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Ethiopian Catholic Church Apostolic Vicariate of Hosanna**

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ቀን April 30/2010
Date:
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Ref:

Dear Patti,

After a long silence, I begin to speak. This is to thank you for your two nice letters. The first one of 3rd March sent to me after hearing my new appointment. Thank you so much for your good wishes, assurance of prayers and asking all our members to pray too. I need very much the support of prayer. The period between the appointment and the Episcopal ordination was the busiest one, away from my address of the Seminary.

Your second letter that brought me your gift in honor of my Episcopal ordination was received last week when I went to St. Mary's Major Seminary to celebrate Holy Mass for the community as bishop. Again, I thank you sincerely for the gift of the relic Crucifix which contains so many precious first class relics along with the relic of the True Cross, for your good wishes and prayers as well as for your encouragement.

My Episcopal ordination ceremony was held on the veranda of a new house in the open under the tent. There is no Church but a large green land. I called it a natural cathedral. The new Apostolic Vicariate of Hosanna is erected, detached from the Vicariate of Soddo-Hosanna. Everything is concentrated in the town of Soddo which is 100 km. away from the town of Hosanna. In Hosanna, everything is to be started from scratch. The new Vicariate, of which I am the first bishop, has 146,060 Catholics and 222,262 catechumens. My address is changed from the Major Seminary. You have it at the top of this letter. This is just to break my silence. I hope to send you further news later on.



I assure you of my daily prayer. May God bless you and all our members and our Mother Mary and Saint Philomena protect you! Let my blessing also reach you.

Yours in Christ,

+ Woldeghiorghis Matheos
Apostolic Vicar of Hosanna

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