

2015-J4230

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 125th Anniversary of Blessed Sacrament Church of Brooklyn, New York, on February 14, 2016

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 125th Anniversary of Blessed Sacrament Church of Brooklyn, New York, observed at an Anniversary Mass on February 14, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Immigrants from Ireland and Germany founded Blessed Sacrament Church on February 14, 1891; today, the Parish welcomes immigrants from the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Latin America and South America, as well as all other parts of the world; and

WHEREAS, Blessed Sacrament Church, under the faithful guidance of Reverend Francis Shannon, fosters ethnic pride and enhances the profile of cultural diversity which strengthens the fabric of the church community; it celebrates and embraces the customs of its parishioners by honoring their patron saints with special masses and processions; and

WHEREAS, A robust religious education program is offered at Blessed Sacrament Church which annually prepares adults and over 600 children to receive the sacraments; today, nearly 300 children are enrolled in the parish school; and

WHEREAS, Not just a building, but a true church family, Blessed Sacrament Church helps the needy in the Cypress Hills community by providing food, offering assistance with financial, immigration and housing issues, and organizing sports programs for the youth; and

WHEREAS, People riding on the J Train see the steeples of Blessed Sacrament Church and are moved to visit the church and donate blood, vote, fill out United States Census forms, and attend community meetings; the tapestry of people from diverse backgrounds connecting and coming together make up the fabric of the Church family; and

WHEREAS, Blessed Sacrament 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 125th Anniversary of Blessed Sacrament Church of Brooklyn, New York observed at an Anniversary Mass on February 14, 2016, 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 Reverend Francis Shannon, Pastor, Blessed Sacrament Church.