



## CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF LAGOS

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Monthly Bulletin /Circular      **OCTOBER 2023** /No. 133

**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 ushers us to the beginning of the fourth quarter. The month of October is dedicated to Our Lady of the Holy Rosary and the Solemnity of Our Lady, Queen and Patroness of Nigeria. During this month, the Church invites us to rededicate ourselves to the maternal patronage of our Mother through the praying of the Holy Rosary as part of our October Devotion. All the faithful are therefore expected to participate, both at the Parish and family level, in the activities of October Devotion. Anyone 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 favour and protection.

Also, in this month, we celebrate the 63rd 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 shall receive spiritual enrichment from Our Lady's maternal intercession. May Our Lady of the Holy Rosary pray for us.

Other feast days and memorials in this month are: **The Guardian Angels (October 2), St. Francis of Assisi (October 4), Our Lady of the Rosary (October 7), St. Ignatius of Antioch (October 17), St. Luke (October 18), SS John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues and Companions (October 19), and Ss. Simon and Jude (October 28).**

**2. POPE'S INTENTION FOR OCTOBER 2023: For the Synod:** We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

**3. ARCHBISHOP'S INTENTION FOR OCTOBER 2023: For Development in Nigeria:** May God grant us the desired development in our nation and keep us united as one nation.

**4. ON PHOTOGRAPH-TAKING ON THE SANCTUARY:** The Sanctuary is a holy place, a sacred space within the Sacred Space that the church building is. We, therefore, expect that it should not be turned to a photo-shoot place, used after every liturgical ceremony, such as weddings, baptism, funeral masses, etc. If any photographs at all would be taken, they should be done as exceptions and never the rule, and people must not be allowed to shoot around on the sanctuary on which the altar of sacrifice is located.

**5. BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS AND EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES: EUCHARISTIC DAY:** An international exhibition has been going at the Mater Ecclesiae monastery for a number of months now. As part of the exhibition, the program called **Eucharistic Day** will hold on, **Saturday, 28th October, 2023**. The program of the day will include a Conference to be given by Msgr. Paschal Nwaezeapu, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, confession and Holy Mass.

**Time:** 9:00am -3:00pm

**Venue:** Mater Ecclesiae Monastery, Sangotedo, Lagos.

**NB:** The Closing date for the Exhibition has been extended to the Solemnity of Christ the King, in November 2023.

**6. DIPLOMA IN CATECHESIS (Regular and Online Program)**

For All Pastoral workers, Catechists; and lay faithful who wish to build their Catholic Faith.

Regular Classes: Twice a month - 2nd and 3rd Saturdays of the month

Online - Entirely ONLINE - Once a week via zoom. It is structured to enable participants meet up with their respective work/business.

Form: Two thousand naira only

Resumption: January 21, 2024

For further inquiries: +234 803 357 4050 or +234 703 512 1621

We encourage all parish priest/ priest-in-charge to register and support their Catechists.

**7. 2024 ARCHDIOCESAN DIRECTORY:** In preparation for the production of the new directory for 2024, we enjoin priests to send in their details (Full name, parish and phone number) to the chancery for proper and effective compilation. All details should be sent to the Chancery on or before **15<sup>th</sup> October, 2023**.

**8. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**a. OCTOBER ROSARY PROCESSION/REPARATION PRAYER FOR PEACE IN NIGERIA:** In line with our annual program, we invite all Catholics to our annual October Rosary Procession/Reparation Prayers for peace in Nigeria. This Archdiocesan Procession will start from the National Stadium, Surulere and end at the Marian shrine, St. Agnes Catholic Church, Maryland.

**Date:** Sunday, 1st October 2023

**Time:** 7:30am

Let us all respond to Mary's call to prayer & Reparation. May God bless our dear country with Justice and Peace.

**b. MCA EUCHARISTIC ADORATION (PARISH LEVEL):** The MCA Eucharistic Adoration comes up on **Sunday, 1st October, 2023**.

