



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF LAGOS

19, CATHOLIC MISSION STREET, P. O. BOX 8, LAGOS-NIGERIA
TEL/FAX: 01- 8448669

Monthly Bulletin /Circular

OCTOBER, 2022/No. 121

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord:

1. The Month of October: Welcome to the month of October, the tenth month of the year which ushers us into the fourth quarter of the year. The month of October is dedicated to Our Lady of the Holy Rosary and we celebrate the first day of the month as the Solemnity of Our Lady, Queen and Patroness of Nigeria. During this month, the Church invites us to take full advantage of the maternal patronage of Our Blessed Mother through the praying of the Holy Rosary as we participate in the activities of October Devotion. All Catholics are therefore enjoined to participate in the activities of October Devotion at the Parish and family levels. Anyone who prays the rosary every day, with faith and a deep sense of devotion in contrast to mere mechanical and superficial recitation, stands to receive divine favours and protection.

In this month, the Church also presents us with the lives of the following saints as models to guide our spiritual journeys: **St. Francis of Assisi (October 4), Our Lady of the Rosary (October 7), St. Ignatius of Antioch (October 17), St. Anthony Mary Claret (October 24) and Ss. Simon and Jude (October 28).**

2. 62nd Independence Anniversary of Nigeria: On the 1st of October, we celebrate the 62nd Independence Anniversary of our beloved country. Let us take the opportunity that the month of October offers, to pray for our country, Nigeria in these trying times; for economic stability, the triumph of justice, peace, reconciliation, and good governance.

I ask that we pray in particular for a peaceful conduct of electioneering campaigns and the eventual election of leaders who are competent, capable and suited for the purpose of delivering good governance and ensuring the unity of the country and the welfare of all citizens irrespective of their religion or ethnic origins. Our country certainly deserves better than we are getting now from those who rule us and we have men and women who are able to lead us into a period of prosperity and peace.

So as politicians begin their campaigns and seeking our votes, we must listen carefully to what they have to say and we must ask them to give us practical indications of how they intend to fulfil each of the promises that they make. Promises of Eldorado must be accompanied with clear articulation of the steps that they intend to take in order to get us there, May Our Lady of the Holy Rosary pray for us.

3. THE RETURN OF THE KISS OF PEACE: You would recall that at the beginning of the Covid-19 lockdown in 2020, guidelines were issued for the celebration of the sacraments, one of which was the suspension of the kiss of peace through exchange of handshakes. Following the just concluded 2nd plenary meeting of the Catholic Bishops Conference of Nigeria at Orlu, the suspension of the kiss of peace was lifted. We had already directed a return to receiving communion on the tongue following a reduction in the rate of infection. Concerning the kiss of peace, we hereby direct a return to the status quo, that is, exchange of handshakes for the kiss of peace with immediate effect.

We call on all priests to effect this change in their various parishes and institutions.

3. NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC AND PASTORAL CONGRESSES: The National Eucharistic Congress is a spiritual exercise which entails the gathering of all members of the Church, (Clergy, Religious and Lay Faithful), with the objective of focusing on the way that our encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist empowers us to live and share his love with others. The major aim is to enlighten, educate and promote a deeper Eucharistic spirituality. The Congress

holds every ten years with the first edition held in 1982 (Abuja), the second in 1992 (Owerri), the third in 2002 (Ibadan), the fourth in 2012 (Abuja) while the 2022 edition will hold from 11th to 13th **November, 2022** in Benin- City.

A. In preparation for the **NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS**, there shall be celebrations of Eucharistic Congresses at Parish and Archdiocese levels.

- i. **ARCHDIOCESE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS** shall be held at **MARIAN SHRINE** in St. Agnes Catholic Church, Maryland ON **2ND OCTOBER, 2022**. Activities shall begin at 8am with **Eucharistic/Rosary procession** and will continue with **Confessions/Praise** and worship, **A Talk, Holy Hour, Exposition and Adoration**, and will come to an end at about 3pm with the Holy Mass.
- ii. **PARISH EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS** in all parishes shall be held on **SUNDAY 9TH OCTOBER, 2022**. Activities should begin at 4pm with Rosary/Eucharistic procession with the Parish premises, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Holy hour with a Catechesis,
Kindly note that announcements concerning the Eucharistic Congress should begin from Sunday 2nd October and shall continue at all the Masses of 9th October. The focus is on the Parish, Archdiocesan and National Eucharistic congresses.

