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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. OBEY).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
December 6, 2007.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DAVID R. OBEY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord our God, down through the ages stories have grown in the retelling and legends have been handed down with little or no foundation in truth.

Many trace the icon status of Father Christmas coming from the Dutch Protestants in New Amsterdam in the American colonies as the story traveled back to England. All we truly know about St. Nicholas was his generosity and kindness toward children as a fourth century bishop in Myra, now a part of Turkey. By the ninth century his fame and devotion had spread throughout Europe. He remains

a patron saint in Greece and Russia to this day.

On this feast of St. Nicholas, we ask Your blessing upon all children. May their stories be treasured, their hopes and dreams preserved, and their innocence protected from all violence, poverty, and exploitation.

May this joyous season help all of us remember before all else, we are first Your children, Father of us all, now and forever.

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.

### NOTICE

If the 110th Congress, 1st Session, adjourns sine die on or before December 21, 2007, a final issue of the *Congressional Record* for the 110th Congress, 1st Session, will be published on Friday, December 28, 2007, in order to permit Members to revise and extend their remarks.

All material for insertion must be signed by the Member and delivered to the respective offices of the Official Reporters of Debates (Room HT-60 or S-123 of the Capitol), Monday through Friday, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. through Thursday, December 27. The final issue will be dated Friday, December 28, 2007, and will be delivered on Wednesday, January 2, 2008.

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By order of the Joint Committee on Printing.

ROBERT A. BRADY, *Chairman.*

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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