

Casey decided to pursue a lifetime of service and entered Saint Francis Seminary in Milwaukee, WI. The next 8 years were a difficult journey toward priesthood for Father Casey as he struggled academically. The seminary officials believed that Father Casey did not have the proper skills to be a priest and suggested he join a religious order: Franciscans, Dominicans, or Jesuits. After praying before a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Father Casey heard the Blessed Mother tell him to "Go to Detroit," home to the Capuchins. In 1897, Father Casey was invested as Capuchin Novice Francis Solanus, named after Saint Francis Solanus of the 17th century. The name seemed fitting as both Father Casey and Saint Francis Solanus loved to play the violin.

After being ordained as a simplex priest in 1904, Father Casey began his ministry in the State of New York, serving three different parishes: Sacred Heart Parish, Our Lady of Sorrow Parish, and Our Lady of Angels Parish. While in New York, Father Casey held numerous positions within the church, including porter. He embraced the task of doorkeeper, welcoming and praying with all visitors and offering simple and candid comfort. Father Casey held weekly services for the sick and quickly became known for his compassion towards all who suffered. He embodied the ultimate spirit of public service by giving 100 percent of himself to the poor, the hungry, and the unloved.

In 1924, Father Casey was appointed to the Saint Bonaventure Monastery in the city of Detroit as a porter, providing soup for the hungry, kind words for the troubled, and a healing touch for the ill. For over 20 years, he brought comfort and hope to people of all religions, earning the recognition as "The Doorkeeper." During the Great Depression, Father Casey helped establish the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in the city of Detroit, which prepared large sandwiches and warm cups of coffee for the hungry and unemployed. Today the Capuchin Soup Kitchen is recognized as one of the most well-known food pantries in the region, serving over 60,000 meals and distributing roughly 250,000 pounds of food a month. During World War II, Father Casey also provided advice and prayers for many families throughout southeast Michigan whose sons and daughters were honorably serving our Nation. Although Father Casey was ordained as a simplex priest, people across the State of Michigan waited in lines in order to speak with him and receive his blessings. Father Casey never fully retired, but rather spent the last decade of his life serving the sick and troubled at Saint Felix Friary in Huntington, IN, until his death in 1957.

In 1995, Father Casey received the title of Venerable from the Roman Catholic Church in recognition of his virtuous life. Father Casey exemplified the theological virtues of the Roman Catholic Church: charity, faith, and

hope. On May 4, 2017, Pope Francis announced that Father Casey would be elevated to the status of Blessed, recognizing his widespread reputation of holiness and intercessory prayer. According to the Roman Catholic Church, a Panamanian woman on a pilgrimage was healed from a genetic skin condition almost instantly, with no scientific explanation, after visiting the tomb of Father Solanus Casey at Saint Bonaventure Monastery in the city of Detroit in 2012. In order to receive the title of Blessed, the Roman Catholic Church investigates reports of exceptional favors received, acclaimed as miraculous or unexplainable. The beatification of Father Casey is the greatest testament to his commitment to those in need and a significant step toward sainthood.

I cannot express enough the impact Father Solanus Casey had on communities across the State of Michigan. The road to sainthood is paved with love and service for Father Casey. He was a beloved Capuchin friar in the city of Detroit credited with miraculous cures and valued for his compassionate counsel. Throughout his life of tireless service, he encouraged countless individuals in the metropolitan Detroit region to address issues of poverty and hunger. I am confident his legacy will continue to inspire others to open the door and be a porter to anyone who knocks.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3109. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1114 North 2nd Street in Chillicothe, Illinois, as the "Sr. Chief Ryan Owens Post Office Building".

The message also announced that pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 2081, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the United States Capitol Preservation Committee: Mrs. COMSTOCK of Virginia.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 5 of the Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Commission Act (Public Law 115-77), the Minority Leader appoints the following Delegate of the House of Representatives to the Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Commission: Ms. NORTON of the District of Columbia; And from private life: Mr. Kenneth B. Morris, Jr. of Orange, California.

At 4:49 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3109. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1114 North 2nd Street in Chillicothe, Illinois, as the "Sr. Chief Ryan Owens Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 1. To provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 3210. A bill to require the Director of the National Background Investigations Bureau to submit a report on the backlog of personnel security clearance investigations, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-185).

By Mr. THUNE, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1425. A bill to reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-186).

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 2161. A bill to prevent gun trafficking; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 109

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Wyoming

(Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 109, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of pharmacist services.

