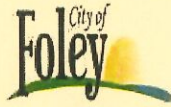


*From the Governing Body of the*  
CITY OF FOLEY, ALABAMA



## Proclamation

- Whereas,** Monsignor Hay was born March 12, 1924 in Miami, Florida. After graduating from Gesu High School, a Catholic school run by the Jesuits, he felt the call to be a priest. His journey began by attending St. Charles College, Grand Coteau, Louisiana and Spring Hill College, Mobile, Alabama. He was then accepted into Seminary at St. Mary's University in Baltimore, Maryland and was ordained a Catholic Priest by the late Archbishop Thomas J. Toolen in Mobile, Alabama in 1955, and;
- Whereas,** Monsignor Hay's 69 years as a Priest and a Teacher in the Archdiocese of Mobile, Alabama have provided a number of assignments and location changes. After his first assignment as the Assistant Pastor at St. Paul's Church, Birmingham, he then became the Assistant Pastor to St. Margaret's Church, Bayou la Batre where he also took on the role of Teacher of religion, history and algebra in St. Margaret's High School, and;
- Whereas,** In addition to teaching theology, he was very involved with the marching band and with the theater group, and;
- Whereas,** He was appointed Chaplain for the Catholic patients of Searcy Hospital, a state psychiatric facility. Shortly after coming to Searcy Hospital he was appointed by Federal Judge Thomas a Member of the Human Rights Committee where he served until the Committee's dissolution. He became a certified Mental Health Chaplain while serving at Searcy Hospital by completing an internship at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, D.C., and;
- Whereas,** Pursuing further studies he was certified by the U.S. Catholic Conference' Board of Chaplains which oversees all priests serving as chaplains in the VA and the military. After three years he was named Chief of Chaplains and served for seven years in that capacity, and;
- Whereas,** the Mobile Archdiocese moved to request Monsignor Hay's return to Alabama to satisfy the need of Searcy Psychiatric Hospital in Alabama for a certified Mental Health Catholic Chaplain. He also resumed the position of Pastor of St. Cecilia Church and became Pastor Emeritus upon his retirement in 1992. Although retired from parish life Monsignor Hay retained the position of Catholic Chaplain at Searcy Hospital at the Poundstone Admissions Unit in Daphne, Alabama. In October 2002, though still in retirement status, he was appointed Administrator of St., Margaret of Scotland Parish in Foley, Alabama. He remained in that capacity until November, 2003.
- Whereas,** while called to be a Priest, Monsignor Hay's first love was music. He is an accomplished pianist, having studied with the famed St. Mary Louis Mularkey at the Miami Conservatory of Music. He loves cooking and traveling and reading, and;
- Whereas,** currently, Monsignor Hay is fully retired and lives in Live Oak in Foley, Alabama.

**Now, therefore,** I, Ralph Hellmich, Mayor of the City of Foley, Alabama, and on behalf of the City of Foley City Council, do hereby extend best wishes to Monsignor Hay on the occasion of his 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday, with sincere congratulations for many more happy and productive years to come.

*Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday*  
*Monsignor Hay*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Foley, Alabama, this 4th day of March, 2024.*

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_