

THE DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE

July 16, 2020
Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Dear Father Umoren,

May the Peace of Christ be with you!

As you know, the Diocese is mourning the untimely death of the Reverend Monsignor Kenneth J. Schaefer. This sad event requires me to make pastoral provisions for Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Herrin and Holy Spirit Parish in Carterville. A part of this process requires me to transfer The Reverend Von C. Deeke, Pastor of St. Augustine of Canterbury Parish in Hecker. As you know, the **PASTORAL PLAN FOR PARISH RENEWAL AND RESTRUCTURING** has established a **PARISH PARTNERSHIP** between Saints Peter and Paul Parish and St. Augustine of Canterbury Parish with the understanding that, when the need arises, these two parishes would be served by one Pastor. Therefore, I hereby appoint you as Administrator of St. Augustine of Canterbury Parish in Hecker. This appointment is in addition to your appointment as Pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Parish in Waterloo. **The effective date of this appointment will be Wednesday, August 19, 2020.** (Please review canons 515-544 of The Code of Canon Law). With this letter, I authorize you to act in the name of both parishes in all matters according to Canon 532.

Since this appointment is as Administrator, neither a formal installation nor the Profession of Faith and Oath of Fidelity are required. However, when you are appointed Pastor, they will be required. At that time, the appropriate documents should be signed and returned to the Bishop's office.

I am deeply grateful to you for accepting this additional appointment so soon after your appointment to Saints Peter and Paul Parish. I know that the Christian Faithful at St. Augustine of Canterbury Parish in Hecker will welcome you and Father Evaristus Akabueze and help the two of you to get acquainted with the life of the parish. I am sure they are aware that, due to the critical situation in the Diocese, we would not have had a replacement for Father Deeke, were it not for the generosity of our *fidei donum* missionary priests from abroad. I urge the parishioners to keep in mind that because you will now be serving two parishes you may not always be able to be as available to the parishioners of St. Augustine Parish as Father Deeke was. It is important for the Christian Faithful of both parishes to pray and work each day for Vocations to the Priesthood, so urgently needed in our Diocese.

Office of the Bishop

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May the Lord who begins this good work in you, dear Father Umoren, bring it to fulfillment.
Oremus pro invicem.

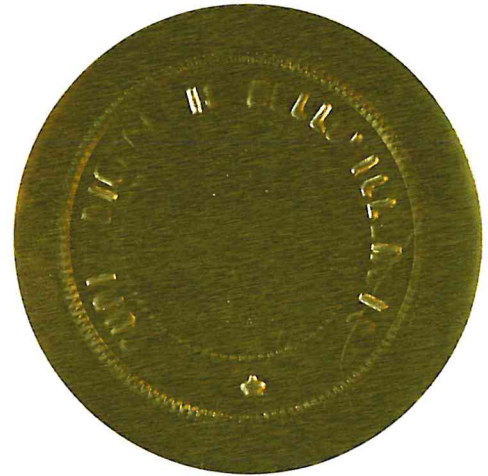
Fraternally and appreciatively yours in Christ,



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, V.F., Chair, Priests' Personnel Board
The Reverend Von C. Deeke, Pastor, St. Augustine of Canterbury Parish
The Reverend Evaristus Akabueze, C.M., Associate Pastor, SS. Peter & Paul Parish
The Very Reverend Father Cyril Mbata, CM, Provincial Superior
The Reverend Urban Osuji, C.M.
The Reverend Osang F. Idagbo, C.M.

The Reverend Linus Umoren, C.M.
Pastor
SS. Peter & Paul Parish
204 West Mill Street
Waterloo, IL 62298



P.S. This letter is to be read the weekend of July 18-19, 2020 at all the Masses at St. Augustine of Canterbury Parish in Hecker and SS. Peter & Paul Parish in Waterloo. Please publish this letter on your parish websites and make copies of it to be inserted in your parish bulletins.