S. 298

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 298, a bill to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form.

S. 322

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 322, a bill to protect victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence from emotional and psychological trauma caused by acts of violence or threats of violence against their pets.

S. 591

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 591, a bill to expand eligibility for the program of comprehensive assistance for family caregivers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to expand benefits available to participants under such program, to enhance special compensation for members of the uniformed services who require assistance in everyday life, and for other purposes.

S. 708

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 708, a bill to improve the ability of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to interdict fentanyl, other synthetic opioids, and other narcotics and psychoactive substances that are illegally imported into the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 777

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 777, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow deductions and credits relating to expenditures in connection with marijuana sales conducted in compliance with State law.

S. 1158

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1158, a bill to help prevent acts of genocide and other atrocity crimes, which threaten national and international security, by enhancing United States Government capacities to prevent, mitigate, and respond to such crises.

S. 1169

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1169, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide States with an option to provide med-

ical assistance to individuals between the ages of 22 and 64 for inpatient services to treat substance use disorders at certain facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1693

At the request of Mr. THUNE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1693, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to clarify that section 230 of that Act does not prohibit the enforcement against providers and users of interactive computer services of Federal and State criminal and civil law relating to sex trafficking.

S. 1827

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1827, a bill to extend funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1829

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1829, a bill to amend title V of the Social Security Act to extend the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program.

S. 1873

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1873, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a program to establish peer specialists in patient aligned care teams at medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1893

At the request of Mr. PERDUE, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1893, a bill to amend the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act to specify when bank holding companies may be subject to certain enhanced supervision, and for other purposes.

S. 1945

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1945, a bill to regulate large capacity ammunition feeding devices.

S. 1995

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1995, a bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to improve the number of small business investment companies in underlicensed States, and for other purposes.

S. 2038

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2038, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a presumption of herbicide exposure for certain veterans who served in Korea, and for other purposes.

S. 2088

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2088, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the issuance of the Gold Star Installation Access Card to the surviving spouse, dependent children, and other next of kin of a member of the Armed Forces who dies while serving on certain active or reserve duty, to ensure that a remarried surviving spouse with dependent children of the deceased member remains eligible for installation benefits to which the surviving spouse was previously eligible, and for other purposes.

S. 2089

At the request of Mr. CASEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2089, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide equal treatment of LGBT older individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 2125

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 2125, a bill to improve the State response to the opioid abuse crisis.

S. 2132

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2132, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that working families have access to affordable health insurance coverage.

S. 2136

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2136, a bill to expand the monthly payments that may be eligible for public service loan forgiveness.

S. 2141

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2141, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to reform procedures for determinations on disposition of charges and the convening of courts-martial for certain offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and for other purposes.

S. 2146

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2146, a bill to extend the full Federal medical assistance percentage to urban Indian organizations.

S. 2148

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2148, a bill to authorize dedicated domestic terrorism offices within the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to analyze and

monitor domestic terrorist activity and require the Federal Government to take steps to prevent domestic terrorism.

S. 2159

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2159, a bill to require covered harassment and covered discrimination awareness and prevention training for Members, officers, employees, interns, fellows, and detailees of Congress within 30 days of employment and annually thereafter, to require a biennial climate survey of Congress, to amend the enforcement process under the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights for covered harassment and covered discrimination complaints, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 291

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 291, a resolution affirming the historical connection of the Jewish people to the ancient and sacred city of Jerusalem and condemning efforts at the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to deny Judaism's millennia-old historical, religious, and cultural ties to Jerusalem.

S. RES. 310

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 310, a resolution recognizing the importance of a continued

commitment to ending pediatric AIDS worldwide.

S. RES. 342

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 342, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that States, cities, Tribal nations, businesses, and institutions of higher education in the United States should work towards achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent, notwithstanding rule XXII, that at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, November 28, there be 90 minutes of postclosure debate remaining on the Katsas nomination, equally divided between the leaders or their designees.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 1

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018.

Mr. McCONNELL. I now ask for a second reading and, in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TOMORROW

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:44 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, November 28, 2017, at 12 noon.

#### CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate November 27, 2017:

THE JUDICIARY

DABNEY LANGHORNE FRIEDRICH, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

#### WITHDRAWAL

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on November 27, 2017 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

ARMY NOMINATION OF MAJ. GEN. RYAN F. GONSALVES, TO BE LIEUTENANT GENERAL, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JULY 13, 2017.