B. **NATIONAL PASTORAL CONGRESS**: The National Pastoral Congress is usually celebrated alongside the National Eucharistic Congress. It is a gathering of selected members of the Church, Clergy, Religious and Lay Faithful, to discuss and come up with a pastoral vision for the Church in Nigerian with the next ten years in view. The first of its kind was held in 2002. For the year 2022, the Congress will hold from **November 8 - 11TH** in Benin City. The working document and focus of discussion at the Congress will be the National Synthesis of the recently concluded Synodal processes held at various local levels. Participation will be by representation and those concerned will be informed in due course.

NB: All priests are enjoined to sensitize, encourage and actively lead the faithful of their respective parishes and chaplaincies in these exercises as required.

4. AUGUSTINE UNIVERSITY, ILARA (AUI) OFFERS NEW COURSES: Our Augustine University has got NUC approval to enroll students for the following new courses:

- B.Sc Mass Communication**
- B.Sc Political Science**
- B.Sc Biochemistry**
- B.Sc Cyber Security**
- B.Sc Fisheries and Aquaculture**
- B.Sc Information Technology**
- B.Sc Software Engineering**

We urge Parish Priests and leaders of Associations of the lay faithful to bring the information to their parishioners and members.

5. ANTIOCH PASTORAL INSTITUTE: The Antioch Pastoral Institute offers a programme that leads to the award of a certificate in **Theology of the New Evangelization**.

Duration: 1 year (10 modules). This programme is open to Parish Pastoral Assistants, Parish Evangelization Commission members, Faith Formators, Group Facilitators and all Catholics who desire to grow in and share the faith.

Requirements: Interested participants are;

1. to obtain recommendation letters from their Parish priests,
2. to be practicing/confirmed Catholics
3. to possess a minimum of SSCE or equivalent, possessing a good grasp of English Language, able to use the relevant technology and handle the required level of work/assignments and keep to the institute's rules.

Commencement Date: August 27th, 2022. Forms are available for **N1,000.00**. For further enquiries, kindly visit: Religious Education Department, 19, Maye Street, off Montgomery Road, Yaba or contact: 08108846869, 08066224284.

5. THE MUSTARD SEED (New Catechism Book): This is a new catechism book approved in the Archdiocese for preparation of children for the Sacraments of Baptism/First Holy Communion. The book is now available and is sold for **N800.00 per copy**. All parishes should contact the Religious Education Department: 08108846869, 08066224284.

6. 2023 ARCHDIOCESAN DIRECTORY: In preparation for the production of the directory for 2023, we enjoin priests to send in their details (Full name, parish and phone number) to the chancery for proper and effective compilation. We expect that all corrections that need to be made to the last edition should be written out and sent to the Chancery for necessary action.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

a. MCA EUCHARISTIC ADORATION (Parish Level): The MCA Eucharistic Adoration comes up on **Saturday, 1st October, 2022.**

b. 2022 CATECHETICAL WEEK CELEBRATION: The annual Catechetical Week program in the Archdiocese will take place between **Sunday, 2nd October and Sunday, 9th October, 2022.** The theme for this year is: **"Lord, do you not care that we are perishing?"**

We expect parishioners of all parishes to participate in the activities as the week's activities are parish based. The pamphlet for this program will be available at the Religious Education Department @ N250 per copy. For further enquiries contact: 08108846869, 08066224284

c. SEASON OF CREATION 2022: the celebration of the Season of Creation which began on the **1st September, 2022** will come to an end on **4th October 2022**, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of ecology. May this 2022 Season of Creation renew both our communal and ecumenical unity, renewing and uniting us in the Pope's call for the care of the earth, our common home.

We urge everyone to take steps at deepening the culture of eco-friendly actions: energy conservation, tree planting and living the culture of **Reduce, Re-use and Recycle** as we journey towards more simple and sustainable living and lifestyles for an integral ecology.

d. CURIA MEETING: The meeting of the Archdiocesan Curia Council comes up on the **5th October, 2022 at 10am** in the Chancery's Conference room

e. TEACHERS' DAY CELEBRATION: This will take place at Maryland Comprehensive Secondary school on **Saturday 8th of October, 2022 by 10am**

f. CATECHISTS' DAY CELEBRATION: This will take place at Christ the King Catholic Church. **Date: Sunday 9th of October, 2022 by 10.00am.**

g. SPECIALIST EYE SCREENING PROMO: The Catholic Archdiocese of Lagos, Management of St Raphael Divine Mercy Specialist Hospital, Ijede Road, Ikorodu invites you to a One-Month program of subsidized eye screening, with free registration, free consultation, highly subsidized eye tests and laboratory tests, glasses and surgeries.

