BENEDICTUS EPISCOPUS Servus Servorum Dei

Venerabili Fratri Georgio Josepho Lucas, hactenus Episcopo Campifontis in Illinois, ad archidioecesim Omahensem translato, salutem et Apostolicam Benedictionem. Cupientibus Nobis, beati Petri Successori et universali Patri, apte providere metropolitanae Ecclesiae Omahensi, vacanti per renuntiationem Excellentissimi Domini Elden Francisci Curtiss, tu, Venerabilis Frater, comprobatis mentis et cordis dotibus ornatus rerumque pastoralium abunde peritus, dignus videris qui eidem praeficiaris. De consilio igitur Congregationis pro Episcopis, summa Apostolica potestate te, prioris dioecesis Campifontis in Illinois vinculo solutum, Archiepiscopum Metropolitam Omahensem nominamus, cunctis tributis iuribus impositisque pariter obligationibus. Mandamus quidem ut hae Litterae in notitiam veniant cleri populique tui; quos hortamur ut te laeti prosequantur tecumque iugiter coniuncti maneant. Tibi denique, Venerabilis Frater, intercedente Virgine Maria, uberrima Paracliti Spiritus precamur dona, quibus suffultus hoc novum Pastoris officium impleas verbis ac, maxime, suadenti eloquio vitae exempli, memor noti dicti: verba movent, exempla trahunt. Pax quoque et lux Christi sint semper tecum et cum ecclesiali communitate Omahensi Nobis carissima. Datum Romae, apud S. Petrum, die tertio mensis Iunii, anno Domini bis millesimo nono, Pontificatus Nostri quinto.

Benedictus PP. XVI

Brian Chester, protonot. apost.

BENEDICT
BISHOP
SERVANT OF THE SERVANTS OF GOD

TO OUR VENERABLE BROTHER **GEORGE JOSEPH LUCAS**, UNTIL NOW BISHOP OF SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS, TRANSFERRED TO THE ARCHDIOCESE OF OMAHA, GREETINGS AND APOSTOLIC BLESSING.

AS SUCCESSOR OF BLESSED PETER AND FATHER OF THE LORD'S ENTIRE FAMILY, WE EARNESTLY DESIRE TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATELY FOR THE METROPOLITAN CHURCH OF OMAHA, WHICH IS VACANT OWING TO THE REIGNATION OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE MOST REVEREND ELDEN FRANCIS CURTISS. ACCORDINGLY, YOU, VENERABLE BROTHER, ENDOWED AS YOU ARE WITH PROVEN QUALITIES OF MIND AND HEART AND MUCH PASTORAL EXPERIENCE, SEEM SUITABLE TO BE ASSIGNED TO IT.

THEREFORE, ACCEPTING THE OPNINION OF THE CONGREGATION FOR BISHOPS, BY THE SUPREME APOSTOLIC AUTHORITY, WE RELEASE YOU FROM THE PRIOR BOND OF THE DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS, AND WE APPOINT YOU METROPOLITAN ARCHBISHOP OF **OMAHA**, WITH ALL RIGHTS BEING GRANTED AND, LIKEWISE, OBLIGATIONS IMPOSED. INDEED, WE MANDATE THAT THIS LETTER BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF YOUR CLERGY AND YOUR PEOPLE; AND WE EXHORT THEM TO ABIDE BY YOU READILY AND TO REMAIN IN COMMUNION WITH YOU ALWAYS.

FINALLY, VENERABLE BROTHER, WITH THE VIRGIN MARY INTERCEDING, WE BESEECH FOR YOU THE CHOICEST GIFTS OF THE PARACLETE SPIRIT: AIDED BY THEM, YOU WILL FULFILL THIS NEW OFFICE OF SHEPHERD BY WORDS AND, ESPECIALLY, BY THE PERSUASIVE ELOQUENCE OF LIFE EXAMPLE, MINDFUL OF THE WELL-KNOWN DICTUM, "WORDS IMPRESS, BUT EXAMPLES PERSUADE."

IN ADDITION, MAY THE PEACE AND LIGHT OF CHRIST BE EVER WITH YOU AND WITH THE ECCLESIAL COMMUNITY OF OMAHA, WHICH IS SO VERY DEAR TO US.

GIVEN AT ROME, AT ST. PETER'S, ON THE THIRD DAY OF THE MONTH OF JUNE, IN THE YEAR OF THE LORD TWO THOUSAND NINE, THE FIFTH OF OUR PONTIFICATE.

POPE BENEDICT XVI

Bryan Chestle,
Protonotary Apostolic