

BY: Senator GRIFFO

HONORING The Reverend Joseph Salerno upon the occasion of his retirement after 43 years of distinguished service as an ordained Catholic priest

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge those individuals whose professional lives and civic endeavors serve to enhance the stature of the State of New York; 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 Joseph Salerno upon the occasion of his retirement after 43 years of distinguished service as an ordained Catholic priest; he will retire in July of 2023, from Mary, Mother of Our Savior Church in New Hartford, New York; and

WHEREAS, For the past 43 years, The Reverend Joseph Salerno rendered faithful, conscientious, and valuable service to the Catholic church; and

WHEREAS, A native of Utica, New York, and educated locally, The Reverend Joseph Salerno contributes Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish as the Catholic parish of his beginnings; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Joseph Salerno holds a bachelor's degree from Maryknoll College, and a Master of Divinity degree from St. Michael's College in Toronto, Ontario, Canada; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, The Reverend Joseph Salerno has worked at various assignments in the Diocese of Syracuse during his more than 43 years as a Catholic Priest; locally, he has sat on the boards of Hope House and St. Joseph's Nursing Home, and is currently chaplain to both the Utica Police and Fire Departments; and

WHEREAS, For nearly half of his career, 21 years, The Reverend Joseph Salerno has led the congregation at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Utica; he has also served parishes in Endicott, Binghamton, and Lee Center; and

WHEREAS, In his capacity as priest, The Reverend Joseph Salerno served with loyalty, honor and distinction; and

WHEREAS, In his official acts, The Reverend Joseph Salerno was governed by a keen sense of duty and always showed a unique grasp of human problems; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his period of leadership in numerous churches, The Reverend Joseph Salerno is known by those he served as a gracious, kind, selfless, and intelligent leader and speaker; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor The Reverend Joseph Salerno upon the occasion of his retirement after 43 years of distinguished service; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Reverend Joseph Salerno.