

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring the Reverend Monsignor Robert L. Lawler upon the occasion of his retirement after 29 years of distinguished service as vicar general of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

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

WHEREAS, It is the sense 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, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor the Reverend Monsignor Robert L. Lawler upon the occasion of his retirement after 29 years of distinguished service as vicar general of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg; and

WHEREAS, Monsignor Lawler was born on November 9, 1930, in Oneonta, New York, and studied for the priesthood at Wadhams Hall Seminary College in Ogdensburg and later at Catholic University of America; and

WHEREAS, Monsignor Lawler was ordained to the priesthood on May 19, 1956; and

WHEREAS, Monsignor Lawler previously retired as pastor of St. Mary's Church in Waddington in June of 2012, and also from St. John the Baptist Church in Madrid; and

WHEREAS, In his work and his ministry, Monsignor Lawler has served Bishops Paul S. Loverde, Gerald M. Barbarito, Robert J. Cunningham and Terry R. LaValley; and

WHEREAS, Monsignor Lawler is described by all who know him as kind, gentle, patient, well-respected and with an extensive knowledge of diocesan history and special concern for the needy; and

WHEREAS, Monsignor Lawler has brought to his ministry an overwhelming spirit of charity and compassion, acting from vision and enlightenment in conducting his administrative and spiritual duties, while always displaying the highest standards of personal and professional integrity and dedication; and

WHEREAS, This distinguished man of God has always given enlightenment, guidance and wisdom to the many entrusted to his care and has administered abundantly and unstintingly to the spiritual and corporal needs of all; 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 honor the Reverend Monsignor Robert L. Lawler upon the occasion of his retirement after 29 years of distinguished service as vicar general of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg, noting his unremitting and compassionate faith and his exemplary service to God, man, and his community, and extending to him 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 Reverend Monsignor Robert L. Lawler.