Date: 10th October, 2022 to 4th November, 2022.

Note: Consultation is by appointment.

For Enquiries and booking for Appointments

Please call us on 07048828247 or 08140191942.

h. ARCHDIOCESAN FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING: The meeting of the Archdiocesan Finance Council comes up on the **11th October, 2022 at 10am** in the Chancery Conference Room.

i. PRIESTS RECOLLECTION: The Priests' Recollection at the Regional level comes up on **12th October, 2022**. All Priests are required to take part in this unique spiritual exercise. The Episcopal Vicars are expected to ensure the participation all priests in their Regions.

j. WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER NIGERIA: The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Team will be holding a program titled "**An Original Weekend**". This program is aimed at unlocking the powers of marriage with a view to enhancing a healthy Christian marriage in the growth and development of holiness of life.

Date: 15th-16th October, 2022

Venue: Lagos Resource Center, 9, Anifowose Street, off Adeola Odekun Street, Victoria Island, Lagos.

Arrival: 7am, 15th October, 2022

Participation Fee: N50,000 (Accommodation & 2 days meal).

Kindly make payments to: **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Nigeria, FCMB: 3426431011**

For Further Enquiries, please contact **Rev. Fr. Dominic Onuoha (07030857067), Fr. Miguel Gomez (08098644835), Adiele & Ngozi (08033238822) or Timothy & Martina (08182800166).**

k. FEST2LAFF CONCERT: The Gospel Comedy Concert/Charity fund program (Season 4), aimed at assisting the less privileged tagged "Fest2Laff with MC Smart and Catholic

Comedians... The Wheel and the Testament" comes up on **Sunday 16th October, 2022** at McGovern Hall, St. Agnes Catholic Church, Maryland. Time: 4pm-6pm

Ticket: Regular N3,000, VIP N10,000

Seat on a Table N50,000, Table for 10 N500,000

Tickets are available in all Parishes. For sponsorship and enquiries, please call MCSMART on: 08062499548

I. SECOND MEETING OF THE TRIBUNAL: The Second Meeting of the Tribunal comes up on the **19th October, 2022 at 10am** in the Chancery's Conference room.

m. ANTHONY CARDINAL OKOGIE FOUNDATION ANNUAL LECTURE: The Anthony Cardinal Okogie Foundation Annual Lecture comes up,

Date: Thursday, 20th October, 2022

Time: 10:00 am prompt

Topic: "Salvaging a Bruised and Battered Nation"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Linus Akor

Venue: McGovern Hall, St. Agnes Catholic Church, Maryland, Ikeja

Delegate card: N5,000.00 per person.

We implore Parish Priests and Priest-in-Charge of Parishes and Chaplaincies in the Archdiocese to kindly place Goodwill Messages at a minimum of N30,000.00 (Half page) and also send two (2) participants for N10,000.00.

Deanery Laity Councils and Archdiocesan Lay Organization/Society/Association are to send two (2) participants each for N10,000.00 and place Goodwill Message. Kindly write cheques in favour of **Catholic Archdiocese of Lagos ACOF Annual Lecture Planning OR Direct payment into Access Bank Account No. 1621314206**. Please send the soft copy of the goodwill materials to **WhatsApp No. 08026156606** or catholiclayapostolatecentre01@gmail.com and catholiclayapostolatecentre@yahoo.com. Call the Director's office on **08077003036** for further information. Thank you for your generous support.

NB: Delegate card can be purchased at the Catholic Lay Apostolate Centre, Ebute-Metta.

n. MATER ECCLESIAE MONASTERY:

Monthly Retreat: Mater Ecclesiae Monastery, Sangotedo, Lagos, organizes a day of spiritual retreat for young girls from 15 years and above for the purpose of discerning their vocation. The retreat is scheduled to hold on the first Saturday of every month. **Time: 9:00 am - 4.00 pm.** Venue: Mater Ecclesia Monastery, Sangotedo, Lekki, Lagos.

