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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Kevin Gormley, Pastor, St. Peter Church, Marshall, Missouri, offered the following prayer:

God, Creator of all life, we bow our heads and ask Your guidance to carry out the awesome responsibilities we have before us. May we be at peace among ourselves and at peace individually with the decisions we have made. As we serve here in the hallowed House, keep us aware that we have our family house demanding our time and attention.

We celebrate the 60th year since the end of World War II. President Harry S Truman, from my great State of Missouri, had to make tough decisions at a difficult time in our country's history. He started his presidency by making the prayer of Solomon his own prayer:

"God, give me the wisdom I need to rule Your people with justice and to know the difference between good and evil. Otherwise, how can I lead this great people of Yours?"

Father, may we who are leaders and all the leaders in this great Nation turn to You for guidance and listen to Your response as we seek a lasting peace in our troubled world. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TERRY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1235. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the availability of \$400,000 in life insurance coverage to servicemembers and veterans, to make a stillborn child an insurable dependent for purposes of the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program, to make technical corrections to the Veterans Benefits Improvement Act of 2004, to make permanent a pilot program for direct housing loans for Native American veterans, and to require an annual plan on outreach activities of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

S. 1786. An act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to make emergency airport improvement project grants-in-aid under title 49, United States Code, for repairs and costs related to damage from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

INTRODUCING THE REVEREND FATHER KEVIN GORMLEY

(Mr. SKELTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today to introduce to my House colleagues our guest chaplain, Father Kevin Gormley, pastor of the St. Peter Catholic Church in Marshall, Missouri. Father Gormley was born in Ireland and studied for the priesthood at All Hallows College and Seminary in Dublin. Following his ordination in 1964, Father Gormley came to the United States. Since that time, he has spent 41 years serving in the parishes of Central Missouri where he is widely known, highly respected, and very much loved. Father Gormley became an American citizen in 1975. In July, 2000, he became the pastor of St. Peter

Catholic Church in Marshall, Missouri where he currently serves and resides.

Father Gormley also serves as pastor of Holy Family Church, Sweet Springs, Missouri, and as the administrator of St. Peter School. Father Gormley also serves the community as a member of the Ministry of Alliance and as the Catholic Chaplain for the Marshall Habitation Center.

I thank Chaplain Coughlin for his kind invitation to Father Gormley to offer the opening prayer, and would like to thank Father Gormley for traveling to our Nation's capital to be with us today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain five 1-minutes on each side.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, these past few weeks have tested our Nation's emergency response system, our compassion, and the Congress' ability to set spending priorities.

One thing is clear, Republicans are still the party of fiscal responsibility which has helped grow the economy and bolster jobs. In fact, over the past 2 years, our Nation has created millions of jobs, the unemployment level has dropped dramatically, and our economy has grown.

Like families, we make tough decisions. Over the past year, we terminated 98 programs which will save taxpayers over \$4.3 billion. But given our new challenges, I am pleased that the House will exercise oversight of disaster expenditures to ensure that the funds are being spent properly by implementing several checks and balances: Sending investigators to the gulf to monitor disaster expenditures,

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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