**c. 2023 Catechetical Week Celebration:** The annual Catechetical Week program in the Archdiocese begins from **Sunday, 1st October to Sunday, 8th October, 2023**. The theme for this year is: **"The Church on Mission: A call to Journey together" (Amos 3:3)**.

We expect parishioners of all parishes to participate in the activities as the week's activities are parish based. The pamphlet for this program will be available at the Religious Education Department @ N350 per copy. For further enquiries contact: 08108846869, 08066224284.

**d. CURIA MEETING:** The meeting of the Archdiocesan Curia comes up on **Wednesday, 4th October 2023 at 10am** in the Chancery's Conference room.

**e. TEACHERS' DAY CELEBRATION:** This will take place at Holy Child College, Ikoyi on **Saturday, 7th October 2023 by 10am**.

**f. CATECHISTS' DAY CELEBRATION:** This will take place at Catholic Church of Divine Mercy on **Sunday, 8th October 2023 by 10.30am**

**g. ARCHDIOCESAN FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING:** The meeting of the Archdiocesan Finance Council comes up on **Tuesday, 10th October, 2023** by **10am** in the Chancery's Conference room.

**h. SECOND MEETING OF THE TRIBUNAL:** The Second Meeting of the Tribunal comes up **Wednesday, 11th October, 2023** by **10am** in the Chancery's Conference room.

**i. ANTHONY CARDINAL OKOGIE FOUNDATION ANNUAL LECTURE:** The Anthony Cardinal Okogie Foundation Annual Lecture comes up,

**Date:** Thursday, 12th October, 2023

**Time:** 10:00 am prompt

**Topic:** The 'Japa' Phenomenon: Implications for National Development and the Christian Faith.

**Guest Speaker:** Prof. Chris Ogbechie

**Venue:** Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, Victoria Island.

**Delegate:** Strictly by invitation

We implore Parish Priests and Priests-in-Charge of Parishes and Chaplaincies in the Archdiocese to kindly place Goodwill Messages at a minimum of ₦40,000.00 (Half Page). Deanery Laity Councils and Archdiocesan Lay Organisation/Society/Association are to place Goodwill Messages at the cost of ₦40,000.00. Kindly write cheques in favour of Catholic Archdiocese of Lagos ACOF Lecture Planning OR Direct payment into Access Bank Account No. 1621314206. Soft copies of the goodwill materials are to be sent to the Whatsapp No. 08023175610 or [lawojemen@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lawojemen@yahoo.co.uk) and [majahimie@yahoo.com](mailto:majahimie@yahoo.com). Kindly call 07024885188 for further information. Thank you for your generous support.

**j. PROVINCIAL MARRIAGE ADVISORY CARE (PMAC) 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE:**

The Provincial Marriage Advisory Care (PMAC) is a body that has the mandate of ensuring appropriate quality control of marriage preparation programmes in Lagos Province. The 2023 Annual Conference of PMAC comes up on **Saturday, 21st October, 2023** at **St. Agnes Catholic Church, Maryland** by **8:00am**. The **Theme** of the conference is **"Contemporary Issues in Marriage and Family Life."** The conference is for all persons who are involved in marriage and family life.

**k. WORLD MISSION SUNDAY:** The World Mission Sunday comes up on **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2022**. **Theme:** "Hearts on fire, feet on the move". (Luke 24: 13:35). It is expected that as we pray for the success of missionary activities of the Church,

collections on that day would be remitted to the chancery and forwarded to Rome in order to assist the Holy Father in meeting the needs of missionary activity all over the world

**I. Quarterly Returns and Special Collections:** Every Parish is expected to fulfill the canonical obligation of giving an account of its income and expenditures to the Chancery and make the required financial returns. Please be reminded that the returns from the following Special Collections are to be made in the fourth quarter of the year: **Catechetical Collection** - (1st Sunday of the Month - 01/10/23), **AUI Collection** - (2nd Sunday of the Month - 08/10/2023), **Mission Sunday Collection** - (Fourth Sunday of the Month - 22/10/2023), **5th Sunday Laity Collection** for Laity Council activities at the Archdiocesan, Deanery and Parish levels - (Last Sunday of the Month - 29/10/23).