Mater Ecclesiae Retreat Center: Mater Ecclesiae Retreat Center, located in the serene atmosphere of the Monastery, is officially open to everyone for personal and Group Retreats. Time for Public Adoration to the Most Holy Sacrament is **from Mondays to Saturdays** 9:00am to 8:30pm; on **Sundays** after 9:00am Mass to 12:15pm; and from 3:30pm to 5:00pm. Also, you can visit the Book Centre. **For more inquiries, call 09085648168**

o. ST. GREGORY SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MUSIC: This School of Music of the Archdiocese of Lagos offers choirmasters, choristers, and interested music lovers a Diploma Certificate in Pastoral Music after successfully completing a program of 3 years' part-time studies. It is aimed at training Music Directors for parishes, communities, schools and similar institutions as it helps to develop their interest in music and the relevant theological/pastoral knowledge required for making them into **Pastoral Musicians**. The school has been affiliated to **Augustine University, Ilara** for the award of the Diploma. To join the preparatory class, please click the link below for registration:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/15wZ44SWIkvZ6BnpSxEL0itoBWk7pE1lZKA2oQ8icY/edit?usp=drivesdk>. The preparatory class is a 3-month study time geared towards preparing interested persons for the Entrance Examination to join the Diploma program. Interested persons can also visit the school's page on Facebook with the link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/StGregoryDiplomaSchoolOfPastoralMusic>.

For more information about the school, please contact the: Mr. Simon Eze 07069289868 (Registrar) or Rev. Fr. Peter Osuntope 08023700587 (The Director).

p. ST. AUGUSTINE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, AKOKA, YABA, LAGOS (Project T. I. M. E) Affiliated to University of Ibadan: we call on Parish Priests and Priests-in-Charge to inform their Parishioners that Admission is in progress for the 2022/2023 Session. With a minimum JAMB score of 200 and above for Full-Time and below 200 for Part-Time Degree programmes; 100 and above for NCE programmes, the College is the place for you. Our programmes include:

DEGREE PROGRAMMES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN:

Arts and Social Science:

B.Sc (Ed.) Economics

B.Sc (Ed.) Political Science

B.A (Ed.) English Language

B.Ed Social Studies

B.A (Ed.) CRS/IRS

B.Ed Educational Management

B.Ed Guidance and Counselling

Science and Technology Department

B.Sc (Ed.) Physics

B.Sc (Ed.) Chemistry

B.Sc (Ed.) Mathematics

B.Sc (Ed.) Biology

B.Sc (Ed.) Computer Science

All Degree Certificates are awarded by the University Of Ibadan.

NIGERIA CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION (NCE) PROGRAMMES:

- i. Computer science, Economics, CRS/IRS, Political Science, English Language, Social Studies, Business Education (Accounting & Secretarial studies), Primary Education Studies (PES), Early Childhood care & Education (ECCE), Adult and Non-formal Education, and Mathematics.
- ii. Science and Technology: Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics and Integrated Science.

❖ **All NCE Certificates are awarded by the College**

DURATION: Full Time-3years, Part Time-4 Years

Requirement for Degree and NCE Programmes (Full-Time and Part Time): 5 or 6 Credits in One or Two sittings

❖ PDE (Professional Diploma In Education)-First Degree or H. N. D. from any recognized Tertiary Institution.

❖ Catechesis- Practicing and intending Catechists or O' Level Certificate.

METHOD OF APPLICATION TO ALL COLLEGE PROGRAMMES:

Obtain your application form at **St. Augustine College Of Education**, 2, Moronfolu Street, by Pako Bus stop, Close to FCE (Technical) and UNILAG, Akoka, Yaba, Lagos State.

OR LOG-ON TO www.staugustinecollege.edu.ng and follow the guidelines.

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL: 08065954493, 08024582945 OR 08033244652(Catechesis), 07035121621.

q. INAUGURATION OF NEW PARISH PASTORAL, FINANCE AND LAITY COUNCILS - ARCHDIOCESAN PARISH GUIDELINES

The Archdiocesan Guidelines for Parish Pastoral, Finance and Laity Councils came into effect on November 29, 2015 (First Sunday of Advent). The tenure of the Councils was three years, and ended in November, 2018. The Guidelines were reviewed first in June, 2016 and again in June, 2018.

New Councils were constituted through an approved process between September and November, 2018 and inaugurated on December 2, 2018 (First Sunday of Advent) for a four-year non-renewable tenure, to end in November, 2022.

