

**DIOCESE OF EVO, CHURCH OF NIGERIA
(ANGLICAN COMMUNION)**

**RESOLUTIONS OF THE DIOCESE OF EVO, CHURCH OF
NIGERIA (ANGLICAN COMMUNION) AT THE END OF THE
SECOND SESSION OF THE FOURTH SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE
HOSTED BY TRINITY ARCHDEACONRY AT ST. MATTHIAS
ANGLICAN CHURCH, ATALI DISTRICT, OBIO/AKPOR LGA,
RIVERS STATE.**

The Diocese of Evo, Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) held the Second Session of its Fourth Synod at the St. Matthias Anglican Church, Atali District, Trinity Archdeaconry from Thursday, 13th to Sunday, 16th August, 2020 under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the leadership of the Rt. Rev. Innocent U. Ordu, JP, Bishop, Diocese of Evo and President of Synod, with his wife, Mrs. Chinyere Ordu, JP, FCAI, President of the Mothers' Union, Women's Guild, Sisters Forum and Girls' Guild.

The Synod, which was preceded by a one-day preparatory Synod at the same venue on Saturday, 1st August, 2020, held in strict compliance with established COVID-19 protocols.

The theme of the Synod was "Stronger and Better Together" (Psalm 133, 1 Cor. 12:14, Eccl. 4:9-12).

At the end of the session, the Synod:

1. Ratified the decision of the Diocesan Board to establish the fourth Diocesan secondary school, Seed of David Academy, to be located at Atali.
2. Notes the spate of chieftaincy disputes involving members of the church in communities within the Diocese, and advised members to refrain from conflicts and accept whoever has been recognized by government to ensure that peace reigns in the Diocese.
3. Charges the priests, church teachers and leaders of the Adult Sunday School Ministry in our churches to dust up all past manuals and fish out such subjects which may meet their needs on different seasons and occasions of the church year.
4. Expresses dissatisfaction that many churches and units owe the Evo Press various sums of money, some for several years and notes that it is not helping the growth of the press and warns of dire consequences if they fail to pay the debts immediately.
5. Commends churches and activity groups for their thoughtfulness and kind gestures for donations and palliatives during the COVID-19 lockdown.

6. Directs all churches and Archdeaconries to immediately proceed to actualize the task of planting new churches as they were directed at the Synod of 2014 and 2016.
7. Reiterates that the Diocese of Evo believes and teaches all worshippers to faithfully pay their tithes to God as enshrined in the scriptures and advised the congregation to clearly spell out their gifts to the priests and church teachers so that it would not be confused with tithes which is paid to the church and not to the pastor.
8. Warns that the Diocese will not tolerate priests and church teachers who slow down the spiritual growth of the Diocese by losing concentration on their core spiritual duties and stressed that such persons will attract disciplinary actions.
9. Decries the mindless celebration of and partaking in Holy Communion by some pastors and members of the church without due consideration to the essence of Holy Communion and directs that henceforth, without prejudice to the Communion taken to the sick and aged at home and in hospitals, Holy Communion services should be held not more than twice a month.
10. Directs that churches, not priests and church teachers, should henceforth be responsible for the procurement of Holy Communion elements.
11. Directs that all proceeds from offertories should be paid directly to church accounts and that at the end of each month, the church treasurer and clerk should pay only 40 percent to the priest(s) and retain the remaining 60 percent in the church's account for welfare/charity to the needy.
12. Decries a situation where clergy wives corner to themselves proceeds from appreciation of their presidential addresses at women's conferences and charged clergy wives to let all proceeds their conferences go to accounts of the women ministry.
13. Warns that the Diocese will no longer tolerate Clergy wives printing their conference and other event materials outside the Diocesan Printing Press.
14. Charges pastors to ensure they hold the traditional 31st December (New Year's Eve) services in the night preceding the New Year and the New Year service of the 1st January of every year unflinchingly.
15. Urges priests and church teachers to strictly observe all the special/occasional Passiontide services, especially as listed in the Book of Common Prayers or risk appropriate sanctions.
16. Frowns at the poor and deplorable state of signposts of churches in the Diocese and directed the clergy, church teachers and their church

councils to ensure the immediate upgrade of all affected signposts in the Diocese forthwith as defaulters will be disciplined.

17. Notes that churches, individuals and groups have continued to pay lip service to their debts to the diocese, which include under-remittances, sundry levies, Endowment Fund and Synod launching pledges, among others, and appealed to all debtors to pay up in order not to stifle developments in the Diocese.
18. Encourages churches in the Diocese to take the issue of corporate social responsibility seriously and execute projects in their host communities and report to the Diocese appropriately.
19. Directs Archdeaonries to plant chaplaincies in all police and military formations in their areas of operation.
20. Notes the unhealthy attitude of vicars changing or tampering with approved vision and mission statements of churches and directs that such should stop henceforth.

Hommyant
Rev. Can Gospel Onuchuku
Clerical Synod Secretary


Sir Barr. Emmanuel C. Izuehie
Lay Synod Secretary

Innocent
The Rt. Rev. Innocent U. Ordu, JP
Bishop/President of Synod
16/8/2020