



# CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF LAGOS

19, CATHOLIC MISSION STREET, P. O. BOX 8, LAGOS-NIGERIA

TEL/FAX: 01- 8448669

**Special Circular**

**July, 2020/No.094.1**

**To all Priests and Religious Working in the Archdiocese of Lagos and the Lay faithful.**

Dear Msgri., /Frs., Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

## **WHILE WE AWAIT THE REOPENING OF OUR CHURCHES**

**1. Celebration of Masses:** It has come to our notice that some parishes are celebrating Public Masses for parishioners. Please note that **this is not permitted**. What is permitted is celebration of Funerals and Marriages with not more than 20 people in attendance provided they keep to the regulations laid down for the prevention of the spread of COVID-19, such as maintaining social distance, washing of hands, use of sanitizers, face masks etc. While we await the restoration of public worship in the Church, we expect all priests in all parishes to keep strictly to only that which is permitted.

Concerning the celebration of the other Sacraments at this time, we ask you to refer to the circular we sent out recently. We also ask you to confer with the Deans knowing full well that pastoral sensitivity and prudence should guide our actions. The deans should be able to offer direction and the Archbishop may be contacted if necessary.

**2. Upkeep of Parishes and Institutions:** Maintenance repairs and payments of staff salaries are among the many challenges facing our parishes and institutions in this COVID-19 period. We commend the efforts of those in-charge of these parishes and institutions and ask Parishioners to continue to support in order to keep the system running. Please remember that the parishes and the Church institutions are ours and it is important that we keep them in good conditions in spite of the present challenges.

**3. Support for Needy Parishes:** As we know, not all Archdiocesan parishes are equally endowed: materially or financially. Many are in dire need of support. Following the Curia meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020, we have decided to establish a **Dedicated Fund** to support payment

of salaries and basic maintenance of needy Parishes. We expect all the parishes materially endowed to make contributions to this fund. The funds shall be managed by **Very Rev. Fr. Julius Olaitan, Frs. Philip Sosu-Mobee and Vitalis Ezeigwe**. Account details for contribution to be paid into are as follows:

**Name of account:** Archdiocese of Lagos

**Bank:** Zenith Bank

**Account Number:** 1013213632

4. Deans of concerned Deaneries are to ensure that they send the information we required of them not later than **Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> July 2020**. This would help to kick start the initiative mentioned above.

5. **TRANSMISSION OF MASSES ON GOTV:** for a while now, we have not been able to transmit masses on GOTV being the channel that most people are tuned to. We have been trying to explore other possibilities to supplement the services being offered by Lumen Christi Television Network. We are now pleased to announce that **we can now participate at mass on GOTV channel 112 at 11am every Sunday** in addition to Lumen Christi on DSTV channel 350 at 8:30am. Weekdays masses shall continue to be transmitted live on Lumen Christi Television Network on DSTV Channel 350.

**Signed**

**+Alfred Adewale MARTINS**

**Archbishop of Lagos**

**7<sup>th</sup> July, 2020**