

**THE DIOCESE OF LAGOS
CHURCH OF NIGERIA
(ANGLICAN COMMUNION)**

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS AT
THE FIRST SESSION OF THE 34TH SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE
HELD FROM SUNDAY, 5TH TO WEDNESDAY, 8TH MAY, 2019**

Theme:
**THE UNFAILING FAITH OF OUR FATHERS:
EVER SUFFICIENT**

Venues:
**THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
MARINA, LAGOS**

**OUR SAVIOUR'S CHURCH
TAFAWA BALEWA SQUARE, LAGOS**

President of the Synod:
His Lordship, The Rt. Revd Dr. Humphrey Bamisebi Olumakaiye, Ph.D
The Diocesan Bishop of Lagos and Missioner

SYNOD OPENING SERVICE

DAY 1 – SUNDAY, 5TH MAY, 2019

OPENING SERVICE

- 1.01 The First session of the Thirty Fourth Synod of the Diocese of Lagos (Anglican Communion) tagged "The Centenary Synod" kicked off with an Opening Service at the Cathedral Church of Christ, Marina, Lagos on Sunday 5th of May 2019 at 4.00pm. The service was presided over by the President of Synod and Diocesan Bishop of Lagos and Chief Missioner; His Lordship, The Rt. Rev. Dr. Humphrey Bamisebi Olumakaiye. The theme for the Synod was **THE UNFAILING FAITH OF OUR FATHERS: EVER SUFFICIENT** (2 Timothy 1:5).
- 1.02. The Diocesan Mass Choir that comprised of choristers from The Cathedral Church of Christ, Our Saviour's Church TBS, Anglican Church on the Peninsula Ajah, St. Peter's Church Ikota and Church of Pentecost Ajah led the First Procession. They were closely followed by the Readers and Agents with the Hymn WIS 4 – **'A Mighty Fortress is Our God'**.
- 1.03 The Second Procession was made up of the Clergy filing in *juniores priores* was next with the Hymn A&MNS 156 **'Come Down, O Love, Divine'** and they were led in by the Priests' Verger. The Third Procession was made up of The Provost's Verger, Canons, Archdeacons and Deans/Provosts from other Dioceses. Following at the rear of the Procession was Provost of the Cathedral Church of Christ, Marina, Lagos, The Very Adebola Ojofeitinmi and The Cathedral Wardens while the Psalm 121 (I will lift

up mine eyes/ un-to. hills: from whence-/cometh. my/ help) and Psalm 122 (I was glad when they/ said un-to/ me: we will/ go in-to the/ house of, the/ Lord) were being chanted.

1.04 The colourful procession was concluded with the Episcopal Procession that was heralded in with an indigenous hymn I. O.M 107 (E funpe na kikan, Ipe ihinrere). On the entourage of the Bishop were the Diocesan banner followed by the Legal Secretaries, The Assistant Registrars, The Deputy Registrars, The Registrars, The Deputy Chancellors, The Chancellors, The Hon. Justice Faji of the Lagos Mainland diocese, the Hon. Justice Cybil Nwaka of the Diocese of Asaba and the Hon. Justice Oyebanji, the Chancellor of the Diocese was at the rear.

1.05 They were followed by the visiting Bishops:

- The Rt. Rev. James Akinola-*Lord Bishop of Igbomina West(Rtd)*
- The Rt. Revd. Akin Odejide - *retired Lord Bishop of Ifo*
- The Rt. Revd. J. O. K. Olowokure - *retired Lord Bishop of Akoko*
- The Rt. Rev. Olubayo Ibijole- *University of Ibadan*
- The Rt. Rev. Prof. Dapo Asaju- *Bishop Theologian & Vice Chancellor, Ajayi Crowther University Oyo*
- The Rt. Rev. B. C. A. Johnson- *Lord Bishop of Lagos Mainland*
- The Rt. Rev. Ebenezer Okuyelu- *Lord Bishop of Osun North East*
- The Rt. Revd. Dr. James Odedeji - *Lord Bishop of Lagos West*
- The Rt. Rev. Rufus Adepoju- *Lord Bishop of Ekiti –West*
- The Rt. Rev. Jide Adebayo- *Lord Bishop of Igbomina West*
- The Rt. Revd. Nathaniel Ogundipe - *Lord Bishop of Ifo*
- The Rt. Rev. Praises Omole Ekun-*Dean St. Francis College Wusasa, Zaria*
- The Rt. Revd. Dr. Akin Atere - *Lord Bishop of Awori*
- The Rt. Revd. Samuel Ogundeji - *Lord Bishop of Egba West*
- The Rt. Rev. Abiodun Taiwo Olaoye- *Lord Bishop of Osun North*
- The Rt. Revd. Dr. Isaac Oluyamo - *Lord Bishop of Ijesha North*
- The Most Revd Israel Amoo - *Bishop of New Bussa*
- The Most Revd. Dr. Joseph O. Akinfenwa - *Lord Bishop of Ibadan*
- The Most Revd. Dr. A. B. Lamido- *Lord Bishop of Wusasa and Dean, Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)*

At the end of procession was The President of Synod and Bishop of the Diocese of Lagos, The Rt. Revd. Dr. Humphrey Bamisebi Olumakaiye, who was ushered in with his Chaplains in tow.

