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## House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m.

The Reverend Ronald L. Calkins, Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Mandeville, Louisiana, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, source of all wisdom, fill the Members of the House of Representatives with Your divine wisdom. They face many issues in serving the people of this Nation. May their decisions always be for the well-being of all our citizens.

Loving God, people of goodwill will have disagreements. May these not be a source of division but an opportunity to reflect more deeply on the issues that confront us.

May Your peace be in our hearts, our homes, our communities, our Nation, and our world. Protect those who serve to protect us, both here and abroad.

We pray to You, who are Lord and God, forever and ever. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

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

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

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. JINDAL 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 THE REVEREND RONALD L. CALKINS

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr.

JINDAL) is recognized for 1 minute as the sponsor of our Guest Chaplain today.

There was no objection.

Mr. JINDAL. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I'm delighted to have Father Ronald Calkins here today to offer our opening prayer.

Father Calkins, a constituent from my district, is the pastor of Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Mandeville, Louisiana. Appointed in July 1995, Father Calkins has led Mary Queen of Peace through a period of rapid growth and overseen the opening of Mary Queen of Peace Catholic School, which turned 10 years old this past August.

We are honored to have Father Calkins with us here today. He has shown remarkable leadership, especially as his parish and as our State has struggled through and is recovering from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. I thank him for his dedication, his service to his parish, and to the residents of southeast Louisiana.

We welcome Father Calkins as well as the students and their chaperones from Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church and School.

### RECESS

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, May 3, 2007, the House will stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair to receive the former Members of Congress.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 6 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

### RECEPTION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

The Speaker of the House presided.

The SPEAKER. On behalf of the House, I consider it a high honor and a distinct personal privilege to have the

opportunity to welcome so many of our former Members and colleagues as may be present here for this occasion. We all pause to welcome you. I am particularly pleased that we have the former Speaker of the House, Tom Foley, with us today.

As we all know, Speaker Foley is a principled leader and a true statesman who presided over the House in a spirit of bipartisanship. Welcome. We are honored by your presence, Mr. Speaker.

I want to acknowledge the leadership of Congressman Jim Slattery, the President, and Congressman Jay Rhodes, the Vice President, and your leadership of the Former Members Association. You have shown the service to our country. We know it didn't begin when you first set foot on the floor but want to acknowledge that it certainly did not end when you left the Congress. Thank you all for your many years of public service and great leadership in the Congress.

As I look around, I wish to acknowledge also the distinguished former minority leader of the House, Bob Michel. What an honor for us to have you here, Bob. It's wonderful to see you. As we all know, he is a dedicated public servant, as have you all been and are. All of your hard work, the legislation you created, the lives you impacted, your legacy is still reflected in the halls of this magnificent Capitol, and not only that, more importantly, in communities around the country. Many of you were friends and mentors to those of us who are here now and we acknowledge that. We learned so much from all of you.

I am pleased to also acknowledge that in welcoming you, I am joined by our distinguished majority leader, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER). He and I know, as do our colleagues, that the knowledge, experience and wisdom you shared in your time here has helped guide our work. I have said to the Members on many occasions,

□ 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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