



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF LAGOS

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

TEL/FAX: 01- 8448669

Monthly Bulletin /Circular

JULY, 2019 /No. 082

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 July: Dear brothers and sisters, I welcome you all to the month of July, which begins the second half of the year. In this month, the Holy Father calls us to pray for Priests, who experience fatigue and loneliness in their pastoral work, that they may find help and comfort in their intimacy with the Lord and in their friendship with their brother Priests.

This month falls within the Liturgical season of *Ordinary Time*, a season that is chiefly marked by the hope it offers, hence, the green color of vestments used at Mass at this time. The term "Ordinary Time" is used for this season not because it is common or of not significance but simply because the weeks of Ordinary Time are numbered. The word "Ordinary" as used by the Church follows from the Latin Word "*Ordinalis*" which further translates to mean "*Ordo*" from which we get the English equivalent, "Order." This word presents to us the numbered weeks of Ordinary Time which represents the ordered life of the Church. This points to the two important period in which we live our lives neither in feasting (as in the Christmas and Easter seasons) or in more severe penance (as in Advent and Lent), but in watchfulness and expectation of the Second Coming of Christ

2. Concerning Priests standing as Guarantor: This is to remind all Priests and Religious working in the Archdiocese of the age-long regulation that inasmuch as they may give "Letters of Recommendation" to the people they know whenever they ask, no Priest or Religious is allowed, by the virtue of his or her status, to stand or sign as **Surety** or **Guarantor** or to bail anyone, not even a member of his or her family. We strongly admonish priests working in the Archdiocese to observe this age-long regulation to the letter.

3. Leadership Training for Priests: while we continue to be grateful to God for the success of the first batch of the Leadership Training for Priests, we announce that the second batch is already ongoing and we call on all Priests enlisted for the second batch to take full

advantage of this unique opportunity for growth, to attend PUNCTUALLY and participate ACTIVELY in the sessions. The dates for the Second Batch of 25 Priests are as follows:

Module 3 - July 24th and 25th

Module 4 - September 25th and 26th

4. USE OF THE CHURCH FOR SHOOTING SCENES IN FILMS: it has been brought to our attention that some Parish Priests are allowing filmmakers to shoot scenes of their films inside the Church with the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. This sort of activity does not give the reverence due to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. We hereby demand extreme caution in allowing our church buildings to be used for purposes that we cannot vouch for or the intention for using the inside of our Churches that we are not aware of. We expect that Parish Priests should seek the advice of the Social Communications Directorate and/or Centre for Media Development in considering requests for the use of our Churches. We must be careful.

5. Augustine University offers Prelim Studies: Having obtained her Permanent License, the Augustine University, in collaboration with the Government Body responsible for Preliminary Studies in Nigeria, would soon be offering opportunities to do Preliminary Studies to students in a University environment. This opportunity is for young people who sat for JAMB Exam but did not secure admission or those who are awaiting their results. The advantage for those who do the Preliminary Studies is that they will be able to go on straight to 200 level of their Course of choice in the university. For more information about this, interested persons should contact the University or the Directorate of Education.

6. Study Sessions for Priests on the Archdiocesan Youth Policy: We launched the Archdiocesan Youth Policy since August 2018. We hereby reaffirm the need that Parish Priests and others concerned with the implementation should do the needful in ensuring that the Policy fulfills the purpose for which so much effort was expended in order to publish. We expect that Deans in discussion with the Episcopal Vicars will organise Study Sessions on the Policy with the aim of assuring that the Priests are familiar with the content of the Policy. We expect the Deanery Youth Chaplains to be the arrow-heads in preparing the Study Sessions. We expect that these sessions should take place by the last Quarter of this year, 2019.

Let us all remember that care of the Youth is of paramount importance and cannot be left to chance. The Policy is a proactive effort to take deliberate steps to form the youths and give them the tools they need in order to lead the Church with commitment into the future. Let us always remember that any group of people who do not form their youth are jeopardizing the future.

