

The Ecclesiastical Authority

According to Article III of the Constitution of the Diocese of Springfield:

“The Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese shall be the Bishop, or if there be no Bishop, then the Bishop Coadjutor; or if there be no Bishop Coadjutor, then the Suffragan Bishop, senior in Consecration; or if there be no Suffragan Bishop, then the Standing Committee.”

Therefore, in light of the fact that Bishop Beckwith retires as Diocesan Bishop, effective February 1, 2010, and there is no Bishop Coadjutor, or a Bishop Suffragan, the Standing Committee acts as the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese until the Eleventh Bishop of Springfield is elected and consecrated.