



SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE  
**BOLLETTINO**

HOLY SEE PRESS OFFICE BUREAU DE PRESSE DU SAINT-SIÈGE PRESSEAMT DES HEILIGEN STUHLS  
OFICINA DE PRENSA DE LA SANTA SEDE SALA DE IMPRENSA DA SANTA SÉ  
BIURO PRASOWE STOLICY APOSTOLSKIEJ دار الصحافة التابعة للكرسي الرسولي

N. 230212a

Sunday 12.02.2023

## Resignations and Appointments

### Erection of the diocese of Aguleri, Nigeria, and appointment of first bishop

The Holy Father has erected the new diocese of Aguleri, Nigeria, dismembering the archdiocese of Onitsha and making it a suffragan of the same metropolitan see.

The Holy Father has appointed Bishop Denis Chidi Isizoh, until now titular bishop of Legia and auxiliary of the archdiocese of Onitsha, as the first bishop of Aguleri.

### Statistical data

The newly-erected diocese of Aguleria [Latin: *Aguleriensis*] is situated in south-east Nigeria, in the State of Anambra, including four Local Government Areas: *Anambra West*, *Anambra East*, *Oyi* and *Ayamelum*. The new ecclesiastical circumscription was dismembered from the archdiocese of Onitsha and made a suffragan of the same metropolitan see. The cathedral church of the new diocese will be the existing *Saint Joseph Catholic Church* in Aguleri.

	Onitsha <i>before</i> division	New diocese of Aguleri	Onitsha <i>after</i> division
Area	2,778 km <sup>2</sup>	1,388 km <sup>2</sup>	1,390 km <sup>2</sup>
Inhabitants	4,060,880	1,857,060	2,203,820
Catholics	2,215,025	357,965	1,857,060
Parishes	189	63	126
Secular priests	528	113	415

Religious priests	20	7	13
Men religious	84	6	78
Women religious	702	310	392
Catechists	342	151	191
Major seminarians	191	59	132
Minor seminarians	366	59	307
Major seminaries	1	-	1
Minor seminaries	1	-	1
Primary schools	178	119	59
Secondary schools	81	43	38
Charitable institutions	13	5	8
<i>"Local Government Areas"</i>	10	4	6