

Senate Resolution No. 1836

BY: Senator PARKER

HONORING Saint Joseph Lodge No. 117 of Mount Vernon, New York, upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Widows Breakfast

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those fraternal organizations of high purpose and worthy accomplishment whose endeavors have faithfully served the welfare of the citizens 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 Saint Joseph Lodge No. 117 of Mount Vernon, New York upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Widows Breakfast on Sunday, March 3, 2024, at the Macedonia Community Center in Mount Vernon; and

WHEREAS, The Free and Accepted Masons are the oldest fraternal organization in the world, dating back some 3,000 years; Saint Joseph Lodge No. 117, Free and Accepted Masons, has been successful for 71 years because throughout its distinguished history, it has continuously been a great influence in the community by providing leadership, a principled way of life deeply-rooted in a system of values, social benevolence, emphasis on individual excellence, and its serving as a stabilizing force in the community; and

WHEREAS, Saint Joseph Lodge No. 117 was founded in 1953 in Mount Vernon, New York, in the basement of Deacon William Grant of Mt. Zion Church; the first Worshipful Master of the lodge was Herbert Grant (22), then Charles Webb (5), and finally Willie Gibson (4); Saint Joseph Lodge No. 117 was a member of the Alpha Grand Lodge of New York City; and

WHEREAS, The principle of freemasonry compel these dedicated lodge members to dispense charity while maintaining integrity and honesty in their communities; belief in God, family, and community are the core values of their institution; and

WHEREAS, The Widows Breakfast was established to pay honor and just tribute to the widows of the members of Saint Joseph Lodge No. 117, and has remained a staple of the lodge as an annual event not only of remembrance, but of respect to those who have passed on, and thanks to the beloved partners who supported them in their journey and good community works; and

WHEREAS, From time to time, this Legislative Body takes note of certain altruistic organizations it wishes to acknowledge for their philanthropic and community-oriented contributions to our society which enhance the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proudly moved to honor and commend the members of Saint Joseph Lodge No. 117, Free and Accepted Masons, past and present, along with their dedicated partners who have labored

so conscientiously to secure and improve the quality of life for the community it serves; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Saint Joseph Lodge No. 117 of Mount Vernon, New York, upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Widows Breakfast; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Saint Joseph Lodge No. 117.