**FATHER GIDEON A. UZOMECHINA**

Having serve as a priest and missionary for over two decades following his seminary training in Nigeria and ordination into the Anglican Communion (Anglo Catholic tradition) as well as his Interfaith and Ecumenical studies in Israel, the Venerable Dr. Gideon Uzomechina, fondly called Father Gideon, is the Rector of spirit filled Anglican Church of the Messiah, Plainfield, the Archdeacon of New Jersey, and the Diocesan Director of Missions. Father Gideon is a certified Human Rights Consultant with the United States Institute of Diplomacy and Human Rights, Washington DC. He is also a certified U.S Law Enforcement Chaplain and serves as Spiritual Advisor at Substance and Alcohol Abuse Recovery Facility where his invaluable experience together with passion and empathy towards the vulnerable can never be over emphasized. He has worked with at-risk young men in New Brunswick and Plainfield and assisted them rediscover their purpose of life with positive change of attitudes which has helped most of them became responsible citizens.

Father Gideon studied in Nigeria, Israel, and in the USA. His doctoral research work took him to Axum and Lalibela Ethiopia, Istanbul Turkey, Sinai Peninsula and Alexandria Egypt, Beirut Lebanon, Damascus Syria, Amman Jordan, Cape Coast Ghana, Rome and Vatican Italy, Canterbury and St. Albans Great Britain, and Bacoor Cavite Philippines. Father Gideon is a Professor of Pastoral Care and Spirituality, and has Interfaith and Ecumenical Certificate from Jerusalem, Israel, Diplomas in Theology and Religious Studies, Bachelor of Theology, Bachelor of Education in Guidance and Counseling from Nigeria, Master of Arts, Pastoral Counseling, and Doctor of Ministry, Theology and Spirituality from the USA. Father Gideon completed his Clinical Pastoral Education at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick, New Jersey. He is a Fellow of Christian Theologians and Philosophers; and he’s honored with the Ambassador of Peace Award by the Universal Peace Federation, USA. Father Gideon enjoy spending time with his family and friends, caring and responding to their needs.