

**TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE
NEW JERSEY
PROCLAMATION**

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS SCHOOL

WHEREAS, During the 2015-16 school year, Our Lady of Sorrows School celebrated their 125th Anniversary, and will host a celebration gala on June 24, 2016, at the Maplewood Country Club; and

WHEREAS, The cornerstone of the first church of Our Lady of Sorrows was laid Sunday, December 21, 1888 and dedicated on September 22, 1889; and

WHEREAS, The new school on Academy Street was dedicated on June 21, 1891, and by 1904, there were 250 children in the school and over 1,000 Our Lady of Sorrows Parishioners; and

WHEREAS, On April 30, 1915, Rev. William Grady came to Our Lady of Sorrows to begin a pastorate of 31 years, building a new school in 1921, a convent in 1926, the rectory in 1928 and the church in 1931; and

WHEREAS, The current church was dedicated May 3, 1931 by most Rev. Thomas J. Walsh, Bishop of Newark, and continues to remain a monument to the vitality of Catholic life and culture in South Orange; and

WHEREAS, In June of 1946 Rev. John Donnelly came to Our Lady of Sorrows and renovated the 25 year old school, converting the basement of the church into an auditorium; and

WHEREAS, In 1953, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Justin J. McCarthy became pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows, and was named Auxiliary Bishop of Newark shortly thereafter, at which time he directed the construction of the \$390,000 wing of the school, dedicating it on September 14, 1957; and

WHEREAS, The Sisters of Charity of Convent Station staffed Our Lady of Sorrows School from its inception, appointing Stella Bisogno the first principal in September of 1985; and

WHEREAS, On February 3, 1991, a special Centennial Liturgy was celebrated, bringing together many significant people who had been involved with the life and mission of the successful school; now

THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Village President of the Township of South Orange Village, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, and the entire Village of South Orange that sincerest congratulations are hereby extended to Our Lady of Sorrows School as it celebrates their 125th anniversary while continuing to thrive by providing academic excellence in a Catholic school atmosphere to the South Orange Village community.

Presented this 13th day of June, 2016

Sheena C. Collum
Sheena C. Collum, Village President