7. Admission Requirements into St. Augustine College of Education, (Project T.I.M.E):

We call on Parish Priests and Priests-in-Charge to inform their Parishioners that the above-named College has commenced admission procedures for its 2018/2019 session. Admission requirements include:

(a) A minimum JAMB Score of 200 and above for Degree programmes and 100 and above for NCE Programmes & OND.

(B) Available Programmes and their requirements include:

University of Ibadan Degree (Full-Time and Distance Learning Centre) - 5 Credits at one sitting

OR

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 Catechists and O' Level Certificate.

For further enquiries: 08034989663, 08034919553, 08034700872, 08023891300, and 08065954493. We urge Parish Priests and Priests-in-Charge to kindly inform their parishioners.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

a. Curia Meeting: This comes up on **Wednesday 3rd of July, 2019** at the Chancery by 10:00am. Those concerned should please take note.

b. Archdiocesan Finance Council Meeting: This comes up on **Tuesday 9th of July, 2019** at the Chancery by 10:00am. Those concerned should please take note.

c. Archdiocesan Laity Harvest: The Archdiocesan Laity Harvest scheduled to hold on Sunday 5th May, 2019 was rescheduled. The harvest celebrations would now hold on **Sunday**

14th July, 2019 at the Catholic Church of Divine Mercy, Lekki. Those concerned are to kindly take note.

d. 2019 ACMPN Scientific Conference & AGM: The Association of Catholic Medical Practitioners (ACMPN) will host its 14th Annual Scientific Conference and Annual General Meeting from 4th - 7th July 2019. This provides an avenue for Catholic medical practitioners to examine the trends and challenges facing medical and health care professionals in Nigeria in order to reinforce catholic bioethics in medical practice. Invitees to the conference include scientists at the fore-front of this problem, real drug addiction management success cases, institutions, companies, Federal and State Agencies. Also, there will be presentations on integrative medicine, update on radiology, Napro-technology, planning for retirement and much more.

THEME: EFFECTS OF DRUG ADDICTION ON INTEGRAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

DATE: July 4 - 7, 2019.

TIME: 9am Daily

VENUE: Nigerian Institute of International Affairs, Kofo Abayomi Street, Victoria Island Lagos.

For Further Enquiries, Sponsorship, Advert Placements and Partnership, you can contact us through our Email: acmpnlagos_info@yahoo.com Or Call Dr. Ronald Ikpe: **08034348145**, Dr. Anne Okonma: **08067011188**

e. Singles' Day with the Archbishop: This annual Archdiocesan event organized by the Directorate of Catholic Lay Apostolate Centre in conjunction with the Archdiocesan body of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Nigeria (CCRN) comes up on **Saturday 24th August, 2019 at Catholic Church of the Ascension, Airport Road, Ikeja, Lagos by 10:00am.** This event will begin with the Opening Mass by His Grace, Most Rev. Alfred Adewale Martins, the Archbishop of Lagos. For Advertisement/support/sponsorship in the brochure please contact the Director's office: **08029270402**, or CCRN President: on **08038428028**.

f. Family Week 2019: The annual Family Week Celebration in the Archdiocese begins from **Sunday 28th of July to Sunday 4th of August 2019.** The theme for this year is: "Responding to the modern-day challenges of Human Life, Marriages and Family in Africa."

We are all invited to the FHLU thought provoking Conference that inaugurates the Family Week. This is to hold on **27th July, 2019 at the Church and Society Hall; 19, Maye Street, Yaba by 10am.** The theme of this Year's Conference is: **"Human Sexuality: A Divine**

Agenda.” Registration Fee is N2,500 which includes cost of conference materials and lunch.

It is recommended that Parishioners participate actively by discussing the following sub themes in their Parishes and at their Society meetings:

Sunday the 28th of July 2019 will be the Introduction of the Family week at all Masses in Parishes.

Day 1. Monday 29th July 2019: The United Nation's "sexual and reproductive health and rights" agenda for Africa.

Day 2. Tuesday 30th July 2019: The truth about contraception.

