

You hear our prayer, we will heed Your wisdom, or at least try to.

In the midst of darkness, You are light; enlighten us. In the midst of discord, You are harmony; mend us.

When we swagger with self-righteousness, remind us that You are righteousness. When we hasten to justify ourselves, remind us You are our justification.

We thank You, God, for the blessings of vibrant, industrious newcomers from many nations that make our Nation stronger.

When, in our shadows, we despair; create hope in Your brightness. When, in our frailty, we doubt; give us faith in Your strength. When, out of fear and ignorance, we hate, make us wise and secure in Your love.

God, please, faith, hope, and love, without end.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Ms. SHERRILL) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. SHERRILL led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### WELCOMING MONSIGNOR KEVIN SULLIVAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to welcome Monsignor Kevin Sullivan as a guest chaplain here today.

Monsignor Sullivan is the Executive Director of Catholic Charities for the Archdiocese of New York.

Monsignor Sullivan also represents Catholic Charities agencies in public policy discussions about immigration, welfare reform, job development, and foster care. He joins us on a day when we welcome more than 500 Dominican Americans from around the country to celebrate Dominican heritage and discuss civic engagement and issues affecting the Dominican community across the country.

A native of the Bronx, the Monsignor served as a parish priest at St. Elizabeth's Church, my church, in Washington Heights, which is home to a historic and thriving Dominican American community.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Monsignor Sullivan for his service to our community and to all New Yorkers and I am proud to see him give the invocation in the House of Representatives today.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. UNDERWOOD). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

#### COMMEMORATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE POSITIVE COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge The Positive Community magazine on its 20th anniversary.

The Positive Community started as an idea of two broadcasting professionals, Adrian Council, Sr., and Jean Nash Wells. They were tired of all of the negative press about African Americans. They wanted to create a publication that focused on the good news coming from these communities.

They started with a newsletter and distributed it to churches and community centers. It became so popular that they turned it into a magazine. Today, The Positive Community magazine and its website highlights great events and people from our African American culture.

I applaud their efforts and encourage more people to read it. It is time to hear more positive stories from African Americans in their communities.

#### AMERICAN HEART MONTH

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, February is American Heart Month, a month where we especially recognize and promote positive heart health.

Currently, 302,000 people in South Carolina have coronary heart disease. I am thankful for the great work of the National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease and the American Heart Association for their steps to spread awareness about heart disease, the number one killer of men and women in America.

I am grateful that, in the Second Congressional District, we have many incredible events to recognize heart health, including the Heart Walk, held in Aiken and the Midlands. These walks raise critical funds to help save lives from heart disease.

As a volunteer with the Lexington County Heart Association, I know

firsthand of the dedicated personnel. I appreciate American Heart Association Executive Director Kirkland of the Midlands and Jackie Lipscomb of the American Heart Association-CSRA.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Congratulations, President Donald Trump, for your deserved exoneration.

#### NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE SURVIVORS WEEK

(Mr. TED LIEU of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Gun Violence Survivors Week.

Every day in America, 103 people are killed by gun violence, and many more survivors are left to deal with the life-long trauma. This is horrific and it demands action.

It is one of the reasons that last year the House Judiciary Committee, on which I sit, as well as the House of Representatives, passed for the first time in over a quarter century, significant gun legislation. We passed universal background checks.

It is now before the Republican-controlled Senate, and I ask them to simply do their jobs and put that bill up for a vote.

I am also grateful that last month, California's 33rd Congressional District's Youth Advisory Council, which consists of high school students in the area, got together to discuss ways to address the gun violence epidemic.

At their recommendation, I am proud to lend my support to bills like Ghost Guns Are Guns Act and Jaime's Law, both of which I believe will protect American lives.

#### IN MEMORY OF ROBERT AICHELE

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

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of a true community leader, Mr. Robert "Bob" Aichele, of Lancaster, who passed away at the age of 92 on Tuesday. Bob was a friend to everyone and would always greet you with a signature warm smile.

He spent his life in service to others, in service to the Nation as a seaman first class in the United States Navy, a veteran of World War II and the Korean War.

He also served his community, serving as the president of many boards and associations, and was a Manor Township supervisor for more than 25 years.

When he was not serving the community he loved, Bob was with his family. He is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Mary Anne, five children, 15 grandchildren, and one great grandchild.