1.06 The service started with the Call to worship led by The Rev. Edwin U. Sesay. The Old Testament lesson from Joshua 1:1-18 was read by Mrs. Yetunde Akinluyi while the New Testament reading from 2 Timothy 1:1-15 was read by the Chancellor, The Hon. Justice (Mrs.) Adedayo Oyebanji. The Creed to Third Collect (Responses: Smith in A) was led by The Canon Charles O. Alabi.

1.07 After the Hymn CH 401 '**Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers**', His Lordship, the Diocesan and President of Synod, The Rt. Rev. Humphrey Bamisebi Olumakaiye led the Prayer of Intercession. He sought the prayers of the Synod for the power of the

Holy Spirit and union of Christ in the Church, appreciation to God for the privilege to be called children of God, forgiveness of sins for the church and for church leaders and followers to know that it is a privilege by God to serve and grace to continue to serve God and the world in humility. He also requested prayers for The Most Revd. Dr. Nicholas D. Okoh, our Archbishop, Metropolitan and Primate of All Nigeria together with The Most Revd. Michael Olusina Fape, who is the Archbishop of the Ecclesiastical Province of Lagos with the leadership and members of the Diocese. In addition, he led prayers for the President of the country, Muhammadu Buhari with his Vice Prof. Yemi Osinbajo; the leaders and members of the National Assembly, the Judiciary, the political class, the Independent National Electoral Commission; the Governor of Lagos State Mr. Akinwumi Ambode with his deputy, Dr. (Mrs.) Idiat Oluranti Adebule, with members of the State Legislature, the Executive Council of Obas and people of the State, together with the incoming Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwolu with his deputy, Dr. Obafemi Hamzat, the Hon. Justice George Adesola Oguntade and other ambassadors; the ministries of former Diocesan Bishops of Lagos, leaders of faith in the Diocese of Lagos that have retired and those that are about to retire. He concluded the Prayer of Intercession for faithfulness in the dispensation of God's divine mandate in the five-fold ministries of prophesy, preaching, prayer, praise and priest and that God will thwart the plans of the devil to cause division among us to turn us against one another and grace for all to submit to people in authority and control.

- 1.08 Thereafter, and with the Synod Hymn (Faith of our fathers living still) the Centenary Synod Preacher, His Grace, The Most Rev. Joseph O. Akinfenwa, the Diocesan Bishop of Ibadan was ushered to the pulpit for the Opening Service Message.
- 1.09 After the Prayer, the Preacher appreciated the Dean of the Church of Nigeria, other Bishops and their wives, members of the legal luminary especially their cooperation with the Bishop, members of the Clergy, Synod delegates, the Provost and members of the Cathedral.
- 1.10 He picked his text from 2 Timothy 1:6 and admonished that parents should pass down family values to their children like Eunice, Timothy's mother, and Lois, his grandmother. He lamented the fact that the role of grandparents in the family is gradually being eroded. He wondered that if grandparents and parents don't have any story to tell, what values will they pass to their children and grandchildren. He posited that when the grandparents play their roles in the lives of their grandchildren, the future of their grandchildren will be secured.
- 1.11 Paul believed that Timothy has had the basic training in Christianity, but what was in him needed to be fanned into flame. He said that Paul could be suggesting that if parents and grandparents played their roles in the lives of their children, there will be less of stress for the clergy to take on.
- 1.12 He therefore challenged parents to introduce their children to the Lord Jesus Christ. He asked rhetorically if the Sunday school is gradually not becoming a place just to keep children quiet. He also asked how much the church has budgeted for youth programs in the church.

