



DIOCESE OF BUEA

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April 12, 2026

**All Monsignors,
All Priests,
All Members of the Institutes of Consecrated Life,
All Societies of Apostolic Life,
All Lay Faithful,
Diocese of Buea.**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

**Subject: CIRCULAR ON THE DEATH AND BURIAL OF REV. FR. CRESCENT
OGECHUKWU UGWU**

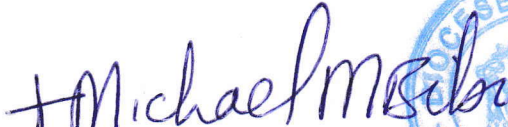
May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, in communion with the Holy Spirit give you grace and peace. I write to you with respect to the death of Rev. Fr. Crescent Ogechukwu UGWU, who died on March 8, 2026 after a protracted illness. Fr. Crescent was a member of one of the suppressed Associations from Nigeria, precisely the Missionary Sons of St. Mulumba. After their Association was suppressed in 2022, he returned to Nigeria and took ill soon after. While the other clerics of the Association got letters of Excardination from the Diocese of Buea, he remained hospitalized in Nigeria until his death in March 2026.

Although he was not in Buea, he remained canonically a Priest of the Diocese of Buea and the Diocese took care of his treatment until his death. When news of his death reached me, I wrote to the Bishop of Nsukka, Nigeria, and appealed for his pastoral assistance in the burial of Fr. Crescent. The Diocese of Buea had made provision both for the payment of his outstanding hospital bills and the cost of the funeral.

The Bishop of Nsukka, His Lordship Godfrey Igwebuike Onah, in accepting to perform the funeral rites for Fr. Crescent also offered to cover the cost of the funeral, asking the Diocese of Buea only to complete the outstanding hospital bills. I have expressed my heartfelt gratitude to Bishop Godfrey Onah for his pastoral solicitude towards the late Fr. Crescent Ogechukwu, and by extension, towards the Diocese of Buea.

The funeral Mass has been fixed for Tuesday April 21, 2026. I would like us in Buea to participate in this funeral by celebrating Masses in all our Parishes and Institutions for the Peaceful repose of Rev. Fr. Crescent Ogechukwu UGWU. Fr. Crescent was ordained on April 20, 2017 and served for a short time in St. Therese of the Child Jesus Parish, Mekongi. Let us pray for his peaceful repose and for consolation on his biological family that assisted him throughout his period of ill health.

Yours in His service


+Michael Miabesue Bibi
Bishop of Buea

