

DIOCESE OF EVO, CHURCH OF NIGERIA (ANGLICAN COMMUNION)

RESOLUTIONS OF THE DIOCESE OF EVO, CHURCH OF NIGERIA (ANGLICAN COMMUNION) AT THE END OF THE FIRST SESSION OF ITS FOURTH SYNOD HELD AT ST. NICHOLAS' ANGLICAN CHURCH, WOJI DISTRICT, WOJI ARCHDEACONRY, OBIO, PORT HARCOURT

The Diocese of Evo, Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion), held its 5-day First Session of the Fourth Synod at St. Nicholas' Anglican Church, Woji District, Woji Archdeaconry, Obio, Port Harcourt from Wednesday, 14th to Sunday, 18th August, 2019.

The theme of the Synod was "**Take Heed to Yourselves ...**" (Luke 21:34)

At the end of the session, the Synod resolves as follows:

1. The theme of the Synod is an urgent call to order and therefore very apt, especially so, given the end-time dispensation and the need to engage in a robust and aggressive evangelism.
2. Priests and church councils should endeavour to carry out directives or resolutions from the Synod or the episcopacy as they are meant for the good of the Diocese.
3. Churches should not schedule other programmes during Youth Weeks in order to encourage and retain the youth of the diocese but should rather mobilise the congregation to attend youth programmes.
4. It does not speak well of parents who are Anglicans but their children worship in other places. Such people should take steps to encourage their children who have left for other churches to return to the Anglican Communion.
5. Teachers and leaders at the children and youth ministries are directed to stick to the approved materials on Anglicanism to encourage the children to stick to the teachings of Anglicanism.
6. Leaders at every level of the Diocese must strive to do what is scripturally proper, fight against evil in order to receive the crown of glory.

7. The leadership of the Church at all levels should be wary of heretic teachings and false doctrines in our churches, and that all Anglicans should stop being gullible to sheep stealers.
8. The youth of churches in the Diocese should stop asking for gratification for small services they render to the church as they have shown an insatiable appetite for gratification for services they render. They should rather develop a sacrificial attitude to their churchmanship.
9. Christians in all institutions are to imbibe and practice the virtues of integrity, sincerity and honesty in their workplaces because spending or accepting any funds they are not entitled to amounts to fraud.
10. While the Synod cannot condone immorality among the clergy and would always take disciplinary actions against anybody involved in such acts, it warns members against raising false alarms or taking delight in running down or framing up the clergy.
11. The Synod is not comfortable with the prevalence of chieftaincy disputes and wrangling in communities within the diocese. Majority of people involved in the disputes in the State are Anglicans. The Synod therefore advises communities to follow due process in resolving all issues so that Government will give adequate recognition to the thrones. The priests are directed to put machinery in motion to resolve these challenges especially where members of the Diocese are involved.
12. Parishioners should patronise the Diocesan Schools as they have competent teachers, adequate facilities and standards to produce quality students.
13. The attitude of some lay readers to diocesan assignments and church programmes, particularly those from St. Andrews Ang. Church, Rumuobiokani leaves much to be desired. The Diocese directs the Rector of Rumuobiokani Deanery to submit a report covering all lay readers in that church to the Bishop for necessary action.
14. Priests and Church leaders are to ensure the constant maintenance of church facilities. The facilities should not be allowed to rot in their very eyes due to lack of care.
15. The poor state of record keeping in churches is unacceptable. It is to the collective shame of members of the Diocese that in a modern age such as this, churches cannot keep records. The Diocese shall set up a Committee/Body/Office for the sole duty of collating and

preserving the records of what we do. Each Administrative Bloc, Church, Activity Group/Unit should also do same immediately to preserve records of the church.

16. All Diocesan faithful should build on the solid foundation laid by the Diocese in its first 10 years of existence as the Diocese aims for greater accomplishments in the next 10 years.
17. In the next 10 years, the Diocese will seek to become and remain the true Body (Church) of Christ, a people called out of the world and set apart to live the life that honours and glorifies God. The Diocese urges all to desist from the inglorious culture of seeking praise and worship for the services we claim to be rendering to God.
18. The next ten years of this Diocese will certainly be more challenging than all the period covered so far. The Diocese calls on all parishioners to be more dedicated and watchful so that they will not be derailed.

Rev. Can. Gospel Onuchukwu
Clerical Synod Secretary

Sir Barr. Emma C. Izuehie
Lay Synod Secretary

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