



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF LAGOS

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

Monthly Bulletin /Circular

AUGUST, 2016/No. 047

**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 AUGUST:** You are all welcome to the eighth month of the year, the month of August. Gradually, the year is drawing to a close. We therefore must think about how we have fared with our spiritual lives and how much we have been faithful to the tasks entrusted to us by Our Lord Jesus Christ. May the Holy Spirit enlighten us and imbue us with the grace to persevere in doing good.

In this month of August, the Church has provided the faithful with feasts which assist us to celebrate major events in the life of Christ, the Blessed Virgin Mary and some of the saints. Two of these feasts are worthy of particular mention i.e. the feast of the Transfiguration (6th) which gives the faithful a foretaste of the glory of God to be revealed; the second is the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (15th), which assures us that God fulfils his promises and does not refuse any good to those who walk in his presence without blame.

In the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Saints that we celebrate this month, we find an assurance of heavenly glory for Christians who persevere to the end. Following the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints whose feasts we commemorate this month: John Mary Vianney, Augustine, Lawrence, Clare, Maximilian Kolbe, Monica etc, let us embrace and practice the virtue of perseverance as we continue our life-journey in this second half of the year.

2. **EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY WEEKLY PILGRIMAGE:** The weekly pilgrimage to the Holy Cross Cathedral holds every **Tuesday**. The

activities of the pilgrimage include: a tour of the Cathedral, Confession, celebration of Mass, passing through the Door of Mercy into the Cathedral, audience with the Archbishop and issuance of certificate, among others. All Parish Priests and Priests-in-Charge should be at the forefront of organizing and ensuring pilgrims from their parishes participate actively, are well catered for and are conveyed to and from the venue of the pilgrimage. For more information, please contact Fr. Julius Olaitan (08023135237) or confer the time table for the pilgrimage already sent to your email addresses. The Jubilee Year comes to an end of **20th November 2016, Solemnity of Christ the King of the Universe.**

3. YEAR OF MERCY SONG AND PRAYER: It has come to our notice that many parishes in the Archdiocese do not recite the Year of Mercy prayer or sing the Year of Mercy anthem. In keeping with the celebration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, we are expected to say the prayer for the Year of Mercy and the anthem during Sunday Masses,

4. CANONIZATION OF BLESSED MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA: Following the announcement of the canonization Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta scheduled for the **4th of September 2016**, there shall be a Holy Mass to commemorate this event in our Archdiocese on **September 17, 2016 at St. Michael Catholic Church, Ketu by 10.00am**. The Archbishop will preside over the Mass. We cordially invite all Priests, Religious and Lay-faithful of the Archdiocese to the ceremony. Let us endeavour to turn out *en masse* and benefit from the special graces that accrue from the intercession of would-be St. Teresa of Calcutta.

5. RECENT APPOINTMENTS: We wish to bring to your notice the appointment of the following:

- Rev. Fr. Monye Joseph from St. Leo Catholic Church, Ikoga-Zebbe to St. Michael Catholic Church, Ilogbo-Eremi as Priest-in-Charge
- Rev. Fr. Immanuel Agbulu Csr as the Director of the Lagos Resource Centre with effect from July 1st, 2016. We ask all Priests and faithful to cooperate with him and assist him in his new task.

APPRECIATION: We wish to use this medium to also congratulate and commend Dame Bridget Itsueli who has over many years steered the ship of the Lagos Resource Centre. Since the inception of the Centre over 13years ago, she has managed the affairs of the Centre alongside the Marriage and Family Life Unit of the Archdiocese. While we appreciate her continued service in the Centre, we express our gratitude for commitment she exhibited in the running of the Lagos Resource Centre. We wish her the God's blessings as she continues in the service of God and His Church.

6. ARCHBISHOP'S INSTALLATION ANNIVERSARY: August 4, 2016 marks the 4th anniversary of my installation as the Archbishop of Lagos. There will be Mass at 12noon. Kindly remember me in your prayers and Masses that I may be given the grace of a good shepherd as I continue my service as the Chief Shepherd of the Archdiocese.

7. ON THE AGE FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION/USE OF INDIGENOUS NAMES FOR BAPTISM: Following an exhaustive discussion of the appropriate age for the reception of First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation by the College of Consultors of the Archdiocese, we hereby inform the entire faithful that the minimum age for the reception of First Holy Communion and Confirmation in the Archdiocese is 8 and 10 years respectively. May we also reconfirm that those who so choose are free to use names in the local languages that reflect the attributes of God, have spiritual significance and encourage the practice of the virtues for the Sacrament of Baptism.

