



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF LAGOS

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Monthly Bulletin /Circular **OCTOBER, 2019** /No. 085

**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 also ushers us into the beginning of the fourth quarter. The month of October is another month of Mary during which we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lady, Queen and Patroness of Nigeria and Our Lady of the Holy Rosary. During this month, the Church invites us to rededicate ourselves to the maternal patronage of Our Mother through the praying of the Holy Rosary especially during the course of the October Devotion. All Catholics are therefore enjoined to participate, both at the Parish and family level, in the activities of October Devotion. Anyone one 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 maternal protection of Our Lady.

Also, in this month, we celebrate the 59th Independence Anniversary of our beloved country. Let us seize 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, progress and good governance. In doing so, we have assurance of spiritual enrichment from Our Lady's maternal intercession. May Our Lady of the Holy Rosary intercede for us.

The Church further presents us with the lives of the following Saints as guide in the course of this month: **St. Francis of Assisi** (October 4), **St. Ignatius of Antioch** (October 17), **St. Anthony Mary Claret** (October 24) and **Ss. Simon and Jude** (October 28).

2. EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH OF OCTOBER 2019: The month of October has been declared by Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, as an Extraordinary Missionary Month

(EMM OCT 2019). The aim of this special month is to reawaken our commitment to Mission as Church and as individual members of the Church so that we can renew our commitment to our responsibility of proclaiming the Gospel of salvation to the ends of the world with new enthusiasm.

Our Archdiocese has planned a number of activities and programmes at Parish and Deanery levels to commemorate this special month. We have published these activities in our Special Circular for September, 2019. We **STRONGLY URGE ALL PARISHES AND DEANERIES TO PARTICIPATE** actively in all the activities scheduled to mark this special month.

3. USE OF THE CHURCH FOR SHOOTING SCENES IN FILMS: please refer to this item which we have kept in the circular for a few months now for direction on what to do.

4. Augustine University (AUI) offers Prelim Studies: We again ask Parish Priests and Priests-in-charge to inform their parishioners that having obtained her Permanent License, the Augustine University, in collaboration with the Government Body responsible for Preliminary Studies in Nigeria (JUPEB), would soon be offering opportunities for Prelim Studies to students who are preparing to enter University. 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, the University website or the Directorate of Education.

5. Study Sessions for Priests on the Archdiocesan Youth Policy: For some months now we have been calling attention to the need for study sessions on the Archdiocesan Youth Policy at the Regional level in order to ensure that everyone is familiar with its content and therefore is empowered to help make the document fulfill the purpose for which many months of hard work were dedicated.

We are now in the last quarter of the year during which we planned that the study session should take place. We expect that the Deans in discussion with the Episcopal Vicars would have perfected the programme for the Study Sessions in their areas. As we said before, we expect the Deanery Youth Chaplains to be the arrow-heads in preparing the Study Sessions.

We are expecting to receive information on when the sessions would be taking place in each Region through the Youth Chaplain for further dissemination of the information.

6. Leadership Training for Priests: While we continue to be grateful to God for the success of the previous batches of Leadership Training for Priests, we announce that the third batch is beginning this month. We call on all Priests enlisted for the third batch to take full advantage of this unique opportunity for growth, to attend PUNCTUALLY and participate ACTIVELY in the sessions. The date for the first 25 Priests of the third batch is as follows:

Module 5 – October 30th and 31st, 2019.

8. St. Augustine College of Education (Project Time) affiliated to the University of Ibadan:

a. Admission is in progress for the 2019/2020 Session. With a minimum JAMB Score of 200 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 – **08065954493; 08024582945; 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.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

a. Rosary Procession for Peace and Security in Nigeria: As part of our activities for the Extraordinary Missionary Month of October 2019 (EMM OCT 2019), there shall be a Rosary procession in different parts of the Archdiocese on **Tuesday, 1st October, 2019** which will conclude with the Holy Mass and Reparation Prayers for peace in our dear Country Nigeria.

The locations for the procession are as follows:

- **Lekki Region:** from SS Philips & James to Ave Maria Grotto.
- **Mainland Region:** from the National Stadium to Marian Shrine at Maryland.
- **Badagry Region:** from Holy Family, Ajara to Sacred Heart Parish. Followed by a pilgrimage to Topo Island

Let us all come out *en-masse* to invoke the power of the Holy Rosary and the intercession of Our Blessed Mother Mary on our Nation.

b. Curia Meeting: Members of the Archdiocesan Curia are hereby reminded of their meeting scheduled to hold on Wednesday **2nd October, 2019 at 10:00am** at the Chancery's Conference Room.

c. Priests Recollection: The Priests' Recollection at the Regional level comes up on the **9th October, 2019**. 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.