Day 3. Wednesday 31st August 2019: The church's response to contraception: Natural Family Planning (responsible parenthood).

Day 4. Thursday 1st August 2019: "The culture of death" Attack against marriage and the family. (cf. Evangelium Vitae nn.11-17).

Day 5. Friday 2nd August 2019: The United Nations comprehensive sexuality Education: sowing the seed of "the culture of death in our children.

Day 6. Saturday 3rd August 2019: Hospitality.

Day 7. Sunday 4th of August 2019: Parish Family celebrations, Gifting Sunday, renewal of marriage vows, celebration of silver/golden jubilee, wedding anniversaries and **Special Collections.**

g. CYON APOSTOLATE:

(i) CYON Archdiocesan Life in the Spirit Seminar (LISS): The Life in the Spirit Seminar being organised by the Archdiocesan CYON in conjunction with the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Nigeria will take place at a parish within the close proximity of those registered in the Deanery within the hours of 2:00pm to 5:00pm. It is an 8 weeks Seminar that began on the **2nd of June, 2019.** The LISS is the first of its kind organized by the CYON Lagos Archdiocese. The LISS has two main objectives:

a. To renew and reawaken the power of the Holy Spirit that we received at Baptism and Confirmation.

b. To promote an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ our Lord and to experience a personal Pentecost in our lives.

We encourage every youth in the Archdiocese to attend. Please register through the following link: www.bit.ly/LISS_2019. More information will be coming soon.

(ii) **CYON Lagos Archdiocesan Executive Retreat:** This retreat organized for Archdiocesan Executive, Deanery Coordinators and Assistants and Deanery General Secretaries and Assistants of the CYON with the Theme: **"I am the servant of the Lord, may it be done to me according to your word"**, (Lk.1:38) comes up on **Sunday 20th July, 2019** at Catholic Lay Apostolate Centre, Ebute Metta, Lagos from 8:00am to 4:00pm. The Topic for the Retreat is, **"Leadership in pursuit of holiness"**.

(iii) **CYON Lagos Ecclesiastical Province (LEPCYON) Pilgrimage to Uganda:** The CYON Pilgrimage to Uganda this year, which will hold from **10th to 24th of August, 2019**, promises to consist of interesting packages that will be educative, spiritual, social as well as knowledge in networking activities. Interested participants can register online before the actual date via this link: <http://bit.ly/LEPCYONUG19>. Also, the payment of ₦ 400,000.00 which will comprise of accommodation, feeding, souvenirs, sightseeing and lots more, can be made in full or in installments through the following account details, **Bank Name: Fidelity Bank, Acct Name: Catholic Youth Organisation of Nigeria (LEP), Acct Number: 4110040423**.

(iv) **CYON Lagos Archdiocesan Biennial Youth Camp (AYC) 2019:** This will be coming up from **Thursday 22nd to Sunday 25th of August, 2019** at St. Finbarr's College, Akoka, Yaba. Registration and payment have commenced since Sunday 28th of April, 2019 and will close Friday 2nd of August, 2019. Interested participants can register online via the link: <https://forms.gle/QEohR4RE7ZLxr8PV8>. Also, participants can pay the Delegate fee of ₦ 3,000 through this bank account details, **Bank Name: First Bank, Acct Name: CYON Archdiocese of Lagos, Acct Number: 2008399744**.

h. Archdiocesan Catholic Herald Newspaper: As part of the efforts to widen the scope of the Archdiocesan Catholic Herald Newspaper, the Directorate of Social Communications hereby welcome, write-ups and contributions on faith and morals as well as social issues from priests, religious (Male and female) as well as lay faithful. You can send your write-ups/ contributions to: thecatholicherald2007@gmail.com or tonygeee23@gmail.com for consideration.