8. ON INDECENT DRESSING TO THE CHURCH: Once again we call on all Parish priests and Priests-in-Charge to continue to seek ways and means of discouraging indecent dressing to Church and correcting those who dress as such firmly but with love, decorum and respect for the persons who fail in that regard.

9. ONGOING FORMATION OF THE LAITY: The importance and necessity of post-catechism class formation of the faithful cannot be over-emphasized. We expect Parish Priests to ensure that they devise programmes and activities for required ongoing formation of the faithful. In conjunction with the Parish Pastoral Council Committee concerned we hope that this aspect of the life of

the Church would be pursued more vigorously so as to enhance the spiritual growth of the faithful in our parishes.

10. AUGUSTINE UNIVERSITY

Admission Requirements for Augustine University: We call on Parish Priests and Priests-in-Charge to inform their Parishioners especially those seeking admission to universities of the Admission requirements for our Augustine University. A minimum JAMB Score of 180 in relevant subject combinations is required. For more information, please visit the University website at www.augustineuniversity.edu.ng. **Available Programmes are:**

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES, MANAGEMENT AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

1. B.Sc. Economics
2. B.Sc. Business Administration
3. B.Sc. Accounting
4. B.Sc. Banking and Finance
5. B.A. English
6. B.A. Philosophy
7. B.A. Religious Studies

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

8. B.Sc. Mathematics
9. B.Sc. Computer Science
10. B.Sc. Microbiology
11. B.Sc. Biology
12. B.Sc. Chemistry
13. B.Sc. Physics

Parish Priests and Priests-in-Charge are expected to include this announcement in their weekly bulletin and keep repeating it for the next twelve months.

11. ST. AUGUSTINE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (PROJECT TIME) AFFILIATED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN:

a. Admission is in progress for the 2016/2017 Session. With a minimum JAMB Score of 180 and above for Degree programs and 150 and above for NCE programs, St Augustine College is the place for you. Our programs and their Requirements include:

- **B.Ed. degree (Full-Time and Distance Learning Center) - 5 Credits at one sitting**

- **NCE (Full- Time and Part-Time)** - 6 Credits at two sittings.
- **PDE (PGDE)** - First Degree or H.N.D. From any recognized tertiary institution
- **Catechesis** - practicing and intending Catechist OR O'Level Certificate.

For further enquiries, call - 07051491674; 07051592559; 08034919553.

b. St. Augustine's College of Education offers Admission in-Service Masters in Education (M.Ed.) in Curriculum Development and Educational Evaluation and Post Graduate Diploma in Education (PDGE) in the following:

- Curriculum Development in Arts and Languages
- Curriculum Development in Information Technology
- Curriculum Development in Mathematics
- Curriculum Development in Pre-primary and Primary Education
- Curriculum Development in the Sciences
- Educational and Evaluation Research
- Test Construction and Public Examining
- Development and monitoring of Curriculum
- Psychological Testing, Assessment Evaluation and Counselling
- Schools/institutions' Accreditation and Evaluation
- Programme Evaluation
- Teaching etc.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

a. **ARCHDIOCESAN PRIESTLY ORDINATION:** The Priestly Ordination of our Deacons has been scheduled for **Thursday, September 22, 2016**. The candidates are:

- i. **Rev. Atoyebi Christopher**
- ii. **Rev. Emiri Emmanuel**
- iii. **Rev. Ezeigwe Vitalis**

We expect that the outcome of the banns of ordination from the parishes would reach the Chancery not later than Monday, August 25, 2015.

b. The Ordination Planning Sub-Committee of the All-Purpose Committee has started its work. It hereby calls for Adverts and Goodwill messages from parishes, parishioners, friends and relatives. Please find below the rates:

- | | | |
|-------|---------------------------|--------------|
| i. | Back Cover - | #150,000.00k |
| ii. | Inside Back Cover - | #100,000.00k |
| iii. | Inside Front Cover - | #100,000.00k |
| iv. | Fold Back Page - | #100,000.00k |
| v. | Full Page Color - | #50,000.00k |
| vi. | Full Page Black & White - | #15,000.00k |
| vii. | Half Page Color - | #30,000.00k |
| viii. | Half Page Black & White - | #10,000k |
| ix. | Black and white blocks - | #5,000.00k |

Payments should be made into the account with the following details:

Name of Bank: Zenith Bank PLC

Account Name: Archdiocese of Lagos - All Purpose Committee

Account Number: 1011142000.

