

Senate Resolution No. 1295

BY: Senator GRIFFO

HONORING The Reverend Sean P. O'Brien upon the occasion of his 30th Pastoral Anniversary

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of those individuals within the State of New York who give of their time and energies in support of spiritual endeavors which aim to benefit the community at large; 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 Sean P. O'Brien upon the occasion of his 30th Pastoral Anniversary on June 5, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Sean P. O'Brien was born in Binghamton, New York in 1965 to John Francis O'Brien and Donna O'Brien, and graduated from Vestal Senior High School in 1983; and

WHEREAS, After studying to become a radio announcer at Herkimer County Community College, Sean P. O'Brien applied to seminary and was accepted by the Diocese of Syracuse; after three years at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg, New York, he finished Major Seminary at St. Mary's in Baltimore, Maryland, and was ordained to the priesthood on June 5, 1993; and

WHEREAS, Currently, Father Sean P. O'Brien is the pastor of St. Peter's Church, the Faith Community of St. Mary's/St. Peter's, in Rome, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Sean P. O'Brien's previous diocesan assignments include: Our Lady of Lourdes, Utica, NY from 1993-1998; St. Patrick's Church, Forestport, NY and St. Mary of the Snows, Otter Lake, NY from 1998-2002; Christ Our Light in Pulaski, NY from 2003-2009; Christ Our Hope Catholic Community of Northern Oneida County, from 2009-2014; St. Matthew's, East Syracuse/St. Mary's, Minoa/St. Francis of Assisi, Bridgeport, NY from 2015-2019; and

WHEREAS, With dedication and devotion to making a difference, Sean P. O'Brien joined the Navy in May of 1991; his Reserve assignments include: Naval Hospital Oakland, Strike Fleet, Submarine Squadron Support Unit in New London, CT; 5th Fleet in the Arabian Gulf; NMCB 27, 25th Marines, 7th Naval Construction Regiment, 4th Marine Air Wing, Command Naval Installation Command, Washington DC and Military Sealift Command; Father Sean P. O'Brien retired from the Navy in October of 2020, with the rank of Captain; and

WHEREAS, Sean P. O'Brien's mobilizations/deployments include: Ground Zero (NYC) 2001; Operation Iraqi Freedom 2002-2003; Operation Enduring Freedom (CJTF-82 Afghanistan) 2007; CJTF-HOA (Horn of Africa) 2014-2015; and

WHEREAS, The recipient of numerous awards and accolades, Sean P. O'Brien has received the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (2 awards), Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Commendation Medal and Navy Achievement Medal (3 awards) throughout the course of his service; and

WHEREAS, In January of 2022, The Reverend Sean P. O'Brien was appointed Vicar Forane (V.F.), previously referred as "Regional Vicar," for Region IV of the Syracuse Diocese by Bishop Douglas J. Lucia; Region IV covers Boonville, Camden, Canastota, Forestport, Hamilton, Holland Patent, Lee Center, Marcy, Morrisville, North Bay, Oneida, Oriskany Falls, Otter Lake, Rome, Sherrill, Sylvan Beach, Taberg, Vernon, Verona, and Waterville, New York; 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 Sean P. O'Brien upon the occasion of his 30th Pastoral Anniversary on June 5, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the The Reverend Sean P. O'Brien.