

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 159

BY REPRESENTATIVES CONNICK, BILLIOT, BROSSETT, HENRY, LEGER,  
LORUSSO, ORTEGO, AND THIERRY

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of the Reverend  
Thomas J. "Dutch" Jenniskens, S.J., of New Orleans.

WHEREAS, the members of the House of Representatives of the Legislature of  
Louisiana were saddened to learn of the departure from this Earthly life of the Reverend  
Father Thomas J. "Dutch" Jenniskens on May 22, 2013, to his eternal resting place; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Jenniskens was born on July 9, 1926, in New Orleans and  
completed his formative education at Immaculate Conception School in Marrero and Jesuit  
High School in New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from high school, the Spirit of God spurred Thomas  
Jenniskens to begin an educational and spiritual quest which led him to enter the Jesuit  
novitiate in 1943 at St. Charles College in Grand Coteau, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, two years later, on July 31, 1945, Thomas Jenniskens pronounced first  
vows and, compelled by the call of God upon his life to continue his religious journey, did  
so by entering Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama, to study for the priesthood; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Jenniskens earned a bachelor of arts degree in Latin from  
Spring Hill College in 1950, a bachelor of arts degree in theology from St. Mary's College  
in St. Marys, Kansas, and a master of education in counseling from Loyola University in  
Chicago; and

WHEREAS, on June 13, 1956, the spiritual journey of Thomas J. "Dutch" Jenniskens  
reached a peak when he became Father Jenniskens upon his ordination as a priest; and

WHEREAS, Father Jenniskens used the spiritual and educational knowledge he had  
acquired by returning to his former high school, Jesuit High, where he taught from 1950 to

1953, 1958 to 1960, and 1972 to 1975; he was a faculty member of the minor seminary in Corpus Christi, Texas, from 1960 through 1972; he was appointed rector of St. Charles College in 1975; and he served at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory in Houston as a teacher, counselor, and school chaplain; and

WHEREAS, the spiritual journey of Father Jenniskens came full circle when, in 1994, he returned to Grand Coteau as a member of the Spirituality Center staff, using his God-given talents to direct retreats and in leading others in the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius; and

WHEREAS, Father Jenniskens found joy in the work of his hands by tending the grounds of St. Charles College and in his hobby of ceramics; and

WHEREAS, Father Jenniskens's last travel stop on Earth was at Ignatius Residence in New Orleans in 2004, where he gladly accepted the mission of praying for the church and the Society of Jesus until he was called to leave his Earthly home; and

WHEREAS, the spiritual journey of Father Thomas Jenniskens has reached its final destination according to Ephesians 2:6, for God has raised him up with Christ and has seated him in Heavenly places.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana do hereby express their sincere condolences upon the death of the Reverend Father Thomas J. "Dutch" Jenniskens, S.J., of New Orleans, do hereby extend their most heartfelt sympathies to his family and friends, and do hereby record for posterity that, as he journeyed through life, Father Jenniskens left the footprints of Jesus everywhere he trod.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of the Reverend Father Thomas J. Jenniskens.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES