



# CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF LAGOS

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

**NOVEMBER, 2020** /No. 098.1

**TO ALL PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS WORKING IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF LAGOS, AND  
THE LAY FAITHFUL**

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

## **1. BANNS OF PRIESTLY ORDINATION:**

This is to inform the faithful of the Archdiocese, that the following Deacons are being proposed for Priestly Ordination:

1. Rev. Martin Adesanya
2. Rev. Moses Akaeme
3. Rev. Stephen Izebuno
4. Rev. Nicholas Izuagie
5. Rev. Martin Meke
6. Rev. Stephen Nnama
7. Rev. Joseph Odozi

Parish priests should kindly call the banns for three (3) consecutive weeks as required and let us have the results **not later than 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2020**.

**2. CHRIST THE KING PROCESSION:** You would recall in our last circular, that we raised concerns regarding the Eucharistic procession on Christ the King Sunday which should come up on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2020. After a prayerful consideration of the present circumstances, which we have no reason to believe, would change before the date, we regret that we have to direct that the normal long eucharistic procession along the streets should be suspended this year. We pray the Lord to see us through the present challenges, keep us all safe till things return to normal again.

**3. RESUMPTION OF PARISH ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN:** Following the safety procedures put in place by government, we asked children below 12 years to stay and worship at home. However, we understand the need to pay attention to the spiritual and pastoral needs of these young people at this formative stage of their lives. Hence, we enjoin parish priests to use their discretion to ensure that pastoral care and catechetical instructions are provided for the children especially as they have resumed academic activities in their schools. We, however, must not compromise on the required COVID-19 safety measures as we await government's position on this important matter.

**4. HARVEST CELEBRATION:** the Covid-19 pandemic has made the year 2020 a really challenging one for everyone. The COVID-19 effects including the crippling of economic activities have taken a heavy toll, making businesses barely able to stay afloat. We urge parishes to strongly consider the present circumstances and ensure that harvest and thanksgiving activities are toned down. While people are encouraged to thank God and bring their offerings to the altar, even in our present circumstance, there should not be the kind of competitive atmosphere that puts undue pressure on them.

**5. ANNUAL PRIESTS' RETREAT:** The Annual Retreat of Priests in the Archdiocese for this year has been scheduled to hold from 29<sup>th</sup> November to 11<sup>th</sup> of December, 2020.

**First Batch: Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> November to Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2020.**

**Second Batch: Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> to Friday, 11<sup>th</sup>, December, 2020.**

**Venue: Eucharistic Heart of Jesus' Domus Fidei, Ikeja, Lagos.**

To this end, all priests are requested to promptly fulfill their financial obligations through the Priests Welfare Committee, **Rev Fr Stephen Akinsowon**. Please note that the retreat is obligatory and NOT optional. Hence, **ALL** must attend.

**Signed**

**+ Alfred Adewale Martins**

**Archbishop, Metropolitan See of Lagos**

**13<sup>th</sup> November, 2020**