We are also appealing to Parish Priests and Associates to please publicise the Catholic Herald Newspaper during Altar announcements. May God continue to bless and reward our apostolate. Amen.

i. **Catholic Prison Chaplaincy:** This is to inform Parishes, Organizations, Societies or individuals in the Archdiocese who wish to visit any of the prisons to kindly contact the Archdiocesan Prison Chaplain: **Rev. Fr. Kingsley Agada CM on 07038040153**. This will help to take care of logistics.

j. **Mass Wine & Quarterly Returns Booklets:** We have received a new supply of Mass Wine. Given the rise in the cost of importation and other logistics, the price has increased also. Parishes can now buy Mass wine from the Chancery at **#19,500:00** per carton. In a similar vein, the new Quarterly Returns Booklets are now available in the Chancery at **#1,500:00** per booklet.

k. Lagos Interdiocesan Tribunal

i. **Seminar on Marriage Act:** There is a new development by the Federal Government on the Marriage Act. There will be a seminar to further educate priests on this matter. The date for the seminar will be communicated soonest. Deans are to forward the names of two priests to represent their Deaneries to Rev. Msgr. Philip Hoteyin. The Marriage Facilitators of each deanery must also attend.

ii. **On those to be given or denied Christian Burial:** The stipulations of the Code of Canon Law are to be adhered to (cf. canons 1183- 1185). In any situation of doubt or confusion, especially judgment concerning “**manifest sinners**”, parish priests/ priests-in-charge should consult with the Archbishop.

l. **St. Augustine College of Education Diploma in Catechetics:** Parish Priests are requested to send their Catechists, Catechism Teachers and Marriage Counsellors for Advanced Diploma in Catechetics at St. Augustine's College of Education (Project TIME) Akoka, Yaba, Lagos. For more enquiries, visit www.sacoedng.com or www.sacoed.edu.ng or call 01-793-3594 12.

m. **Application for Anthony Cardinal Okogie Foundation Scholarship:** We wish to inform all interested applicants that the Application Form for the Anthony Cardinal Okogie Foundation

Scholarship for the 2019/2020 can be obtained from the Archdiocesan Website. Applicants are requested to click on the following link: <http://www.lagosarchdiocese.org/download/g14.pdf> to download the forms, fill and submit them to the Chancery.

n. Admission into Cecilian Academy of Sacred Music (Foundation Program): The Academy is calling for application from prospective candidates who wish to acquire foundational knowledge in Music to register. Admission is still ongoing. Courses offered include Rudiments/Theory of Music; Voice and Conducting; Basic Piano; Gregorian chant and Applied Music (any instrument of your choice). Instructional centers are located in Festac; Surulere; Lekki; Ikeja and Ejigbo. Tuition fee is very affordable. For further enquiries, call/text: **09083036356/09030905196/08056526856** or **directorceasam@gmail.com**

o. Catechetical Training for Catechists/ Catechism Teachers and Pastoral Assistants

The Antioch Pastoral Institute hereby informs all Parish Priests and Priests-in-charge of the training for Catechists and Pastoral Assistants for the 2019/2020 session. The courses are as follows:

Online Certificate Course in Catechesis and Faith Development: This course is accessed online but classroom contact holds every quarter on the first Saturday of the relevant month. The course draws from the Scriptures, the Catechism of the Catholic Church and selected documents of the Second Vatican Council, offering a balance of theology, spirituality and catechetical skills. **Duration:** Two Years, beginning from 6th of April, 2019. **Venue:** St. Dominic's Parish School Block, Herbert Macaulay Road, Yaba.

Certificate in Catechesis: This course is for developing and advancing Catechetical activities for Catechists, Catechism Teachers, Sunday School Facilitators and Parish Pastoral Assistants. **Duration:** 18 Months, with class contact holding 3rd Saturdays of every month beginning from 6th April, 2019.

Introduction to Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC): This is a refresher course on the four Pillars of our faith as presented in the CCC. It is a mandatory program for all Catechists and Catechism teachers. **Duration:** Lecture holds on 4th Saturday of each month beginning from May to August, 2019.

