



PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

WHEREAS: On February 3, 1943, the troop ship USAT Dorchester sank after being struck by a torpedo during World War II; and

WHEREAS: While it sank, four chaplains, Lt. George L. Fox, Lt. Alexander D. Goode, Lt. Johnny P. Washington, and Lt. Clark V. Poling, all gave up their life jackets to other soldiers aboard the ship, saving those soldiers' lives while sacrificing their own; and

WHEREAS: The four chaplains represented an interfaith coalition of Roman Catholicism, Judaism, and Protestant Christianity; and

WHEREAS: Following World War II, the American Legion began recognizing the anniversary of the tragedy, and honoring the heroic actions of the four chaplains who gave their lives in service of their country and their fellow soldiers; and

WHEREAS: Every year, Four Chaplains Sunday serves as an opportunity for individuals of all races and faiths to join together to honor the chaplains' sacrifices that day; and

WHEREAS: American Legion Post 9 hosts the annual celebration of service and faith in Jacksonville; and

WHEREAS: The City of Jacksonville joins in celebrating the service and sacrifice of these chaplains, and all service members who have given their lives to protect the United States of America.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim February 5, 2023 as

FOUR CHAPLAINS SUNDAY

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to commemorate the tragedy and sacrifice of the four chaplains who sacrificed their lives during the sinking of the USAT Dorchester during World War II.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 5th Day of Jan. in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lenny Curry".

MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA