

2009-J2912

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Transfiguration Church in Rome, New York

WHEREAS, Religious institutions, and the many spiritual, social and educational benefits they confer, play a vital role in the development of the moral fabric of a responsible citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is the tradition of this State and this Nation to pay tribute to those institutions and individuals who have contributed to the ethical and spiritual values of their communities; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body takes pleasure in commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Transfiguration Church in Rome, New York; and

WHEREAS, In the late 19th century, the Poles in Rome, New York, and the surrounding communities established a fraternal organization under the patronage of St. Michael, the Archangel; and

WHEREAS, On May 27, 1909, the Rev. Simon Pniak, the pastor of Holy Trinity in Utica, said the first Mass in a hall on South James Street in Rome, New York; subsequent masses were offered in private homes and in the basement of St. Mary's Church; and

WHEREAS, In November of that year, a charter was obtained in the name of Transfiguration of Our Lord Church and property on the corner of Henry and South George Streets was purchased; the following year, the existing house was remodeled into a chapel; and

WHEREAS, The first organizers of Transfiguration Church were: Michael Hojsak, Adam Balwierczar, Lawrence Trybalski, Andrew Sobolewski, Peter Patala, Joseph Dabrowski, Joseph Jadwisinczak, John Lesczynski, Frank Ciszek, Frank Lenio, Peter Przybycien, Frank Krulecki and Martin Gryziec; and

WHEREAS, Before Reverend Stanley Kuprel was appointed the first Pastor of Transfiguration Church, priests from cities surrounding Rome, New York, celebrated Mass, including Reverend I. Muszynski, Reverend F. Fijalkowski, Reverend Deksnis and Reverend F. Plaza; and

WHEREAS, The other Pastors at Transfiguration Church were: Reverend Eugene Helczynski, Reverend Joseph Czarkowski, Reverend Michael Pawlowski, Reverend Vincent Siavinas, Reverend Stanley Kaczmarczyk, Reverend

John Tarlowski, Reverend John J. Kosior, Reverend Bernard Janczewski, Reverend John Sciskalski, Reverend Francis Holocinski, Reverend Joseph M. Kowalczyk, Reverend Adolph A. Kantor, Reverend Matthew C. Luczycki, Reverend Anthony Pepel, Reverend William P. Gleba, Father Matthew S. Wieczorek, Father Mark A. Pasik and the current pastor, Father Lucian Urbaniak; and

WHEREAS, Transfiguration Church stands on the threshold of tomorrow, prepared to meet the challenges of the coming decades while retaining that spiritual resolve which characterizes its past; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of enduring religious institutions and to bring such institutions to the attention of the people of this Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Transfiguration Church in Rome, New York, fully confident that this commemoration reflects the belief in those values which enhance the dignity and purpose of life; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Transfiguration Church in Rome, New York.