To obtain a form and for other enquiries, contact Religious Education Department, 19 Maye Street Off Montgomery (Opp. Lebanese School) Yaba or call: 08033574050, 08056550390 or 08066224284.

p. Family and Human Life Unit: *St. John Paul II School for Marriage and Family* of the Archdiocese is running training courses on Church teaching for interested persons in the following areas:

Marriage Theology and Lived Experience

How to Teach Human Sexuality to Children and Youth- Theology of the Body

Managing Couple Fertility Naturally (Love and Life Method)

Basic Christian Counseling Skills

Canon Law for the Laity

Note that courses for Part-time and Full-time begin in February and September, 2019, respectively. For more enquiries and registration, call Martina Ozegbe on 08130285777 or 07030616170.

q. Quarterly Returns Collections: Please be reminded that the returns from the following Special Collections are to be made in the third quarter of the year: **Peter's Pence Collection- 07/07/2019, AUI Collection- 14/07/2019.**

We reiterate our advice that Parish Priests/Priests-in-charge should use the **Pay-Direct** option or make **bank transfers** to forestall the challenges of returned cheques, irregular signatures and other problems that cause cheques to bounce. For those who insist on making their financial returns with cheques, kindly pay attention to your entries and signature. We emphasise again that when making returns, Parish Priests or Priests-in-Charge, should ensure that they attach the front page in the booklet that has the name of the parish and the appropriate quarter on it and fill the all the pages of the Booklet.

r. Mater Ecclesiae Monastery:

Monthly Retreat: Mater Ecclesiae Monastery, Sangotedo, Lagos organises 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. 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**

9. Priestly Ordination Anniversary: We congratulate, rejoice with and request your prayers for Reverend Fathers'. John Agbolade, Paul Ighabor, Anthony Oyeniyi, Anthony Okeke, Marcus Famosaya, Alfred Omoleye, Emmanuel Ogundele, Ambrose Dada, Jude Okelue, Christopher Chafa, Cornelius Azor, Kaainjo Jonathan, Jacob Usman, Emmanuel Idoko, Michael Afrifa, Sebastian Appiah, Anthony Boateng, Paschal Aggrey Seiku, Emmanuel Babalola, Jonathan Okafor, Mark Tizhe, Evaristus Mbanusi, Anthony Obiamalu, Jude Udemezue, Gabriel Emesoba, Bonaventure Ifedibo, Innocent Mmadunuko, Charles Onuoha, Emmanuel Amadi, Crescent Iloka, Anthony Eboh, Daniel Chigbu, Chukwuyenum Afiawari, Chioma Nwosu, Aghadi Onu, Chukwuma Muoneme, Agbo Chikere, Amuda John, Anthony Nworu, Vincent Udoeye, Raphael Kalu, Emmanuel Omoroke, Callistus Ojike, Edwin Nwalozie, Gordian Opara, Anthony Ekpe. Others are Rev. Frs. Joachim Osigwe, Anthony Edogame, Nicholas Okeke, Collins Akhigbe, Felix Udolisa, Ignatius Saiki, Frederick Tettey, Emmanuel Taiwo, Joseph Okotie, Charles Owordi, Joseph Yusuf, Kenmaria Onuoha, Paul Adegioriola, Remigius Okere, Henry Omeika, Linus Imoedemhe, Mike Offordum, Donatus Essien, James Raphael Udeme, Robert Wayas, Anthony Agbessime, Innocent Udomboh Kingsley Jude Dimonyekwere, Augustine Nwodo, George Egbetu, Edogbo Andrew, Victor Orilua, Jude Anyaehie, , Anthony Brown-Ugbomeh and Emmanuel Ajah whose sacerdotal ordination Anniversaries occur this month. May God grant them lasting joy and the grace of final perseverance. ***Ad multos annos.***

9. Bereavement: We reiterate the announcement on the passing on of the **Very Rev. Msgr Sylvester Osigweh** and **Rev Fr Joseph Yankson**. They died in the month of June, 2019. Kindly celebrate Masses for the repose of their souls. May God grant them eternal rest. Amen.

Signed

+ Alfred Adewale Martins
Archbishop, Metropolitan See of Lagos