

**SENATE—Thursday, March 22, 2001**

The Senate met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable LINCOLN CHAFEE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Very Rev. James L. Nadeau, S.T.L., Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Portland, ME.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Very Rev. James L. Nadeau, offered the following prayer:

Gracious Father, Almighty Sovereign of our beloved Nation, and Lord of our lives, You have revealed Your glory to all the nations. But You have called this Nation in particular to be a sign of freedom and opportunity, a sign of righteousness and justice for all. Help us to be faithful to our destiny.

Let us pray. Almighty Lord, God of us all, assist, with Your spirit of counsel and fortitude, the women and men of this Senate. As they begin this session, they turn to You, Lord of all righteousness and justice. May You fill their hearts as they seek to preserve peace, promote national harmony, and continue to bring us the blessings of liberty and equality for all.

We make this prayer to You, who are Lord and God, forever and ever. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable LINCOLN CHAFEE 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.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, March 22, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable LINCOLN CHAFEE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. CHAFEE thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I see on the Senate floor the distinguished Senator from Maine who wants to address the Senate. I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. I thank the Senator from Kentucky for allowing me to proceed.

FATHER JAMES NADEAU

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I am delighted that our opening prayer this morning was so eloquently delivered by my good friend, Father James L. Nadeau, the rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Portland, ME, and a native of my hometown of Caribou, ME.

Father Jim is an inspiring testament to the power of faith and education. My family takes special pride in Father Jim because of our close connections growing up in Northern Maine. Both our families attended the same church in Caribou, Holy Rosary, where my mother was the director of religious education. Father Jim and his brother have both become priests. So we take special pride.

Father Jim has a truly inspiring story. He was the first member of his family to graduate from college, and he credits this accomplishment to the academic preparation and support he received from the Upward Bound program at Bowdoin College.

I wish to quote from Father Jim's own words, which describe his family background:

Growing up in a rural Franco-American background, I was expected to follow my ancestors who for over 250 years were farmers and woodsmen. . . . I recall my parents not even wanting me to think about college. They could not afford it; plus, no one had gone to college in my family. In fact, my mother and father only studied to 8th grade. My mother, the oldest girl of 15 children, had to stay home and take care of her brothers and sisters. My father, when just a teenager, began working on the farms and at a french fry processing plant.

For young Jim Nadeau, everything changed in his life when he first met the director of the Bowdoin College Upward Bound program in 1977. She encouraged him to go to college, and, indeed, after graduating from Caribou High School as valedictorian, he enrolled at Dartmouth College in the fall of 1979. With Pell grants and other financial aid making his education possible, he excelled in his studies.

After graduating from college, Father Jim studied at Gregorian University in Rome for 5 years where he received two graduate degrees in theology. Father Jim also worked with Mother Teresa of Calcutta in her Roman missions and was ordained a Roman Catholic priest in 1988. Father says that he truly can credit the Upward Bound program with changing his life.

We are, indeed, fortunate that the power of God and education transformed the life of young Jim Nadeau. He is an inspiration to us all and continues his important work today as rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Portland, ME. There he has guided many financially disadvantaged students and encouraged them to go to college.

I am delighted to have him with us today. It is a great honor and privilege to have this outstanding priest join us and offer to us his inspiring opening prayer.

I thank the Chair, and I thank my colleague.

Mr. DODD. If my colleague will yield for a minute, I had the pleasure of briefly meeting Father Jim Nadeau this morning downstairs. I welcome him to the Senate. I thank him for his beautiful prayer this morning. It is good to have a New Englander opening the Senate with us this morning.

I thank our distinguished colleague from Maine for extending the invitation and sharing with us an inspiring story about Father Nadeau's family and his contributions to the State of Maine and this country. We thank him immensely for all the wonderful work he has done. I thank my colleague from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. I thank the Senator from Connecticut for his kind words.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I associate myself with the observations of the Senator from Connecticut and congratulate the Senator from Maine for bringing this outstanding citizen of her State here this morning to open the Senate with a prayer. I wish him well in his endeavors.

SCHEDULE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, today the Senate will immediately resume consideration of the Hatch disclosure amendment to the campaign finance reform legislation. There will be up to 30 minutes of debate, with the vote to occur shortly after 9:30 a.m. Additional amendments will be offered throughout this day. It is hoped that some time on each amendment can be

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.