d. Finance Council Meeting: The meeting of the Archdiocesan Finance Council comes up on the **15th October, 2019 at 10am** in the Chancery's Conference room.

e. Seminar for Priests: The Seminar for priest at the Regional level comes up on the **23rd October, 2019**. We expect all priests to avail themselves of this opportunity for ongoing formation.

f. 2019 Catechetical Week Celebration: This will begin from 6th to 13th October in all the Parishes. Theme: *"Liturgical Celebration, a Solemn Worship or a Show: Towards a proper catechesis on Liturgy"*. This is part of our activities for the Extraordinary Missionary Month of October 2019 (EMM OCT 2019). For more information, please, Contact the Department of Religious Education 19, Maye Street, Yaba, for details.

g. 2019 Catechists' Day Celebration: This will take place on **Sunday 13th of October, 2019** at **Holy Family Catholic Church, Festac, by 10am**. Chief Celebrant: Most Rev. Dr. Alfred Adewale Martins.

h. Special Invitation: The Sisters of the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus cordially invite the Clergy, Religious and Lay Faithful of the Archdiocese of Lagos to the Golden and Silver Jubilee Anniversaries of the First Religious Profession of Vows of: **Sister Mary Augustine Oshiozekhai, EHJ, Sister Mary Cyprian Igwuovhor, EHJ, Sister Mary Peter Okogie, EHJ, Sister Mary Leo Adeigbo, EHJ for Golden Jubilee and Sister Francisca Maris Ufoeze, EHJ, Sister Rita Maria Ogidan for Silver Jubilee.**

Date: October 3rd, 2019

Venue: Divine Mercy Catholic Church, Lekki, Lagos

Time: 10:00am Prompt.

i. Invitation to Maiden Convocation Ceremony of our Augustine University: The Vice-Chancellor and staff of Augustine University, Ilara-Epe cordially invite the Clergy, Religious and Lay Faithful of the Archdiocese of Lagos to the **Maiden Convocation Ceremony** of our University scheduled to hold on **Thursday 24th October, 2019** at **11:00am** in the Convocation Hall of the University.

j. 2020 Directory: The year 2020 is around the corner. **Kindly go through the Directory for this year 2019 again so as to identify and point out errors, omissions, amendments and suggestions** for the improvement of our Directory. Please, send your comments to the Chancery on or before the **last week of October, 2019**. You may also reach the Chancery through her e-mail address: arclagos@yahoo.com We look forward to hearing from you.

k. Couples for Christ Group: This is an Archdiocesan organization that helps guiding couples and couples-to-be on the path of the Church's vision for married life in our world today. Led by their Chaplain, Rev. Fr. Sebastian Ukwandu, they would be going around parishes to create awareness, sensitize parishioners on the visions of the group and to request for members. Let us kindly give them due attention.

I. FEST2LAFF 2019: The Gospel Comedy Concert/Charity fund-raiser season 3, organized to create entertainment and raise funds to assist the less privileged tagged: "Fest2laff with MC smart and Catholic Comedians...The Wheel and the Convener." Comes up as follows:

Date: Tuesday 1st October 2019

Time: 3pm -9pm

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

Ticket: Regular - N 2000. VIP - N 5000, Table for 10 - N 300,000

Tickets are available in all Parishes. For Sponsorship and enquiries: Please call **MC SMART on: 08062499548.**

m. Anthony Cardinal Okogie Annual Lecture: This programme planned by the Board of Trustee (BoT) of Anthony Cardinal Okogie Foundation in conjunction with the Archdiocesan bodies of the Catholic Young Adults' Association (CYAA) and Young Catholic Professionals (YCP) comes up as follows:

Topic: *Security of Life and Property a Prerequisite for Peaceful coexistence - The Roles of the State and the Church.*

Date: Thursday, 17th October, 2019.

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

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Delegate Card: This can be purchased at Catholic Lay Apostolate Centre, Ebute-Metta or at the venue at N 5,000. Per Person.

