

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 82

BY SENATOR DUPLESSIS

A RESOLUTION

To commend and recognize Father Howard W. Byrd, SSJ, for fifty years of dedicated service and devotion to the ministry.

WHEREAS, fifty years ago, Father Howard Wesley Byrd, SSJ, arrived in New Orleans to begin his priestly service as Associate Pastor of Corpus Christi Parish; and

WHEREAS, ordained to the sacred priesthood on May 10, 1975, Father Byrd has devoted his entire ministry to serving the people of God with steadfast faith, compassion, and leadership; and

WHEREAS, Father Byrd has faithfully served numerous Josephite Parishes throughout the Archdiocese of New Orleans, ministering to generations of families and parishioners; and

WHEREAS, for five decades, Father Byrd has been an integral part of the St. Augustine High School community, educating, mentoring, and spiritually guiding thousands of young men, and earning his place as the spiritual patriarch of the school; and

WHEREAS, though not a graduate of St. Augustine High School, Father Byrd is the quintessential Purple Knight who embodies the spirit of all Purple Knights and is regarded by students and alumni alike as a living symbol of the school's faith, values, and excellence; and

WHEREAS, Father Byrd has celebrated countless baptisms, weddings, funerals, First Communions, and sacraments, sharing in the sacred moments of life with generations of students, families, and parishioners; and

WHEREAS, to the students and alumni of St. Augustine, Father Byrd is our Spiritual Father; to the Christian faithful of New Orleans, he is our Loving Brother; and to the world, he is a model of what it means to live a life wholly devoted to the call of God; and

WHEREAS, it is without question that it is appropriate that a special measure of commendation be extended to Father Howard W. Byrd who is a genuine servant of the St. Augustine family and the city of New Orleans and its people.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and recognize Father Howard W. Byrd, SSJ, for his fifty years of service to God's people of New Orleans and the entire St. Augustine family.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Father Howard W. Byrd.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE