



## CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF LAGOS

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

TEL/FAX: 01- 8448669

Monthly Bulletin /Circular **NOVEMBER, 2016**/No. 050

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord:

1. **NOVEMBER:** Welcome to the penultimate month of the Year. During this month, the Church commemorates the **Solemnity of All Saints (Nov.1)** and **All Souls (Nov.2)** to remind her faithful of the importance of sanctity and the reality of mortality.

a. **All Saints' Day:** All Saints' Day is a Holy Day of Obligation set aside to remember and celebrate all the Saints and Martyrs throughout Christian history, known or unknown, canonized or beatified whose holy and virtuous lives have earned a place in the heavenly home. The feast inspires tremendous hope and reminds us of the *universal call to holiness (Lumen Gentium, 40)*. We rejoice with them as we ask that their prayers will bring us God's love, mercy and forgiveness.

b. **All Souls' Day:** Directly following the Feast of All Saints is the feast of All Souls. This feast reminds us of human finitude and mortality. On this day, the Church remembers and prays for the Souls of the Faithful Departed. We are therefore encouraged to express our solidarity with the souls in purgatory through public and private prayers, and obtain plenary indulgences by offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, visiting a Church or a Cemetery and giving alms to the poor. The Church mandates all Priests to celebrate three (3) Masses on this day: one for the faithful departed, one for the priest's intention or any person, and one for the intention of the Holy Father. We will do well to remember victims of the various disasters in the world. We are requested to pray for the victims of the various religious disturbances in our nation especially the victims of the Boko Haram insurgency and internally displaced people in the North East.

2. **EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY WEEKLY PILGRIMAGE:** We are grateful to God for the Jubilee Year of Mercy activities as we approach the closing day November 20, 2016. To give more people the opportunity to pass through the Door of Mercy before the year comes to a close, the Door will open for private visit and prayers from Sunday

November 6 to Friday November 11 from 12.00-6.00pm daily. Meanwhile the Tuesday pilgrimage continues till November 8.

The Jubilee Year would come to an end on **20th November 2016, Solemnity of Christ the King of the Universe**. The 10.30am Mass at the Holy Cross Cathedral would be a Thanksgiving Mass for the all the graces of the year while the formal closing of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year would be at the end of the Corpus Christi procession on the grounds of St. Gregory's College, Obalende. May the Lord be merciful to us all. Amen.

**3. GRATITUDE:** We express profound gratitude to our Guest Speaker, **Prof. Isaac Ukpokolo**, our invited Guests, Priests, Religious, and Lay Faithful who honoured our invitation with their physical presence and financial contributions at the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the **Anthony Cardinal Okogie Annual Lecture/Foundation**. May God reward you all abundantly.

**4. CHRIST THE KING:** The celebration of the Solemnity of Christ the King comes up on **Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2016**. It marks the end of the 2015/2016 Liturgical Year. On this day, Eucharistic Procession is held throughout Nigeria. The Procession at Holy Cross Cathedral begins at **2:00 p.m. prompt** from the Cathedral to St. Gregory's College, Obalende. During this procession, we commemorate the reign of Christ as the King of the Universe and his completion of the renewed creation that marks the fullness of the Kingdom of God. Let us all march out and proclaim Christ the Universal King.

**5. Meetings with the Archbishop:** As part of the efforts to interact and receive the thoughts of the Priests and Religious on the life of our Archdiocese, the following meetings have been scheduled to hold on the respective dates below by **11.00 a.m.** at the **Holy Cross Cathedral Hall;**

- ✓ Diocesan Clergy (including Fidei Donum Priests) : **Thursady, 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2016**
- ✓ Female Religious : **Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2016**
- ✓ Male Religious : **Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2016**

**6.** This is to inform the members of the Board of Consultors that there will be meeting on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2016**. The time is **10:00am**. All those concerned should please take note.

**7. 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 required for 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.

## 8. AUGUSTINE UNIVERSITY

➤ **DISCLAIMER:** It has come to our notice that a group of swindlers parade themselves on the net as "St. Augustine University" using the address of our University and its identity. All Priests, Religious and Lay Faithful are asked to take note and to bear in mind that our University is **AUGUSTINE UNIVERSITY, P.M.B. 1010, ILARA-EPE, LAGOS**. Our website remains [www.augustineuniversity.edu.ng](http://www.augustineuniversity.edu.ng). Please do not fall a prey to this malicious act.

We are not **St. Augustine University**. Parish Priests are asked to bring this to the notice of their parishioners so that they may not fall prey to this malicious act.

➤ **Admission Requirements for Augustine University, Ilara (AUI):** 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](http://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.

## 9. 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.

## 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

a. **Advent Season:** The Season of Advent is around the corner again. The word Advent means "coming." It is a season of expectation and longing for the Messiah who is to come. We sing the song "O Come, O come, Emmanuel" with eager hope and longing, not because we seek a Messiah yet to come to the world, but because the Christ has come and we long for him to come to us again. Let us therefore avail ourselves the opportunity that Advent provides to renew our relationship with the King who is to come so that we can reap the fruits of Christmas.

