



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF LAGOS

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Monthly Bulletin /Circular **NOVEMBER, 2019** /No. 086

**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 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 of life and the reality of human mortality. These feasts give due expression to our faith in the Communion of Saints i.e. the link among the faithful who have already attained the joys of heaven (Church Triumphant), the faithful departed who are still undergoing the pains of expiation for their sins in Purgatory (Church Suffering) and the faithful who are still on pilgrimage in this world, working out their salvation amidst the vicissitudes of life (Church Militant). *"In this wonderful exchange, the holiness of one profits others, well beyond the harm that the sin of one could cause others...."* (CCC, 1475).

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 beatific place in our heavenly home. The feast inspires tremendous hope and reminds us of the *universal call to holiness* (*Lumen Gentium*, 40). We rejoice with them and hope that their prayers will bring us God's love, mercy and forgiveness. All Saints; Pray for Us.

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 especially those who are atoning for their sins in the purifying fires of Purgatory waiting to join the rank of the saints. The Sacred Scripture declares that *"it is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from their sins."* (2 Macc 12: 46). We are therefore encouraged to express our

solidarity with the souls in purgatory through public and private prayers, and by obtaining plenary indulgences through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, visiting a church or 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.

c. Christ the King: The celebration of the Solemnity of Christ the King comes up on **Sunday, 24th November, 2019**. It marks the beginning of the last week of the 2018/2019 Liturgical Year. On this day, Eucharistic Processions are held throughout Nigeria. The Procession at Holy Cross Cathedral begins at **2:00 p.m. prompt** from the Cathedral to St. Gregory College, Obalende. With this procession, we profess our faith in 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.

3. 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, 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.

4. 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.

5. Leadership Training for Priests: While we continue to be grateful to God for the success of the second batch of the Leadership Training for Priests, we announce that the third batch continues this month. We call on the remaining 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 all the Priests in the third batch is as follows:
BATCH 3, Module 3 – November 27th & 28th, 2019.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

a. **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 by **11.00 a.m.** at the **Holy Cross Cathedral Hall** on the respective dates below:

Diocesan Clergy (including Fidei Donum Priests): Tuesday, 26th Nov. 2019

Male Religious: Thursday, 28th Nov. 2019

Female Religious: Tuesday, 3rd Dec. 2019

b. Consultors' Meeting: This is to inform members of the College of Consultors that their next meeting which was scheduled to hold on Wednesday 20th November, 2019 has had to be rescheduled. It will now hold on **Tuesday, 19th Nov. 2019 at the Chancery's Conference room. The time is 11:00am.** We regret all conveniences arising from the change of date. All those concerned should please take note.

c. Children's Rally with the Archbishop: The annual Children's Rally with the Archbishop comes up on **Saturday, 9th November, 2019 at St. Gregory College, Obalende** beginning with the Holy Mass at 10:00am.

d. International Conference on Collaborative Ministry: This is scheduled to hold from 12th-15th November, 2019 at the **Domus Fidei Retreat Centre, Ikeja** Time: 9am-5pm. Participants may pay the sum of ₦15,000.00 into the Zenith Account number: **1011498642 Claretian Missionaries West Africa** and indicate the purpose by writing TICLA in the remarks on the teller, or come with cash to be paid during registration. Congregations, Communities and Individuals interested should send names of delegates to frterseer@gmail.com or eneojopaul@gmail.com

e. Gratitude: We hereby express our profound gratitude to the Guest Speaker, **Mr. Femi Falana SAN**, our invited Guests, Priests, Religious, and Lay Faithful who honoured our invitation with their physical presence and financial contributions to the 12th edition of the Anthony Cardinal Okogie Annual Lecture/Foundation. May God reward you all abundantly. We acknowledge in particular the parishes whose priests were not only present but who also made donations on the occasion.

f. Archdiocesan Novena for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception: There shall be a Novena in preparation for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception at the Archdiocesan Marian Shrine, Maryland:

Date: 30th November- 8th December, 2018.

Solemnity: December 9th, 2019.

Theme: As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you (Is 66:10-14)

Venue: Archdiocesan Marian Shrine, Maryland.

Time: 4:30 pm daily

g. Marriage Tribunal 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 forwarding matters 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)

h. 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 mission of the group and to request for members. Let us kindly give them due attention.

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

N:B. 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 Health Service Provider recognized by NHIS and other reputable HMO's. Call Us Now: 08093878456, 08122360765, 07050949223, 09054465257, 09097370915, 08162916669.

St. Raphael Divine Mercy Specialist Hospital... Caring with Compassion!!!

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 **Second week of November, 2019**. You may also reach the Chancery through her e-mail address: arclagos@yahoo.com We look forward to hearing from you.

k. **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.

I. CYON APOSTOLATE:

- Introducing **CatholicYouths.com**: **CatholicYouths.com** is an online community of Catholic Youths with a focus on helping young Catholics/Christians grow spiritually and in the understanding of the Catholic Faith. Young Catholics and Christians now have the opportunity to ask questions on areas of the Catholic Faith on which they need

clarification. 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.

- **Appreciation:** We thank the Priests, Religious and the Lay faithful who supported and made the just concluded Biennial Archdiocesan Youth Vigil a success. May God bless and reward you abundantly.
- **5th Biennial Archdiocesan Youth Awards:** This is scheduled to hold as follows: Date: 8th December, 2019 Venue: Catholic Church of Transfiguration, VGC Time: 3pm

m. 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 invites 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.

n. 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.

o. 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.

p. 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: **AUI Collection-13/10/2019, CIWA Collection-01/12/2019, Health Collection-8/12/2019.**

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.

q. 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 Anniversaries:

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 whose sacerdotal ordination anniversaries occur this month. Others are: Osuntope Peter, Udoh Gabriel, Abulu Jude, Amadi Marcellinus, Anokere Joseph, Emeana Denis, Teko Marcellinus, Omoregie Jerome, Okonkwo Christian, Iwu Simeon, Ogidan Andrew, Remigius Okafor and Thaddeus Onyenedum, Ozonwafor Martin, Raymond Emedo, Oyekunle Joseph, Otukpe PaulMary, Toye Andrew. May God grant them lasting joy and the grace of final perseverance. *Ad multos annos.*

10. Bereavement: We announce, with deep sympathy with the family concerned, the demise of **Late Mr. Raymond Anyanwu** the father of **Rev. Fr. Cletus Anyanwu** and **Late Chief Wilson Omughele** the father of **Rev. Fr. Michael Omughele**. They would be buried this month. Kindly celebrate Mass for the repose of his soul and consolation to the family. May God grant him eternal rest. Amen.

Signed

+ Alfred Adewale Martins

Archbishop, Metropolitan See of Lagos

ARCHDIOCESE OF LAGOS