



*Official Statement of the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee regarding **Rev. Yozefu B. Ssemakula***

August 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Regarding Rev. Yozefu Ssemakula, who is a priest in good standing in the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee, we have no reservations about his ability to serve as a priest. However, his book, *The Healing of Families*, does not enjoy an *Imprimatur* or *Nihil Obstat*. He published his book before requesting ecclesial approbation. Fr. Ssemakula then requested these canonical designations when he presented his manuscript to Archbishop Thomas Wenski, who was at the time the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee. His Grace asked Rev. Juan Quijano, S.T.D., a professor at St. Vincent de Paul Seminary in Boynton Beach, to review the manuscript. Fr. Quijano found there to be errors in his text in the area of theology and presented all of his findings to Archbishop Wenski and Fr. Ssemakula. Fr. Quijano found that the book could not be given the requested *Imprimatur* and *Nihil Obstat* unless those errors were corrected. Fr. Ssemakula, instead of revising his text, wrote a rebuttal of Fr. Quijano's review.

We have received mixed reviews from those who have attended his seminars that have their basis in the teachings he gives in his book. Some found it very helpful while others found his theological conclusions to be erroneous. We have received requests from various individuals to know the position of the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee on his book and seminars.

To that end, we have asked the *Censor Librorum* of our diocese, Rev. Hector R. G. Perez, S.T.D., to review all materials written by Fr. Ssemakula to determine if an *Imprimatur and Nihil Obstat* can be granted, and if not, what action should be taken.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Gregory L. Parkes
Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee