

SENATE—Thursday, June 15, 2000

The Senate met at 9:45 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Monsignor Lloyd Torgerson, St. Monica Parish Community, Santa Monica, CA.

We are pleased to have you with us.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Monsignor Lloyd Torgerson, offered the following prayer:

Loving and gracious God, we are filled with gratitude for the many blessings that You lavishly bestow upon us and upon our beloved Nation. We thank You for giving the men and women of this Senate the privilege and responsibility of serving this great Nation.

Inspired by the words of Oscar Romero, we pray that they may have the wisdom to understand their role of leadership, knowing that they can accomplish in their lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is the Lord's work. Help them believe that they are essentially about planting seeds that will one day grow and watering seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.

As we enter this millennium may these men and women lay foundations that will endure and be the yeast that will produce effects far beyond their own capabilities. Show them what they can do to make the world a better place for all humankind. May the realization that they cannot do everything, give them a sense of liberation which will empower them to choose priorities and act with integrity.

Bless them as they work to build a Nation of justice, peace, and right relationship; grant them insight; grant them steadfastness to respond to the challenges of this new century. May they always trust in a God of faithfulness who walks before them, behind them, and with them. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MIKE CRAPO, a Senator from the State of Idaho, 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRAPO). The acting majority leader is recognized.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, before I proceed, I yield a minute or two to the Senator from Massachusetts.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts is recognized.

MONSIGNOR LLOYD TORGERSON

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, this morning's session of the Senate was opened by Reverend Monsignor Lloyd Torgerson of Santa Monica, California. I welcome this opportunity to commend Monsignor Torgerson for his eloquent prayer and for the wisdom he has offered the Senate.

Monsignor Torgerson is a pastor at the Santa Monica Parish where he has served with great distinction for many years. He ministers to over 7,000 families, as well as an elementary school and a high school. He also serves at the Archdiocese level in Los Angeles, and is Dean of the 19 Westside parishes.

Over the years, Chaplain Ogilvie and Monsignor Torgerson have developed an excellent friendship through their work in the Los Angeles community. In fact, Monsignor Torgerson baptized all four of Chaplain Ogilvie's grandchildren.

The Senate is graced and honored by Monsignor Torgerson's presence this morning. I commend him for his inspirational prayer and for his service as our guest Chaplain. I ask unanimous consent that biographical information on Monsignor Torgerson's distinguished career be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

REV. MSGR. LLOYD TORGERSON, PASTOR, ST. MONICA PARISH COMMUNITY

Rev. Msgr. Lloyd Torgerson was born in East Los Angeles in 1939 and attended St. Alphonsus Elementary School and Los Angeles Community College High School. Msgr. Torgerson completed his training for the priesthood at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, California. He was ordained a Roman Catholic Priest in May, 1965 and his first assignment was at Holy Trinity Parish in San Pedro where he served for five years. Msgr. Torgerson was sent to complete his graduate degree in Religious Education at Fordham University in New York in 1970/71 and came back to serve the Los Angeles Archdiocese as Director of Youth Ministry. After eleven years, he was named the Director of Religious Education for the Archdiocese. Msgr. Torgerson has been in residence at St. Monica for twenty-one years and has served as pastor for the last thirteen years. St. Monica Parish has over 7,000 families, an elementary school, high school and a large outreach to the community of Santa Monica. His work as pastor and leader of St. Monica Parish includes parish administration, campaign and restoration of St. Monica

Catholic Church and schools, adult education and formation, bringing new adults into the church, young adult ministry, working with the elderly, teaching in the schools, liturgy, hospital visitation, bereavement, and many other outreaches in this parish community.

In Santa Monica, Msgr. Torgerson participates in Rotary, is a member of the Board of Directors of the Boys' and Girls' Club of Santa Monica, and the N.C.C.J. On the Archdiocesan level, he is Dean of the nineteen Westside parishes, on the Finance Council, the Tidings Board and the Cathedral Complex Restoration Committee. In March, 1999 through the present he is Episcopal Vicar of Our Lady of the Angels Pastoral Region.

SCHEDULE

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, today the Senate will resume debate on the Transportation appropriations legislation. Under the order, Senator VOINOVICH will be recognized to offer his amendment regarding passenger rail flexibility. A vote on the Voinovich amendment is expected to occur this morning at a time to be determined. Further amendments will be offered and voted on with the hope of final passage early in the day. As usual, Senators will be notified as votes are scheduled.

Following the disposition of the Transportation legislation, the Senate may resume consideration of the Department of Defense authorization bill or any appropriations bills available for action.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume H.R. 4475, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4475) making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senator from Ohio, Mr. VOINOVICH, is recognized to offer an amendment.

The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have 90 minutes, equally divided, and that there be no