Art works for adverts and goodwill messages should please be forwarded to any of the following;

Rev. Fr. Augustine Ikuomola; ikuomola2004@gmail.com Tel: 08028335623

Prince Joseph Eyeowa; joeolufunso@yahoo.com Tel: 08186394955

Mr. Emmanuel Coker; eman.coker@gmail.com Tel: 08033059797

The deadline for the submission of Adverts and Goodwill messages is **August 24, 2016.**

c. **Quarterly Returns:** Please be reminded that The Chancery requires that all statutory levies and special collections be paid with different cheque leaves to avoid mix-ups. When making their returns, Parish Priests or Priests-in-Charge, should also ensure they attach the front page of the **Blue Sheets** that has the name of the parish and the appropriate quarter on it. Kindly note these in your subsequent submissions.

d. **Jubilee Year of Mercy-MCA Pilgrimage:** The pilgrimage of MCA children to the Holy Cross Cathedral to mark the jubilee Year of Mercy comes up on **Thursday, 1st of September, 2016 at 9:00am.** Each Deanery is to be

represented by only 100 children drawn from their different parishes. Children who have already gone on this pilgrimage with their parents, parishes or schools are not to come on this day. Not more than 10 animators may accompany the children from each deanery and they are to make adequate provision for the welfare of the children under their care.

e. Children's Rally with the Archbishop: The annual children's rally with the Archbishop comes up on **Saturday, 8th October 2016** at Catholic Church of Ascension, Airport Road, Ikeja beginning with the Holy Mass at **10:00am**. Registration fee is **#500.00** per child while the MCA Uniform (face cap, neck scarf & badge) is **#1,000.00**. Registration closes on **10th of September, 2016**.

f. Family and Human Life Unit: The Family and Human Life Unit in the Archdiocese shall be conducting the following Training Programmes during the year:

- **Basic Christian Counselling Course Part 1** (One Friday a month for 3 months), which began **10th June, 2016**.
- **Marriage Theology and Lived Experience (Full Time Course)** running for 10 weeks (One Tuesday a week), it begins **20th September, 2016**.

Venue: Church and Society Building; 19, Maye Street, off Commercial Avenue, Sabo-Yaba, Lagos.

Cost: #3,500 per month (Includes Tea break and Lunch)

Graduation and Certificate Fees: #5,000 (Marriage Theology and Lived Experience Course), **#5,000** (Canon Law Course for Laity)

Certificate Fees: #2,500 (Billings Ovulation Method Course)

Certificate Fees: #1,500 (Basic Christian Counselling Course)

Time: 10am-4pm.

These courses are meant for interested individuals who wish to be trained to work in the area of marriage, family and human life as facilitators, counsellors or social workers. For more information/enquiries, please call **08033804494** or **08028489999**.

g. Annual Family Week Celebration, 2016: The Archdiocesan Annual Family Week begins from **Sunday, August 14 to Sunday, August 21, 2016**. This is to be observed and celebrated in all parishes of the Archdiocese. All parish marriage facilitators/co-ordinators, interested individuals are to attend a family

conference on **Saturday August 13, from 10am-4pm** at the Hall of the Church and Society Building at Maye Street, Yaba. **Fee: #2,000** for lunch/materials. **Theme:** Amoris Laetitia, Pastoral Highlights, Initiatives and implication for the local Church.

h. CATECHISTS/RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

➤ The Antioch Pastoral Institute:

Application for admission into Antioch Pastoral Institute for the 2016/2017 session has commenced. Admission is open to persons desiring to be trained as Evangelizers, Catechists and Catechism Teachers. Lay Liturgical Ministers, Parish office staff, Religious Sisters and Individuals who wish to refresh, update and upgrade their knowledge of the Catholic faith and morals are also invited to participate in these trainings. Those who do not belong to any of the above-mentioned categories but desire to be trained as Pastoral Agents should feel free to apply.

The current session will operate from two centres: Ikeja Region and Lagos/Lekki regions.

Forms are obtainable at ~~N~~**500.00** only from Catechists /Religious Education.

i. Singles Day with the Archbishop - This year's Singles Day with the Archbishop comes up on the **6th and 20th of August, 2016**. The activities for the event are as follows:

Day 1: Saturday, 6th August, 2016

Activity: Sports, Aerobics and Health Check-up by 8:00am

Venue: St. Gregory's College, Ikoyi SW.

