

## 2015-J5259

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Reverend Paul J. Drobin upon the occasion of celebrating the 50th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood on May 22, 2016

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

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to bring full recognition and just tribute to 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 honor Reverend Paul J. Drobin upon the occasion of celebrating the 50th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood at a reception on Sunday, May 22, 2016, at Hart's Hill Inn, Whitesboro, New York; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Reverend Paul J. Drobin will celebrate this momentous milestone with a special Mass of Thanksgiving at Holy Trinity Church, Utica, New York; and

WHEREAS, A native of West Utica, Paul J. Drobin, the son of Joseph and Stella Drobin, attended St. John Kanty Preparatory School, Erie, Pennsylvania, before entering St. Bernard's Seminary and College in Rochester, New York; he then attended the Theological College of the Catholic University of America where he completed his theological studies; and

WHEREAS, After his ordination on May 21, 1966, Reverend Paul J. Drobin, affectionately known as Father Paul, continued his education by earning his Master's degree in Religious Studies from the University of Detroit, and a certificate in Pastoral Counseling from the Onondaga Pastoral Counseling Center in Syracuse, New York; and

WHEREAS, Upon the completion of his studies, Reverend Paul J. Drobin returned to his hometown, and held his first Mass at Holy Trinity Church, the same church he attended growing up; he also served as Assistant Pastor of Transfiguration Church in Rome, New York, and Pastor of St. John the Evangelist in New Hartford, New York; and

WHEREAS, Along with his role as Pastor of Holy Trinity Church, Reverend Paul J. Drobin has taught at Rome Catholic High School and Utica Catholic Academy, and served as Chaplain at Hamilton and Kirkland Colleges, and the former St. Joseph's Nursing Home; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Reverend Paul J. Drobin has held positions with Catholic Charities in both Utica and Rome, and currently serves as Chaplain of the Newman Community at both Utica College and SUNY Poly; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to the community in which he lives, Reverend Paul J. Drobin has been a vital participant of numerous Boards of Directors for various organizations including the Resource Center for Independent Living, Munson Williams Proctor Arts Institute, the SUNY Foundation, The Utica Public Library, The House of the Good Shepherd, Family Services of the Mohawk Valley, and the Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, as well as United Way of the Mohawk Valley and Greater Utica Area, where he was a founding member; and

WHEREAS, A true public servant, Reverend Paul J. Drobin is both a benefactor and member of the Utica Zoo, Oneida County Historical Society, MWPAI, the Rotary Club of Utica, Knights of Columbus, Utica Public Library, Kirkland Arts Center, Kopernik Association, Polish Community Center, The Genesis Group and the Mohawk Valley Institute for Learning in Retirement, where he has also served as a facilitator; 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 Reverend Paul J. Drobin upon the occasion of celebrating the 50th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood on May 22, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Reverend Paul J. Drobin.