## CHURCH OF NIGERIA (ANGLICAN COMMUNION) DIOCESE OF EVO

## RESOLUTIONS OF THE DIOCESE OF EVO, CHURCH OF NIGERIA (ANGLICAN COMMUNION) AT THE END OF THE THIRD SESSION OF THE FOURTH SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE HOSTED BY ALL SAINTS' CATHEDRAL, RUMUOKWURUSI, OBIO, RIVERS STATE

The Diocese of Evo, Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) held the Third Session of its Fourth Synod at All Saints' Cathedral, Rumuokwurusi, Obio, Rivers State from Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2021 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 Synod at the same venue on Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2021, held in strict compliance with established COVID-19 protocols.

The theme of the Synod was "Do Not Be Weary in Well-Doing" (Galatians 6:9).

At the end of the session, the Synod:

- 1. Directs every church in the Diocese to establish welfare store houses or food banks to address the rising cases of poverty, hunger, unemployment etc in the society.
- 2. Calls on every believer, not only pastors or clergymen, to zealously preach the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and win souls for Him, as it is a primary act of well-doing which pleases God.
- 3. Commends the Diocesan Bishop Elenwo Memorial Hospital for progress made in the health institution so far and approved the purchase and installation of X-Ray and ultra sound machines, and also encourages the Diocesan community to patronize the hospital.
- 4. Urges churches and members to give sacrificially to one another; support and encourage our ministers who faithfully

proclaim the gospel in keeping with biblical commands (Gal. 6:6-10)

- 5. Calls on members not to get weary in giving their tithes, offerings and other Christian stewardships but rather to be calculated and consistent in these acts to the end that God's work is advanced and the needs of the Church are attended to.
- 6. Admonishes every resident to pay more serious attention to the issue of environmental sanitation of every part of Port Harcourt and other cities of Rivers state.
- 7. Notes the introduction of a new brand of special offerings tagged "offering for the cooking of the first meal of the couple" by some pastors at weddings, though such offerings had not been approved by the Diocesan Board, the Diocesan himself or the Synod, and therefore directs that all such offerings be stopped forthwith, and further directs that all such money illegally raised be returned to the couples on whose weddings such offerings were raised. Synod warns that refusal/failure to comply with the above directives shall attract appropriate sanctions from the Diocese.
- 8. Notes that knighthood is a sacred office and therefore those to be conferred with such office are those who have demonstrated faithful churchmanship and Christian stewardship at local church levels and the Diocese, and insists that knighthood in the Diocese of Evo is not for sale.
- 9. Warns that those who are knighted by other dioceses without the due clearance from the Diocese will not be recognized and accorded the necessary privileges in the Diocese.
- 10. Mandates the Diocesan Education Board to earnestly pursue and conclude the purchase of the Woji Town Word of Faith Group of Schools from the owners.
- 11. Commends mother churches for planting new churches but urges them to ensure that they properly nurture the new/infant churches and work hard to provide permanent sites for the new churches.
- 12. All groups and arms must ensure that their Synod Reports and Financial Statements are included in their reports as any report without these information will be rejected in future Synod meetings.
- 13. Calls on the clergy, chaplains and leaders of various Diocesan churches, units and groups to avail the office of the Diocesan Archives/Records Unit vital needed information and materials that will assist the unit put in place a properly equipped archival centre.

- 14. Calls on churches and members to patronize all Diocesan investment outlets to encourage them and also shore up the finances of the Diocese.
- Notes that while some Diocesan (Men, Women & Youth) 15. Prayer Groups/Ministries are striving to make full proof of their ministries, several others are visibly lukewarm and not settina committed to the vision of up the praver groups/ministries, and therefore calls on coordinators and leaders of the groups to wake up to their missions and responsibilities to make the prayer groups viable and effective.
- 16. Urges members to be patient and not be tired in doing good as it is only in perseverance in well-doing is reward promised.
- 17. Encourages all members of the Diocese to participate actively in the electoral process of the nation by ensuring that they have their voter's cards to elect people of impeccable character into offices for the good of the nation and to protect the faith.
- 18. Calls on all members of the Diocese to commit themselves through generous/sacrificial donation of needed cash and other material items as well as rendering of voluntary services towards the successful hosting of the February 2022 Standing Committee Meeting of the Church of Nigeria by our Diocese.

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**Rev. Can Gospel Onuchuku** Clerical Synod Secretary

Sir Barr. Nlerum Amadi Chancellor

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