Note: We implore Parish Priests and Priests-in-Charge of Parishes and Chaplaincies in the Archdiocese to kindly place Goodwill Message at a minimum of N 30,000.00 and also send five (5) for N25,000.00 while Archdiocesan Lay Organisation/Society/Association to kindly place Goodwill Message for N10,000.00 and also send two (2) participants for N10,000.00. Payments can be made through cheques in favour of: Catholic Lay Apostolate Centre and at the back

write "ACOF" or through direct payment to: **Fidelity Bank Acct No. 4110028140**. Kindly send the soft copy of the goodwill material to catholicclayapostolatecentre@yahoo.com and call the Director's office on 08029270402 for further information. Thank you for your generous support.

n. St. Raphael Divine Mercy Specialist Hospital, Ijede: This Archdiocesan Catholic Hospital calls the attention of Priests, Religious and lay Faithful of the Archdiocese as well as the General Public to the World Class Standard health care services being offered at this Archdiocesan 300-bed purpose-built hospital. The hospital offers exquisite private and semi-private wards in a serene and safe environment ideal for complete restoration to health. The hospital offers the following services:

- ✓ **Diagnostic Services:** which include, but not limited to; Complete Hormonal Profile, Full Laboratory Service, Scan, E.C.G, X-Ray.
- ✓ **Well Equipped Theaters:** for different specialized surgeries for Eye, General, Obstetrics and Gynecology and Urology. St. Raphael also has dedicated Labour Ward, Children's Ward with Incubators.
- ✓ **Other Services available Include:** Circumcision, Childhood and Adult Immunization, Ambulance Services, Mortuary Services.
- ✓ **Available Clinics with Consultants include:** Obstetrics/Gynecology, Ophthalmology/EYE, Pediatrics, Dental, Cardiology, Urology and Nephrology.

Note: All these are in addition to our round the clock Out-Patient, Pharmacy, and Nursing Departments manned by warm and friendly professionals. Also, St. Raphael is a recognized primary and secondary service provider by NHIS and other reputable HMO's.

You may call on the following tel. nos for more information: Now: 08093878456, 08122360765, 07050949223, 09054465257, 09097370915, 08162916669.

o. Admission into the Cecilian Academy of Sacred Music 2019/2020 Session: The Academy is calling for registration from prospective candidates who wish to acquire music knowledge 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 Centres are located in: Festac, Surulere, Lekki, Ikeja and Ejigbo. Tuition

fee is very affordable. For further enquiries call or text: 09030905196, 08083036356, 08056526856 or send email to: directorceasam@gmail.com.

p. Tribunal Marriage Facilitators: this is to notify the Deans, Parish Priests and Priests-in-charge that following their training on the *Motu Proprio*, '**Mitis Iudex**', they can now seek the assistance of the following priests in matters of marriage before onward transmission to the Marriage Tribunal. They are:

1. Rev. Fr. Stephen Akinsowon (Ikeja Deanery)
2. Rev. Fr. Simeon Irabor (Yaba Deanery)
3. Rev. Fr. Gabriel Ukhurebor SPS, (Apapa Deanery)
4. Rev. Fr. Sylvester Onasanya, (Apapa Deanery)
5. Rev. Fr. Mike Etekpo (Ipaja Deanery)
6. Rev. Fr. Anthony Nworuh, SMMM (Ikorodu Deanery)
7. Rev. Fr. George Chiedu, (Isolo Deanery)
8. Rev. Fr. Paschal Aggrey, (Isolo Deanery)
9. Rev. Fr. Anthony Aderibigbe (Maryland Deanery)

q. CYON APOSTOLATE:

- Introducing **CatholicYouths.com**: CatholicYouths.com is an online community of Catholic Youths with a focus on helping young Catholics/Christians grow spiritually in the understanding of the Catholic Faith. Young Catholics and Christians now have the opportunity to ask questions on areas of the Catholic Faith. The website also has articles that are tailored to the challenges affecting the spiritual and moral life of young people. Visit www.catholicyouths.com to ask, learn and grow in the Catholic faith.
- **Passionate Appeal**: We call on Priests, Religious and Lay Faithful in the Archdiocese to please take seriously matters concerning the youth and to give them support in regards to organization and attendance at programmes, general welfare and empowerment.

r. 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 welcomes 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.

s. 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 **N 19,500:00** per carton. In a similar vein, the new Quarterly Returns Booklets are now available in the Chancery at **N 1,500:00** per booklet.

t. 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 **08034919553; 08065954493; 08033098523**.

v. 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 2020/2021 can be obtained from the Archdiocesan Website. Applicants are requested to click on the following link: <http://www.lagosarchdiocese.org/down/g14.pdf> to download the forms, fill and submit them to the Chancery. Closing date for all applications is the 31st of March, 2020.

w. Quarterly Returns Collections: Please be reminded that the returns from the following Special Collections are to be made in the fourth quarter of the year: **Catechetical Collection- 06/10/2019, AUI Collection- 13/10/2019, Mission Sunday- 20/10/2019.**

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 all the pages of the Booklet.

x. 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.

10. Priestly Ordination Anniversary:

We congratulate, rejoice and request your prayers for Revd Frs. Anthony Fadairo, Obi John, Innocent Uwakwe, Gabriel Feyisetan, James Anelu, Nicodemus Ugwu, OP. and Ntia Anthony 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