoga, New York on July 8, 1939, James Barry Lonergan is the son of James McKee and Yvonne (Thibault) Lonergan; and

WHEREAS, James Barry Lonergan attended Saint John's Atonement Seminary in Montour Falls, New York, before earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy and Psychology from the University of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of Atonement Seminary in Washington, D.C., James Barry Lonergan was ordained in the Roman Catholic Church on June 18,

1966, and is a priest of the Diocese of Albany, New York; in addition, he holds a Master of Religious Education degree from the University of San Diego and has done graduate work in Counseling Psychology and Theology at Catholic University; and

WHEREAS, After six years in parish and educational ministry, Father James Barry Lonergan spent 24 years as a military chaplain; his military education includes the United States Army Chaplain Basic and Advance Courses, Command and General Staff College and the Army War College; he has also attended the Division and Installation Chaplain Courses; and

WHEREAS, Following his commission as a United States Army Chaplain and entering active duty in July of 1972, Father James Barry Lonergan's major assignments included: 3/60 Infantry Battalion, 9th Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Washington; 19th Support Command, Taegu, Korea; U.S. Army SAFEGUARD Command, Nekoma, North Dakota; 16th Engineer Battalion, Nuremberg, Germany; U.S. Military Academy, West Point, New York; 3d Brigade, 2d Infantry Division, Camp Howze, Korea; 9th Infantry Regiment, Fort Ord, California; 7th Infantry Division, Fort Ord, California; 2d Infantry Division, Camp Casey, Korea; Infantry Training Center, Fort Benning, Georgia; III Corps, Fort Hood, Texas, FORSCOM, Fort McPherson, Georgia and as Command Chaplain, V Corps, Heidelberg, Germany; he retired as a United States Army Colonel; and

WHEREAS, Father James Barry Lonergan's military awards and decorations include: the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal with eight Oak Leaf Clusters; the Army Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters; the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; the National Defense Service Medal, and the Army Overseas Medal (with "5" device); and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, on June 13, 2001, then New York State Governor George Pataki presented Father James Barry Lonergan with the New York State Conspicuous Service Cross with nine state emblems in recognition of his military service; and

WHEREAS, Upon his retirement from active duty on July 31, 1996, Father

James Barry Loneragan cared for the Catholic Community at Corpus Christi in Ushers, New York; he was then assigned as Administrator of Sacred Heart Parish in Berlin, New York, with its mission of Saint Joseph's in Stephentown; and

WHEREAS, On April 14, 1997, Father James Barry Loneragan was appointed by Bishop Howard Hubbard of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany to serve as pastor of The Catholic Community of Hudson Falls/Kingsbury, New York; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his duties as Pastor, on August 1, 1997, Bishop Howard Hubbard also appointed him as Dean of Washington County; and

WHEREAS, A resident of Glens Falls, New York, Father James Barry Loneragan retired from parish work on September 8th, 2004; in January of the following year, he was appointed as a Minister to Retired Priests for the Albany Diocese; he was also a member of the Priests Retirement Board of the diocese; 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 custom of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Very Reverend James Barry Loneragan upon the occasion of celebrating the Golden Jubilee of his ordination to the Catholic Priesthood on June 18, 2016, 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 the Very Reverend James Barry Loneragan.