

MONSIGNOR HARRY J. BYRNE, J.C.D. ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS
PRIESTLY ORDINATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

of new york

in the house of representatives

Thursday, January 4, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues the achievements of Msgr. Harry J. Byrne, pastor of Epiphany Parish, on this happy occasion--the 50th anniversary of his priestly ordination. Monsignor Byrne has played an extraordinary role in my community, both in civic and in spiritual matters.

The Monsignor entered St. Joseph's Seminary in 1940, was ordained on December 1, 1945, and later went on to complete a doctoral degree in Canon Law at the Catholic University of America, in our Nation's capital.

After holding varied positions with the Archdiocesan Chancery, Monsignor Byrne was appointed Chancellor in 1968. Through his work with the Archdiocese, he was part of an enormously successful project under which \$300 million low and moderate income housing units were constructed.

Later, as a public appointee of Mayor Edward I. Koch to the Rent Guidelines Board, he was actively involved in a host of issues concerning affordable housing and housing rights.

Many New Yorkers are indebted to Monsignor Byrne for his tireless efforts on behalf of tenants who undoubtedly gained because of his fair and just voice on the Rent Guidelines Board.

In 1982, Monsignor Byrne was appointed pastor of Epiphany Parish, where his dedication and devotion have earned him the praise of all who have had the good fortune to work with him. During his tenure at Epiphany Parish, Monsignor Byrne has been a creative and innovative leader. Among the important changes he has initiated are the early introduction of altar girls, the establishment of a restricted endowment fund, and the expansion of the Epiphany School. The Monsignor's efforts do not stop at the church doors. He volunteers in the community as well, serving as vice president of the local Ronald McDonald House.

Monsignor Byrne is a very special friend of mine who has given a great deal to his community through his work in religious realm as well as his involvement in housing issues and other volunteer activities.

So I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Monsignor Byrne on his extraordinary achievements and in wishing him well in his next 50 years of service to God and to his community.
