



Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice
(Cross of Honor Award) given by
His holiness Pope Francis
To
Dr. Amine Kidane



Dear Dr. Amine Kidane,

The Catholic Eparchy of Keren, from its inception to the present, has been helped by many people of good will. But you gave a full time service for the entire time of its existence and continue to do so to the present. You dedicate your time, talent and treasure to guarantee that the Catholic Eparchy of Keren can stand firm and propagate the Good News, not because the Eparchy asked you to do so, but you volunteered yourself to do so with great zeal and dedication.

Your great dedication and work deserves recognition, not because you asked for it, but because the church wanted to give you this award as a sign of gratitude. Hence, the Catholic Eparchy of Keren recognizing your accomplishments approached the Holy See requesting that highest award the Pope can award be awarded to you.

The Holy see consented and granted, the **Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice**, also known as the "**Cross of Honor**". The award established by Pope Leo XIII on July 17, 1888, currently given only in gold, is the highest medal that can be awarded by the Pope for distinguished service to the church by lay people and clergy.

Therefore, on this day 9th of August 2015, at the occasion I celebrated Mass in Columbus, Ohio USA, with



the Eritrean Geez rite Community, with great honor and gratitude I hand over this high level award of the Holy See given to you by the Holy Father, Pope Francis, for your extraordinary dedication and service to the church.



God Bless you abundantly.

With gratitude,

+Abba Kidane Yebio
Bishop of Keren