

2015-J2731

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 150th Anniversary of St. Stephen, the First Martyr Parish, Roman Catholic Church in Warwick, 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 Nation to pay tribute to those institutions and individuals who have contributed strongly to the ethical and spiritual values of their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of St. Stephen, the First Martyr Parish, Roman Catholic Church in Warwick, New York; and

WHEREAS, This momentous occasion will be celebrated with a Mass on Sunday, August 11, 2015, with The Most Reverend Dominick J. Lagonegro, Auxiliary Bishop of New York; a dinner dance will also be held on Saturday, October 24, 2015, at Kuhl's Highland House in Middletown, New York; and

WHEREAS, In addition to its 150th Anniversary celebration, St. Stephen, the First Martyr Church will be commemorating the 50th Anniversary of St. Stephen-St. Edward School, and the 25th Anniversary of the present church edifice which was presented the 1995 Excellence in Religious in Architecture Award from the American Institute of Architects; and

WHEREAS, These milestones will be celebrated with a Mass held on Sunday, September 20, 2015, with Celebrant Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1865, St. Stephen, the First Martyr Church has a long and distinguished history of serving the spiritual needs of the

Warwick community; and

WHEREAS, Currently, this esteemed religious institution operates a Knights of Columbus, Ladies Sodality group, and a Mother's Cupboard, as well as a Mary's Meals, which raises funds for an adopted group in Africa; and

WHEREAS, St. Stephen, the First Martyr 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 150th Anniversary of St. Stephen, the First Martyr Parish, Roman Catholic Church in Warwick, New York and be, it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to St. Stephen, the First Martyr Parish, Roman Catholic Church.