Day 2: Saturday, 20th August, 2016

Activity: Reception and Carnival by 9:00am starting with the Holy Mass

Theme: Love and Mercy: Showing mercy through acts of love

Keynote Address by: His Grace, Most Rev. Dr. Alfred Adewale Martins

Topic: Marriage a Plus or a Cross: The Modern Generation Perspective.

Venue: St. Finbarr's College, Akoka, Yaba.

Participation Fee: #1,000.00 per participant.

For further information, kindly call any of these telephone lines: 08038396900, 08127736117 or 07046395586.

j. 2016 Lagos Archdiocesan Cultural and Drama Festival, (LACDRAFEST):

This year's edition of LACDRAFEST 2016 grand finale is scheduled to hold in September, 2016. Meanwhile; registration, uploads of videos with the theme

"Merciful like the Father" into the Catholicagora Media App and voting begins from **June 30th to August 15th, 2016.**

k. NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CATHOLIC LAWYERS-Celebration of 2016 New Legal Year Mass: The National Association of Catholic Lawyers Lagos Archdiocese shall be having their annual celebration of the New Legal Year on **September 25th, 2016 at Holy Cross Cathedral at 10:00am.**

I. SPECIAL INVITATION: The Sisters of the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus cordially invite the Clergy, Religious and the Lay faithful of the Archdiocese of Lagos to the **SILVER JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY** of Religious Profession of **Sr. Loretta Maris Ibobo, EHJ, Sr. Christiana Maris Okonkwo, EHJ, Sr. Mary Evelyn Ejutse and Sr. Cecilia Mary Omeife, EHJ.**

Date: August 15th, 2016.

Venue: St. Leo's Catholic Church, Ikeja.

Time: 10.00am.

m. SPECIAL INVITATION: The Society of the Holy Child Jesus, African Province cordially invite the Clergy, Religious and the Lay faithful of the Archdiocese of Lagos to the **SILVER JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY** of Religious Profession of **Sr. Elizabeth Ngozi Njoku, SHCJ,** and the **PERPETUAL PROFESSION OF VOWS** of **Sr. Assumpta Ndidiamaka Okoli, SHCJ,** and **Sr. Juliana Abahi Omodu, SHCJ.**

Date: August 13th, 2016.

Venue: St. Gregory's College Chapel, Obalende, Lagos.

Time: 10.00am.

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 is officially open to everyone for personal and Group Retreats.

For more inquiries, call 09085648168.

o. Admission into Cecilian Academy of Sacred Music: This Archdiocesan approved Music Academy will resume in **September, 2016**. Hence, admissions into the Academy are now on-going. For download of registration forms, entrance exams dates and other relevant information, please check the website: www.cecilianacademyng.com. Come and learn about the theory and practice of Sacred Music.

13. PRIESTLY ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY: We congratulate, rejoice and request your prayers for Msgri. Aniagwu John, Nwaezeapu Paschal, Sotos Ignatius and Rev. Frs. Arabi Christopher, Enearu Stephen, Olaitan Julius, Omofuma Pius, Opogah Innocent, Anyanwu Cletus, Echewodo Christian, Ikeri Emmanuel, Ngene Sebastian, Nnaemeka Augustine, Anosike Gregory, Osuntoyinbo Patrick, Akodu Peter, Agule Gabriel, Irabor Benson, Akaajime Frederick, Uwakwe Martins, Okafor Thaddeus, Ukaegbu Henry, Ukonu Andrew, Okuma Kelvin, Agu Samuel, Njoku Kingsley, Ujunwa Bethrand, Ajaero Henry, Ealefor Francis, Abhulime Andrew, Akaenyi Theodore, and Yoest Robert. Others are Rev. Frs. Debres Trinkson, Okojie Joel, Bariki Nicholas, Gugong Jonah, Njoku Jude-Mary, Ubili Chidube Mary-Vincent, Anumba Peter, Amojio Christopher, Chukwudebelu Vitalis, Puotege Konnah Peter, Bini Thaddeus, Oguh Benedict, Mgbemere Camillius, Dike Francis, Onukwugha Christian, Nwoke Jeffrey, Adiele Modestus, Nwokocha Collins, Anyanwu Christopher, Onyebuchi Martins, and Oyegoke John whose sacerdotal ordination Anniversaries occur this month. May God grant them lasting joy and the grace of final perseverance. Ad multos annos!!!

(Signed)

+ Alfred Adewale Martins
Archbishop, Metropolitan See of Lagos.