We reiterate the instruction that Parish Priests/Priests-in-charge should make **bank transfers** to forestall the challenges of returned cheques, irregular signatures and other problems that cause cheques to bounce. We emphasize again that Parish Priests or Priests-in-Charge, should ensure that they log into the new digital platform (HYELLA) to make their returns.

**m. 6<sup>th</sup> CYON Archdiocesan Youth Awards 2023:** this event was set up in order to appreciate efforts and recognize youthful endeavours of both leaders and members of the organization. The event shall include **Beauty Pageant - Miss CYON ADC** as well as an **Investiture of our Patrons and Patronesses**. We are grateful for their acceptance of the roles.

**Theme: "Reignite Your Passion"**

**Date: Sunday, 10th December 2023**

**Venue: Sacred Heart Nursery and Primary School, Apapa.**

**Time: 2pm beginning with Red Carpet**

**i. Jobberman Softskills Training:** this is an ongoing partnership with CYON Lagos Archdiocese in certifying her youths with employability and effective communication skills via Jobberman Nigeria every Saturday virtually via this link: <https://www.jobberman.com/softskills>.

**ii. TERRA ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS (TAFTA):** this is also an ongoing partnership with CYON Lagos Archdiocese in certifying and handing on training in the following creative skills: Animation, Scripting Writing, Sound Design, Stage Lighting and lots more. To apply for FREE and ask more questions click on: <https://bit.ly.Taftacourses>

For more information, support and sponsorship to the Youth Apostolate:

Email: [cyonarchdioceseoflagos@gmail.com](mailto:cyonarchdioceseoflagos@gmail.com); [cyonadclagos@gmail.com](mailto:cyonadclagos@gmail.com)

Telephone: +234 809 082 1736, +234 810 086 7070, +234 808 080 2806.

**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, located in the serene atmosphere of the Monastery, 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**.

**o. UNUSUAL PRAISE 2023:** Unusual Praise 2023 will take place in **Lagos** on **Friday, December 15th** at the **Tafawa Balewa Square, Lagos, by 5pm** and **Onitsha** on **Friday November 10th** at the **Cathedral Basilica of the Most Holy Trinity Onitsha by 5pm**. This year's edition promises to be more uplifting and Spirit-filled like never before. There will be Gospel Ministers such as Sinach, Nathaniel Bassey, Dunsin Oyekan, Mr M & Revelation, Chioma Jesus, David G, Ada Ehi, Beejay Sax, amongst many others will be participating. This event will be aired LIVE on Arise TV & other DSTV stations and will also be streamed on all our social media platforms: Facebook, YouTube @unusualpraise.

The **Theme** this year is **"Sing a New Song to the Lord" - Psalm 98:1**. If you're interested in getting Tshirts, face caps and other unusual praise Merchandise please **contact James Munachim - 08107545504**. For all other support in any capacity, please **contact Mrs Tina Oruche on 07069587145**. You can follow us on all our social media platforms **@unusualpraise** for more updates. Please register now to attend and skip queues at the gate: [www.unusualpraise.org](http://www.unusualpraise.org) Our God deserves all our praise, let us all join in and worship him.

**p. JDPC FOOD BANK PROJECT:** The food Bank project organized by the Justice Development and Peace Center (JDPC) Lagos is still in progress. We therefore appeal to Parish Priests and all people of goodwill to kindly support the JDPC in cash or kind. Financial donations can be made to **JDPC FOOD BANK PROJECT, Zenith Bank- 1224609969** while food items can be sent to the JDPC office @ 19, Maye Street, Off Commercial Avenue, Yaba, Lagos or contact the office on 08102580516.

**q. FAMILY AND HUMAN LIFE UNIT:** The Family and Human Life Unit of Archdiocese has been running a number of activities in the year 2023:

1. Annual Lagos Archdiocese family Conference: Sat, July 30th 2023
2. Annual Family week in Parishes - Sunday 31st July - 7th August 2023.
3. Annual Family Celebration of the Feast of the Holy Family - 31st December 2023.

