

CR-5 Taylor amended

For Mrs. Jean Mary Taylor: Upon her retirement after thirty years of service to Christ, to the Diocese of Virginia, and to Calvary Episcopal Church, Front Royal, Virginia

Whereas, Jean Mary Taylor retired on September 15, 2020 as the Lay Assistant at Calvary Episcopal Church in Front Royal after 30 years of steadfast, faithful service to Christ our Lord and His church; and

Whereas the Episcopal Church upholds the ministry of all baptized persons and believes in the priesthood of all believers; and

Whereas, she has served three rectors and two interim rectors during her tenure; and

Whereas, her deep and unapologetic faith, her forthrightness, her corporate knowledge, her friendship and her sense of humor have been invaluable to the rectors she has served; and

Whereas; she has been integral to the past partnership with and the success of multiple mission trips to the Pine Ridge Episcopal Mission in South Dakota; and

Whereas, her ministry with youth, especially on mission trips, has made life-long, lasting impressions on their faith development into adulthood and their life in Christ; and

Whereas, over her tenure she has taken on a wide variety of ministries, programs, and projects where the rector and parish had need, requiring any number of gifts and skills; and

Whereas, she was a longtime and faithful member of the Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Commission of the Diocese of Virginia; and

Whereas, she continues to be the co-chairperson of Native American ministries in the Diocese of Virginia; and

Whereas, she is an active member of Coming to the Table (North Shenandoah Valley Chapter) and is utterly committed to the work of racial justice, reconciliation, and healing for Black, Indigenous, and other People of color; and

Whereas she has been faithful in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, in the prayers, and in stewardship to Christ's church; and

Whereas she has lived into her Baptismal Covenant to the fullest extent: seeking and serving Christ in all persons, loving her neighbor as herself, striving for justice and peace among all people, and respecting the dignity of every human being; and

Whereas she is the embodiment of the priesthood of all believers and of the value, importance and impact of the ministry and leadership of the laity; and

Whereas her humility, selflessness, and utter lack of desire for recognition or accolades will have her cringing at this resolution; let it be

Resolved, that the 226th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia recognize and honor Jean Mary Taylor's steadfast service to God, to the Diocese of Virginia, and to Calvary Episcopal Church, and to all her neighbors by adopting this resolution; and be it further

Resolved, that copies of this resolution be shared throughout the Diocese in order to inspire others to such ministry; and that prayers be offered in support of her continuing work with the Native American Ministries of the Diocese, her ongoing involvement and work toward racial justice, reconciliation and healing, and as a member of Calvary Episcopal Church.

Submitted by:

The Reverend Valerie J. Hayes, Rector, Calvary Episcopal Church

The Reverend Jane Piver, Interim Rector

The Reverend Deborah Rutter, former Rector, Calvary Episcopal Church

On behalf of the vestry and parishioners of Calvary Episcopal Church, especially Ms. Anne Cobb on behalf of the many youth so deeply impacted by mission trips to Pine Ridge and Jean Mary's ministry, Ms. Nellie Adkins, Co-Chairperson, Native American Ministries and Dr. Judith James, and Mr. Ira Chaleff, Co-Facilitators, Coming to the Table