The timetable for constituting the new Councils which are to be inaugurated on November 27, 2022 (First Sunday of Advent) is as follows:

1. Parish Forum - Sunday, October 16, 2022. Parish Priests to refresh parishioners on the roles of the three councils (Pastoral, Finance and Laity), membership and tenure, using the Archdiocesan Parish Guidelines booklets. Notice of the Forum to be given to parishioners the Sunday before, that is, October 9, 2022.
2. Collation of New Names - Collation of New Names for the PPC and PFC and elections of PLC executives to be completed by Sunday, October 30, 2022.
3. Orientation/Training - Orientation/Training of all proposed Councillors to be held on Saturday, November 12, 2022, on Deanery basis.
4. Joint Meeting - Joint Meeting of the old and new PPC, PFC and PLC on Sunday, November 20, 2022.
5. Inauguration - Inauguration of the New Councils on Sunday, November 27, 2022 (First Sunday of Advent).

r. WORLD MISSION SUNDAY: The World Mission Sunday comes up on **Sunday 23rd October, 2022**. Theme: **You shall be my witnesses**. (Acts 1:8). It is expected that as we pray for the success of missionary activities of the Church, collections on that day would be

remitted to the chancery and forwarded to Rome in order to assist the Holy Father in meeting the needs of missionary activity all over the world

s. THE LAGOS CATHOLIC NETWORK APP: The Lagos Catholic Network is the first official Mobile Application of the Catholic Archdiocese of Lagos. This first official "**All in one Social media**" was developed to help each catholic to connect with our catholic community through contents and forums, living the faith tips, prayers, live Mass broadcast, daily messages from Archbishop and lots more. Parish priests and Deans are enjoined download the App and encourage the faithful to do so by placing information about the App in their parish weekly bulletins. We ask that information about this App should also be posted on their various social media handles. Kindly bring the attention of the faithful to the App by continuous announcement at Masses in all parishes.

To download: Go to the **Google Play Store** search for "LCN" or "Lagos Catholic Network " Download and Enjoy. Parishioners and youths are encouraged to upload their contents, videos, motivational videos dance, drama, comedy, skits e.t.c on the App for the world to see. To upload your Wedding Videos or Events, reach out through Feedback on the App.

For Advert placement: Pleases send a mail to ads@lagoscatholicnetwork.com or send a message through feedback on the App.

t. FIFTH SUNDAY LAITY COLLECTION: The 5th Sunday Collection is not just a special collection; it is the 2nd collection on the Sundays in which they occur. All Parishes, Quasi Parishes and Chaplaincies in the Archdiocese are to take up this second collection in the months that have a fifth Sunday in the year. The proceeds of such second collection are to be shared to enhance the work of the Councils at the various levels as follows:

Parish Laity Councils (60%)

Deanery Laity Councils (20%)

Archdiocesan Laity Council (20%)

Deans are to ensure that Parish Priest, Priests-in-Charge and Chaplains comply with these directives as stated above.

u. JDPC FOOD BANK PROJECT: The Justice Development and Peace Center (JDPC) Lagos will be carrying out a food bank project from the month of October, 2022. We therefore

appeal to Parish Priests and all people of goodwill to kindly support the JDPC in cash or kind. Financial donations can be made to JDPC FOOD BANK PROJECT, Zenith Bank- 1224609969 while food items can be sent to the JDPC office @ 19, Maye Street, Off Commercial Avenue, Yaba, Lagos or contact the office on 08102580516.

8. Priestly Ordination Anniversary:

We congratulate, rejoice and request your prayers for Very Rev. Fr. Anthony Fadairo and Frs. Obi John, Innocent Uwakwe, Gabriel Feyisetan, Nicodemus Ugwu, OP., Jeremiah Irabor, OMV, Onwuka Kyrian, Samugan Gilbert, Luke Osabohien OSJ, and Ntia Anthony OSJ whose sacerdotal ordination anniversaries occur this month. May God grant them lasting joy and the grace of final perseverance. *Ad multos annos!!!*

9. Bereavement: With deep sympathy but with thanksgiving to God, we announce the demise of **Late Mama Martha Taiwo Obanla**, the mother of Very Rev. Msgr. Anthony Obanla, **Late Dame Anthonia Ugwochikanjo Iwueze**, the mother of Very Rev. Fr. Martin Iwueze, and **Late Mr. Anthony Nnaemeka**, the elder brother of Very. Rev. Fr. Augustine Nnaemeka. We ask that Masses should be celebrated for the repose of their souls and the consolation of their families. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

Signed

+ **Alfred Adewale Martins**
Archbishop, Metropolitan See of Lagos

