

## 2011-K482

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Monsignor Edward Wawerski upon the occasion of celebrating his 50th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood

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

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

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Monsignor Edward Wawerski upon the occasion of celebrating his 50th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood; and

WHEREAS, Pastor of St. Hedwig's Catholic Church, Monsignor Edward Wawerski will celebrate his Golden Jubilee at a special mass of thanksgiving at the church on Sunday, May 15, 2011; the mass will be followed by a Dinner-Dance at the Inn at New Hyde Park, New York; and

WHEREAS, Born in Poland, on June 2, 1936, Monsignor Edward Wawerski studied for the priesthood at the Diocesan Seminary in Lublin and was ordained to the priesthood on April 9, 1961, by Bishop Piotr Kalva of Lublin; after serving as a parish priest in Poland for twelve years, he was able to come to the United States in 1973; and

WHEREAS, In the United States, Monsignor Edward Wawerski served in parishes in New Jersey and North Dakota, and finally in Long Island; and

WHEREAS, Monsignor Edward Wawerski's first assignment in Long Island's Rockville Centre Diocese was as an assistant at St. Hyacinth's in Glen Head for twelve years, and then to St. Hedwig's for about eighteen

months; and

WHEREAS, Subsequently, Monsignor Edward Wawerski was appointed pastor at St. Ladislaus in Hempstead where he remained for twenty years; and

WHEREAS, In Hempstead, Monsignor Edward Wawerski found a parish in major decline primarily because of demographic changes which resulted in declining attendance; he was able to rejuvenate the congregation and make major repairs on the parish plant; and

WHEREAS, On May 27, 1996, the then Father Wawerski was honored by the Pope with the title of Monsignor; and

WHEREAS, In 2005, upon the retirement of St. Hedwig's previous pastor, Monsignor Edward Wawerski was asked by Bishop Murphy to become pastor of St. Hedwig's while remaining pastor of St. Ladislaus as well; he would remain pastor of both parishes for more than five years; and

WHEREAS, At St. Hedwig's, Monsignor Wawerski began a major program of renovation of the parish plant; the over one hundred year-old church building received a new roof and refurbishing both inside and out; and

WHEREAS, In the interior of St. Hedwig's, Monsignor Edward Wawerski was careful to preserve the century-old character of the building; the rectory and parish hall were also renovated and a new heating system was installed in all three buildings; and

WHEREAS, During Monsignor Edward Wawerski's pastorate, St. Hedwig's parish has continued to grow more diverse in terms of population; moreover, new devotions arising from popular appeal have added to the traditional devotions which have always been a part of the parish; and

WHEREAS, As the year 2011 began, Monsignor Edward Wawerski gave up the pastorate of St. Ladislaus and became sole pastor of St. Hedwig's; and

WHEREAS, As he completes fifty years of service in the Lord's Vineyard, Monsignor Edward Wawerski can look back on a life of service to

God's people and can be proud of a flourishing community of St. Hedwig's; 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 Monsignor Edward Wawerski upon the occasion of celebrating his 50th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood; and be it further  
RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Monsignor Edward Wawerski.