

2021 -- S 0335

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF REVEREND FATHER FRANCIS GIUDICE, PASTOR EMERITUS OF SS. PETER AND PAUL CATHEDRAL, PROVIDENCE

Introduced By: Senators Algieri, and Bell

Date Introduced: February 25, 2021

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, Reverend Francis Giudice passed away on February 5, 2021. Son of the late  
2 Gennaro and Rose Giudice, Father Giudice graduated from Westerly High School where he was  
3 President of his class. He enlisted in the United States Army and was assigned to Korea where he  
4 served our nation for two years with honor and distinction; and

5 WHEREAS, Upon returning from military service, Father Giudice studied at Our Lady of  
6 Providence Seminary in Warwick, St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, and the American College  
7 in Belgium in preparation for the priesthood. On July 1, 1956, he was ordained into the  
8 priesthood in Louvain, Belgium, by Bishop McVinney; and

9 WHEREAS, After a summer assignment in Misquamicut, Father Giudice was assigned to  
10 serve as an Assistant Pastor at St. Jude Parish in Lincoln and as a part-time faculty member at  
11 LaSalle Academy in Providence. The following year, he became a part-time Chaplain at Our  
12 Lady of Fatima Hospital in North Providence. From 1959 to 1961, Father Giudice attended post-  
13 graduate studies in hospital administration at St. Louis University; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1961, Father Giudice became a Chaplain at St. Joseph Hospital and  
15 Assistant Secretary for Catholic Hospitals in the Diocese of Providence, and in 1962, he became  
16 the Assistant Pastor at Holy Angels Parish in Barrington, where he played a vital role in assisting  
17 the pastor and parish community in the construction of a new church building. Between 1967 and  
18 1982, he served as the Assistant Pastor at Assumption Parish in Providence, and, at the same  
19 time, was appointed Vicar for Community Affairs. He played a key role in helping to establish

1 community health centers in Providence. In 1982, Father Giudice became the rector of SS. Peter  
2 and Paul Cathedral in Providence, where he served until his retirement as Pastor Emeritus in July  
3 of 2004; and

4 WHEREAS, Throughout his entire distinguished career as a priest and servant of God,  
5 Father Giudice was a life-long advocate for the poor and those living on the margins of society  
6 across the globe. He championed poverty relief in Haiti after visiting the Island in 1981, and  
7 played an instrumental role in the creation of the Providence-Haiti Outreach project and the  
8 construction of a school and athletic complex that continues to serve and feed hundreds of young  
9 people; and

10 WHEREAS, In addition to his parish duties, Father Giudice also served as the Dean of  
11 Providence Deanery #1, and Deanery Vicar of Providence South Region #7. In the Diocese of  
12 Providence, he was a member of the Priests' Senate, the Human Relations Commission, and the  
13 Permanent Diaconate Board. He was the Diocesan Moderator for the St. Vincent de Paul Society,  
14 and a member of the United States Catholic Committee on social development and world peace.  
15 In 1992, he completed sabbatical studies at the Institute of Pastoral Studies at Loyola University  
16 in Chicago; and

17 WHEREAS, Father Giudice is survived by his brother, John Giudice, a large extended  
18 family of Giudice, Iacoi, and Aldrich nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews, and  
19 many others who loved him as their family Priest and admired his kindness, compassion, and  
20 gentle nature; now, therefore be it

21 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby expresses its deepest  
22 condolences on the passing of Reverend Father Francis Giudice, Pastor Emeritus of SS, Peter and  
23 Paul; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
25 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mr. John Giudice.

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