**r. LAITY COUNCIL:** This is to inform Councils, Organizations, Societies and Movements in the Archdiocese that they are REQUIRED to comply with the Lagos Archdiocesan Guidelines concerning the election of their Executives. The guidelines require that those to constitute the Archdiocesan Executives are only serving Chairmen/Coordinators and Secretaries of the deaneries organs of such bodies. Deanery Executives are to be formed by only serving Chairmen/Coordinators and Secretaries from Parishes of such bodies.

No council, Organization, Society and Movement should shift their elections at the expiration of the tenure of current Executives under any guise or excuse. No second tenure in office of the outgoing Executives. All elections and bye elections are to be monitored, supervised and conducted by the Laity Council at the different levels.

**s. FEST2LAFF 2022:** The Gospel Comedy Concert/Charity fund-raiser Season 5, organized to create entertainment and raise funds to assist the less privileged tagged: "Fest2laff with MC Smart and Catholic Comedians...The Wheel and the Wheelers" is scheduled to hold as follows:

**Date:** Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2023

**Time:** 4pm-10pm

**Venue:** The Hall, 16 Musa Yar' Adua Street Victoria Island, Lagos.

**Ticket:** Regular N5000, VIP N 20,000

**Tables:** Gold N500,000. Premium 1,000,000

**Seat on a Table:** N50,000 and N100, 000 respectively.

Tickets are available in all Parishes. For sponsorship and enquires please call **MC SMART on: 08062499548**

**†. CEPACS AT 50 (SECAM):** Nigeria to host all African Catholic Bishops in charge of social communications in Lagos. The celebration is the 50th Anniversary of CEPACS, The Pan African Episcopal Committee For Social Communications, with the theme "towards promoting a Synodal Church in Africa through social Communications". The assembly will be a meeting involving



professionals and practitioners of all forms of media from the traditional, electronic, mass media to the social and digital media. Bishops from Africa and Madagascar, the Dicastery from the Vatican with a representative of the Holy Father the Pope will be in attendance from the 19th and 20th November 2023 in Lagos.

Convener: Most Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Adetoyese Badejo. President of CEPACS & Bishop of the Diocese of Oyo.

CEPACS @ 50... Showcasing the Church in Africa and social Communications out-reach to the faithful.

**u. 2024 LEADING FOR MISSION SEMINAR FOR THE CLERGY:** *Leading for Mission-Clergy* begins on January 24 and 25 2024. It will run by Zoom on the last Wednesdays and Thursdays of the months of January, February and March. Priest are to register using the following link: <https://forms.gle/dXQvUnDRfWCVgSRU6>

**The Seminar is intended for the following categories of priests in the archdiocese:**

- Priests who are new to the archdiocese or newly ordained
- Priests who did not complete the previous streams
- And priest who would like a refresher

**11. Priestly Ordination Anniversary:** We congratulate, rejoice and request your prayers for Very Revd Fr. Anthony Fadairo and Frs. Obi John, Innocent Uwakwe, Gabriel Feyisetan, Godrick Shaba, Innocent Uwakwe, Dennis Ujomu OSJ, Onwuka Kyrian OSJ, Samugan Gilbert OSJ, Stephen Adedeji, Luke Osabohien OSJ, Patrick Adejumo OSJ, and Ntia Anthony OSJ whose sacerdotal ordination anniversaries occur this month. May God grant them lasting joy and the grace of final perseverance. *Ad multos annos.*

**12. Bereavement:** We announce with deep sympathy, the demise of **Mr. Louis Chika Anoliefo**, the father of **Rev. Fr. Raymond Anoliefo** and the demise of **Mrs. Rosita Iheoma Anyanwu**, the mother of **Rev. Fr. Francis Anyanwu**. Kindly celebrate Mass for the repose of their souls and the consolation of the families. May God grant them eternal rest. Amen.

**Signed**

**+ Alfred Adewale Martins**

**Archbishop, Metropolitan See of Lagos**