

THE DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE

June 19, 2020
The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Dear Father Idagbo:

May the Peace of Jesus Christ be with you!

Our parishes are vital centers of Christian faith and service in our Catholic communities. It is a special pleasure for me, as your Bishop, to call priests to serve as pastors. Such appointments necessarily bring priests into closer collaboration with the Bishop of the Diocese. Therefore, I am happy to appoint you as Pastor of Holy Family Parish in Cahokia and Sacred Heart Parish in Dupo. I am very grateful to you for your many years of service as Pastor of SS. Peter and Paul Parish in Waterloo which prepared you well for this new responsibility.

You are now authorized to act in the name of these parishes in all matters according to canon 532 of The Code of Canon Law. I am confident that your faithful service to the People of God will be spiritually beneficial for you and your new communities of faith. I am deeply grateful to you for your distinguished ministry at SS. Peter and Paul Parish.

As you well know, the Pastor of a parish today faces many challenging responsibilities in the effort to bring his people closer to Jesus Christ. He preaches the Gospel, explains the Scriptures, and celebrates the Sacraments. He provides for the religious education and formation of children and adults. He enters intimately into the lives of the faithful in times of joy and sorrow, from birth to death. He has a special concern for the poor, the sick and the victims of injustice, and he must be solicitous of those who have been alienated from the Church.

I am enclosing copies of the Profession of Faith and the Oath of Fidelity. These should be proclaimed aloud and signed during the Mass of Installation, which should be set on a date within the next eight weeks that is convenient for you and the Vicar Forane, The Reverend Monsignor John T. Myler. Please send these witnessed and signed documents to the Chancellor, Deacon Douglas L. Boyer, immediately after the Installation. Two Rites of Installation are enclosed. You may use the one you prefer.

If the Body of Christ is to grow in harmony, a special bond of trust and cooperation must exist between Pastor and Bishop. I know from your past service as Pastor that you appreciate that bond. Be assured that I will pray for you often, especially at the Eucharist.

Office of the Bishop

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May the Lord who begins this new work in you, dear Father Idagbo, bring it to completion.
Oremus pro invicem.

Fraternally and appreciatively yours in Christ,




The Most Reverend Edward K. Braxton, Ph.D., S.T.D.
Apostolic Administrator
Diocese of Belleville

Copies: The Reverend Monsignor John W. McEvelly, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia
The Reverend Monsignor John T. Myler, Vicar Forane
The Reverend Linus Umoren, Pastor, Holy Family Parish and Sacred Heart Parish
The Reverend Urban Osuji, CM, Mission Superior of The Vincentians
The Reverend Cyril Mbata, Provincial Superior of the Vincentian Congregation

The Reverend Osang F. Idagbo, C.M.

Pastor
SS. Peter and Paul Parish
204 West Mill Street
Waterloo, Illinois 62298

P.S. This letter is to be read the weekend of June 20-21, 2020 at all the Masses at SS. Peter and Paul Parish in Waterloo as well as Holy Family Parish in Cahokia and Sacred Heart Parish in Dupou. It should also be included in the parish bulletins and placed on the websites of the parishes.



Deacon Douglas L. Boyer, MSCM
Chancellor

