

BY: Senator GRIFFO

COMMEMORATING the 200th Anniversary of the St.
Stephen's Episcopal Church in New Hartford, New York

WHEREAS, Religious institutions, and the many spiritual, social and educational benefits they confer, play a vital role in the development of the moral fabric of a responsible citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is the tradition of this State and this Nation to pay tribute to those institutions and individuals who have contributed to the ethical and spiritual values of their communities; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body takes pleasure in commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in New Hartford, New York, celebrated on Sunday, June 2, 2024; and

WHEREAS, The founder of New Hartford, Jedediah Sanger, purchased the land for and funded the initial construction of the St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in 1825; the institution serves as the second oldest church in the town; and

WHEREAS, Named after Saint Stephen, one of the first deacons of the church, the St. Stephen's Episcopal Church has adapted to an ever-changing society and prides itself in its ability to thrive; and

WHEREAS, Devoted to the community in which it serves, the St. Stephen's Episcopal Church participates in a myriad of outreach and community service efforts, such as weekly spaghetti dinners for socializing, "Ashes to-go" on Ash Wednesday, and donating to local charities and organizations that help disadvantaged people; and

WHEREAS, The St. Stephen's Episcopal Church stands on the threshold of tomorrow, prepared to meet the challenges of the coming decades while retaining that spiritual resolve which characterizes its past; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of enduring religious institutions and to bring such institutions to the attention of the people of this Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of the St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in New Hartford, New York, fully confident that this commemoration reflects the belief in those values which enhance the dignity and purpose of life; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Reverend Kathlyn Schofield The Reverend Deacon Lynne Walton, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in New Hartford, New York.