

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Church of the Holy Spirit upon the occasion of celebrating its 50th Anniversary

WHEREAS, The State of New York takes great pride in acknowledging significant milestones in the distinguished histories of its esteemed places of worship; and

WHEREAS, The Church of the Holy Spirit, in Cortlandt Manor, will celebrate its 50th Anniversary with a Jubilee Mass celebrated by Cardinal Timothy Dolan on May 15, 2016; a Festival Day will follow; and

WHEREAS, The Church of the Holy Spirit was established by Cardinal Francis Spellman on May 17, 1966; at its inception, the only building was the rectory on Crompond Road; and

WHEREAS, First liturgical celebration was held on June 19, 1966, in the auditorium of Villa Loretto with 300 participants; and

WHEREAS, By September, the parish was offering three Sunday Masses at the Villa in the chapel of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, and had enrolled 95 children in its Confraternity of Christian Doctrine program; Masses were moved to the Beach Theater a year later; and

WHEREAS, An inaugural Mass was celebrated at the new all-purpose Parish Center next to the rectory on the First Sunday of Advent in 1976; and

WHEREAS, The Parish Activity Center was dedicated in January of 1995, providing a home to the Religious Education program and other parish groups and activities; and

WHEREAS, The Church of the Holy Spirit was the place of worship for over 1,300 registered families in 2011; the Religious Education program had over 650 students at that time; and

WHEREAS, Under the luminous direction of Reverend John DeBellis, the Church of the Holy Spirit has a long and distinguished history in the community as a place of worship and fellowship; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Church of the Holy Spirit upon the occasion of celebrating its 50th Anniversary; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Reverend John DeBellis, Pastor of the Church of the Holy Spirit.