2013-J744

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Sister Marie Wilson, CSJ, upon the occasion of being awarded the Pontifical Cross, the highest honor bestowed by the Papacy

WHEREAS, The character and richness of religious and community life in the Empire State is nourished and fulfilled through the faithful concern and selfless devotion of those who commit their energies and purpose to the ministry of others; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom 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 congratulate Sister Marie Wilson, CSJ, upon the occasion of being awarded the Pontifical Cross; she received this esteemed honor at a Vesper Service on February 3, 2013, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Syracuse, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Pontifical Cross: Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice (For the Church and the Pope), is a medal given for distinguished service to the Church by lay people and clergy; it is the highest medal that can be awarded to the laity by the Papacy; and

WHEREAS, This faithful woman of God has given not only of her time and energies but also of her competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special honor; and

WHEREAS, Sister Marie Wilson (Sister Helen Francis) is a native of Glens Falls, New York; March of 2013 marks her 70th anniversary as a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondolet; and

WHEREAS, Sister Marie Wilson received a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from The College of St. Rose in Albany; a teacher and administrator in diocesan schools for 27 years, Sister Marie began her noteworthy service in parish ministry; and

WHEREAS, In her remarkable 40 year career at St. Paul's Parish in Rome, New York, Sister Marie Wilson has touched the lives of thousands of people, blessing them with the message of love and hope, and bringing

to them the CSJ charisma of unity and reconciliation; 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 congratulate Sister Marie Wilson, CSJ, (Sister Helen Francis), upon the occasion of being awarded the Pontifical Cross, and to extend to her 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 Sister Marie Wilson, CSJ.