



# City of Chicago



R2016-201

Office of the City Clerk

## Document Tracking Sheet

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Meeting Date:</b>            | 3/16/2016                                   |
| <b>Sponsor(s):</b>              | Burke (14)                                  |
| <b>Type:</b>                    | Resolution                                  |
| <b>Title:</b>                   | Tribute to late Reverend Richard J. Dempsey |
| <b>Committee(s) Assignment:</b> |   |

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS,** The Reverend Richard J. Dempsey has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of 83; and

**WHEREAS,** The Chicago City Council has been informed of his passing by Alderman Edward M. Burke; and

**WHEREAS,** The Reverend Richard J. Dempsey was a widely admired member of the religious community; and

**WHEREAS,** The son of a Chicago police officer, the Reverend Richard J. Dempsey was raised in St. Cajetan's Parish in Beverly-Morgan Park; and

**WHEREAS,** The Reverend Richard J. Dempsey spent much of his youth playing basketball and other sports at Kennedy Park at 118<sup>th</sup> Street and Western Avenue; and

**WHEREAS,** The Reverend Richard J. Dempsey was called from an early age to join the priesthood and completed his studies at Mundelein Seminary; and

**WHEREAS,** The Reverend Richard J. Dempsey was assigned to Our Lady of Grace and St. Sebastian parishes; and

**WHEREAS,** The Reverend Richard J. Dempsey served as a Chaplain in the United States Navy from 1967 to 1990 and rose to the rank of Captain; and

**WHEREAS,** During his tenure as a military chaplain, the Reverend Richard J. Dempsey ministered to Marines during the Vietnam War and organized support groups for families whose spouses and parents were on tours of duty; and

**WHEREAS,** The Reverend Richard J. Dempsey was also posted to Okinawa, Japan, the Philippines, Great Lakes Naval Air Station outside Chicago and at the Recruit Depot in San Diego; and

**WHEREAS,** The Reverend Richard J. Dempsey inspired the fictional character Father Ace McNamara created by the best-selling author Reverend Andrew Greeley; and

**WHEREAS,** The Reverend Richard J. Dempsey was later assigned to Holy Family Parish in North Chicago, St. Victor Parish in Calumet City and Most Holy Redeemer Parish in Evergreen Park; and

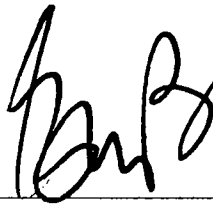
**WHEREAS,** The holiness, sacrifice and dedication of the Reverend Richard J. Dempsey serve as an example to all; and

**WHEREAS,** The Reverend Richard J. Dempsey will be dearly missed and fondly remembered by his many relatives, friends and admirers; and

**WHEREAS,** To his beloved family, the Reverend Richard J. Dempsey imparts a legacy of faithfulness, service and dignity; now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED,** That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this sixteenth day of March, 2016, do hereby commemorate the Reverend Richard J. Dempsey for his grace-filled life and do hereby express our condolences to his family; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of the Reverend Richard J. Dempsey.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. J. Dempsey', is written over a horizontal line.

**Alderman - 14<sup>th</sup> Ward**