**b. 2016 Purgatorian Week:** All Purgatorian Societies in the Archdiocese are expected to observe a week-long activity in their various Parishes. The Purgatorian Week begins on **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2016**. Prior to the week is the commemoration of the Feast of All Souls on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2016**. We are encouraged to offer prayers and supplications for the release of the souls in purgatory. Sequel to this, there shall be Office of the Reading and Morning Prayer for the Dead, Requiem Mass and Prayer at the grave side for Priests and Religious at Ikoyi Cemetery. This spiritual event will take place at the Chapel of St. Gregory's College, SW, Ikoyi, Lagos on the same day (2<sup>nd</sup> Nov.) by 10.00am.

On **Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2016**, All the Purgatorians in the Archdiocese will converge at **St. Sabina's Catholic Church, Idimangoro, Agege** at **10. 00 am** for a Thanksgiving Mass in honour of the Holy Souls. May the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

**c. Meeting of Diocesan Priests Association:** This meeting comes up on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2016, at St. Dominic Catholic Church, Yaba, Lagos** at 10:00am. We are all encouraged to attend and be punctual.

**d. Directory 2017:** The year 2017 is around the corner. Kindly go through this year's Directory again so as to point out possible errors, omissions, amendments and suggestions for the improvement of our Directory. **Please, send your comments to the Chancery not later than 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2016**. You may also reach the Chancery through her e-mail address: [arclagos@yahoo.com](mailto:arclagos@yahoo.com). We look forward to hearing from you.

**e. Quarterly Returns:** Please be reminded that the Chancery requires that all statutory levies and special collections should 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.

**f. ASSOCIATION OF CATHOLIC TRAINED EVANGELIZERS IN NIGERIA (ACTEN):** This is to remind all evangelizers of their National Evangelizers Conference, starting from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26 November, 2016 at St. Leo Catholic Church, Ikeja. The theme of this year's celebration is "**Commissioned Evangelizers and the Mission of the Church to Evangelize.**" Time is 9:00 am. All those concerned should take note.

**g. Small Christian Community Workshop:** There will be a workshop for all S.C.C. facilitators and leaders in the Archdiocese at Holy Cross Cathedral on **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2016** by **10: 00am**

#### **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 is operating from two centres: Ikeja Region and Lagos/Lekki Regions. Forms are obtainable at **N500.00** only from Catechists /Religious Education Dept.

**i. Admission into Cecilian Academy of Sacred Music:** This Archdiocesan Music Academy approved by the Archbishop resumed 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](http://www.cecilianacademyng.com). Come and learn the theory and practice of Sacred Music.

**j. Visitation of The Statue of Our Lady of Fatima to Parishes:** As part of preparations towards the centenary anniversary of the apparition of Our Lady of Fatima by next year 2017, members of the World Apostolate of Fatima (Blue Army) will be visiting parishes in the Archdiocese. We ask Parish Priests and Priests-in-Charge to give them audience.

**k. ARCHDIOCESSAN NOVENA FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:** The Archdiocesan Novena for the Solemnity of Immaculate Conception comes up from Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November to Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2016 at the Marian Shrine, St. Agnes Catholic Church, Maryland, Lagos. **Theme: Mary, Help of Families (Luke 1:39-41, 56).** **Time: 4:30pm daily.** We are encouraged to attend.

**l. Priests' and Religious Get-together 2016:** This has been scheduled to hold on Thursday, **29<sup>th</sup> December, 2016**. Venue: St. Agnes Catholic Church, Maryland. Kindly endeavour to be present.

**m. Annual Priests Retreat:** The Annual Retreat of Priests in the Archdiocese for this year has been scheduled to hold from 28<sup>th</sup> November to 9<sup>th</sup> of December, 2016.

- ✓ **First Batch: 28<sup>th</sup> November to 2<sup>nd</sup>, December, 2016**
- ✓ **Second Batch: 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, December, 2016.**
- ✓ **Venue: Eucharistic Heart of Jesus Generalate's Domus Fidei, Ikeja, Lagos.**

To this end all priests are kindly requested to promptly fulfill their financial obligation through the Priests Welfare Committee Chairman, **Rev. Msgr. Jerome Oduntan**. Please note that the retreat is obligatory and not optional. Hence, **ALL** must attend.

**n. Archdiocesan Advent Pilgrimage:** This Year's Advent Pilgrimage will be hosted by Mainland Region, Lagos.

- ✓ **Date: 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2016**
- ✓ **Venue: St. Gregory College, Obalende, Lagos**
- ✓ **Time: 9:00am**

All Priests and Lay Faithful are expected to attend and participate actively in this spiritual exercise. Parish Priests & Priests-in-Charge are requested to encourage their Parishioners to come in large numbers.

**12. PRIESTLY ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY:** We congratulate, rejoice and request your prayers for Rev. Msgr. Erinle Anthony, and Rev. Frs. Adeyemi Peter, Obayomi Patrick, Nwanua Joseph, Opara Hubert, Onwudiegwu Michael, Ethelbert Ukpabi, Ibe Hyacinth and Mordi Cosmas. Others are: Osuntope Peter, Udoh Gabriel, Abulu Jude, Amadi Marcellinus, Anokere Joseph, Emeana Denis, Teko Marcellinus, Omoregie Jerome, Okonkwo Christian, Iwu Simeon, Ogidan Andrew, Alabi John, Remigus Okafor and Thaddeus Onyenedum, 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.**