

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the pastoral installation of The Reverend Father Abraham Malkhasyan of the Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to bring full recognition and just tribute to those 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 commemorate the pastoral installation of The Reverend Father Abraham Malkhasyan of the Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs, to be celebrated on Sunday, February 10, 2013, in Bayside, New York; and

WHEREAS, Abraham Malkhasyan was born on March 10, 1978, in Yerevan, Armenia, where he attended secondary school before enrolling at the St. James Seminary of the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem in 1992; in 1994, he returned to Armenia and continued his studies at the Seminary of Gyumri; and

WHEREAS, Abraham Malkhasyan has also studied at the Gevorkian Theological Seminary of Holy Etchmiadzin, and at the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages in Hyderabad, India, where he received a degree in translation and teaching; and

WHEREAS, Abraham Malkhasyan was ordained to the diaconate by Bishop Sion Adamyan at Holy Etchmiadzin on December 25, 2003, the Feast of St. Stephan; as a deacon, he assisted in parishes in Yerevan, Arinj, Bjni, and Etchmiadzin; and

WHEREAS, From 2004 to 2005, Father Abraham Malkhasyan was assigned to work in the Karekin I Armenological and Theological Center as an assistant to the director; between 2005 and 2006, he taught Armenian Church music and worked as an assistant secretary to the dean of the Vaskenian Theological Seminary of Sevan; and

WHEREAS, In 2006, by the order of His Holiness Karekin II, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, Father Abraham Malkhasyan traveled abroad to study at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota; he graduated in 2009, earning a master's degree in theology; and

WHEREAS, While studying in Minnesota, Father Abraham Malkhasyan was involved in the pastoral life of the Armenian community at St. Sahag Church; in December of 2009, he returned to Holy Etchmiadzin, where he worked in the Internet Department as an assistant-secretary and as a translator for Etchmiadzin's website; in addition, he taught Biblical Studies at the Vaskenian Seminary; and

WHEREAS, Father Abraham Malkhasyan was ordained to the holy priesthood by Bishop Hovagim Manougian on August 29, 2010; following his ordination, he served at the St. Gregory the Illuminator Cathedral in Yerevan; and

WHEREAS, On June 1, 2011, Father Abraham Malkhasyan arrived in the United States to serve in the Eastern Diocese; he was assigned by Archbishop Barsamian to complete his pastoral internship at St. Hagop Church of Pinellas Park, Florida, and to serve as a visiting priest at Soorp Haroutiun Church of Orlando; and

WHEREAS, Father Abraham Malkhasyan completed the Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program at Morton Plant Hospital in Clearwater, Florida; upon the completion of his internship, he began serving as the pastor of the Church of the Holy Martyrs; 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, With him throughout have been his wife, Karine, and their children, Evelina and Armen, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; 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 commemorate the pastoral installation of The Reverend Father Abraham Malkhasyan of the Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Reverend Father Abraham Malkhasyan.