FRANCIS
BISHOP
SERVANT OF THE SERVANTS OF GOD

To Our Venerable Brother Edgar M. da Cunha, a member of The Society of Divine Vocations, until now Titular Bishop of Ucres and also Auxiliary of the Metropolitan See of Newark, transferred to the Diocese of Fall River, greetings and Apostolic Blessing.

We, Who have followed in the place of Blessed Peter and have likewise undertaken the truly important responsibility of looking after the Lord’s entire Flock, are at this time solicitous to provide carefully for the Cathedral Church of Fall River, which is currently vacant owing to the resignation of His Excellency the Most Reverend George William Coleman. Accordingly, you, Venerable Brother, endowed as you are with proven qualities and pastoral experience, in Our judgment are suitable for governing it.

Therefore, upon consultation with the Congregation for Bishops, by the supreme Apostolic authority, we release you from the bond of the Titular See of Ucres and the aforementioned Office of Auxiliary, and We appoint you Bishop of Fall River, together with all the rights and obligations connected with this Office. Indeed, We mandate that the clergy and the people of your See be informed about this Letter; and We exhort them to give you a warm welcome and to remain in communion with you.
Finally, Venerable Brother, sustained by the choicest gifts of the Paraclete Spirit, may you nourish the faithful being entrusted to you by words but also, and especially, by the more persuasive power of example, mindful of the well-known saying: “words instruct, illustrations lead.”

In addition, may the peace and light of Christ, together with the protection of the Blessed Virgin Immaculate, be always with you and with that ecclesial community, that We hold so dear.

Given at Rome, at St. Peter’s, on the third day of the month of July, in the year of the Lord two thousand fourteen, the second of our Pontificate.

FRANCIS

Marcello Rossetti,
Protonary Apostolic

I hereby certify this to be a true and accurate translation of the Apostolic Letter.

Paul Kawa
Finance Officer and Chancellor
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that

I, Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., do hereby state that I am a citizen of the United States and that I now lawfully and regularly hold the office of Roman Catholic Bishop of Fall River and that I have accepted said office and have entered upon the duties thereof.

Attached to this statement is a copy and certified translation of the Apostolic Letter appointing me Roman Catholic Bishop of Fall River.

This statement is prepared and presented in accordance with Chapter 390, Section 4 of the Acts of 1904.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I do hereunto set my hand to this statement made by me on the 2nd day of October, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Fourteen.

Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

On this ___ day of October, 2014, before me, the undersigned notary public, personally appeared the above-named, Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., proved to me through satisfactory evidence of identification, which was (_) photographic identification with signature issued by a federal or state government agency, (_) oath or affirmation of a credible witness, or (_) personal knowledge of the undersigned, to be the person whose name is signed on the preceding or attached document, and who swore or affirmed to me that the contents of the document are truthful and accurate to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Notary Public
My Commission Expires:
Roman Catholic Bishop of Fall River

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF
THE COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS

Boston, October 10, 2014

This statement was filed in this office for Edgar M. da Cunha, named therein as successor to George W. Coleman as Roman Catholic Bishop of Fall River; also submitted to me at this time was a certified copy of the letter of appointment of Edgar M. da Cunha.

The above were filed in accordance with Section 4, Chapter 390 of the Acts of 1904, entitled "An Act to Incorporate the Roman Catholic Bishop of Fall River and his Successors as a Corporation Sole, to Hold and Manage certain property for Religious and Charitable Purposes".

Statement of Edgar M. da Cunha, relative to his Appointment as Roman Catholic Bishop of Fall River, and his Acceptance thereof.

Pursuant to the Acts of 1904, Chapter 390, Section 4
Filed: October 10, 2014

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
Secretary of the Commonwealth