- 1.13 He was of the opinion that the lack of proper and spiritual care of our children may lead them to having no faith at all, in the future. This should be the greatest fear of every parent because our children are gradually tending to walk in the path of "disregarding God".
- 1.14 He pointed out that the world is becoming impersonal and the church ought to counter that by creating opportunities for "Koinonia". He counseled that as Anglicans, we should not remove the ancient landmarks set by our forefathers, as their removal will lead to us having children who do not value our faith. He said empathically that the Anglican Church has an enduring faith and legacy, which we must pass on to the children - these legacies include our hymns, our liturgy as exemplified by the Prayer books etc.
- 1.15 He continued quite regrettably that the faith of our fathers is falling away because of spiritual laziness. He recommended that we should keep our faith alive because the faith of our fathers is a living faith. He took the Synod through series of our hymns that Synod members sang along delightfully, thereafter ending the sermon.
- 1.16 After the sermon was Collection of Offerings, which was ably led by melodious voices of The Divine Mandate Voices, and prayer on it was said by The Rt. Revd. Taiwo Olaoye, the Lord Bishop of Osun North Diocese.
- 1.17 The President of Synod thanked God, the Dean of the Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion), The Archbishop of the Province of Kaduna and Lord Bishop of Wusasa, The Most Revd. Ali Buba Lamido, the Preacher of The Centenary Synod, The Lord Bishop of Ibadan Diocese, The Most Revd. Dr. Joseph O. Akinfenwa. He also appreciated:
- Dr. Ibijoke Sanwolu - *wife of the Governor-elect of Lagos State*
 - Mrs. Victoria Adejoke Orelope-Adefulire - *former Deputy Governor of Lagos State*
 - The Hon. Justice Adedayo Oyebanji - *the Lord Chancellor of the Diocese of Lagos*
- 1.18 He also appreciated the following dignitaries
- The Hon. Justice Olayinka Faji - *The Chancellor of Lagos Mainland*
 - Mrs. Abosede Olabisi - *the Deputy Chancellor of Awori Diocese*
 - The Hon. Justice Sybil Nwaka - *The Chancellor of Asaba*
 - Mr. Olumide Sofowora (SAN) - *Deputy Chancellor of Diocese of Lagos and others of the legal team of the Diocese*
- 1.19 The Synod Secretary, The Ven. Segun Ladeinde, in the Notices appreciated the President of Synod on behalf of the delegates. He also thanked God for the support and immense contribution of *Mama Lagos*, Professor Mrs. Motunrayo Funke Olumakaiye. The Diocesan Officials, the Synod Delegates, the Readers, the Choir, the Diocesan Organist and Master of Music, Stewards, Wardens and the Guild of Stewards. He gave kudos to the choristers from the Cathedral Church of Christ, Our Saviour's Church, TBS, Anglican Church on the Peninsula, Church of Pentecost, Ajah and St. Peter's Church, Ikota for coming. He also appreciated the Diocesan Medical Commission and the Cathedral Clinic, the Security, the Police, PHCN and the Press. He used that opportunity to go through the Programmes lined up at the Synod and appealed to all Synod delegates to take the sessions with the seriousness it deserves.

- 1.20 After the Notices, the Synod sang joyfully, the Diocesan Anthem '**Lagos Diocese, Premier Diocese**' which was followed with the Synod Prayer and Vesper '**Mo F'emi Mi S'abe...**'
- 1.21 The President of Synod brought the Opening service to an end at 6:30 pm with Prayers and Benediction by the Dean, Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion), follow by the Withdrawal Hymns '**Go, My Children, With My Blessing...**', CH 44 '**Abide With Me, Fast Falls the Eventide...**', and CH 509 '**Lead, Kindly Light, Amid the Encircling Gloom...**'
- 1.22 Attendance at the service was 1,111 while the Offering collected during the service was N328, 770.

DAY 2- MONDAY, 6TH MAY 2019

MORNING SESSION

2.00 REGISTRATION AND ACCREDITATION

- 2.01 The Registration and Accreditation of delegates started at 7:00am under the leadership of The Rev'd Canon Akpoghene Okoro, The Rev'd Canon Diran Ogundipe and The Rev'd. Edwin Sesay.

3:00 HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

- 3.01 The Holy Communion Service presided over by The Ven. Michael Adebisi Gbadebo commenced at 8:00am with the Opening Hymns CH 702 '**Christ is our Cornerstone...**' He was assisted by The Revd Charles A. Ezech who took the Old Testament reading from **Daniel 3:1-8**, The Revd Canon Diran Ogundipe read the Epistle from **Philippians 1:19-30** and The Revd Emmanuel Opara read the Gospel from **Matthew 10:16-24**. The Intercession was led by The Ven. Ayodeji O. Bamikiya while The Ven. Obinna C. Ulogwara preached the sermon. The Choristers at the service were from Our Saviour's Church TBS, Anglican Church for All Nations, St. David's Church, Lafiaji and All Soul's Church, Lekki.
- 3.02. The Preacher ministered on the topic: "If I perish, I perish - The Attitude of Our Fathers to the Gospel: A Challenge to Every Christian". He took his text from Esther 4:15-17
- 3.03 In his sermon, he traced the history of Queen Esther in the Holy Bible and expounded that her story is a challenge to us as Christians in this present age to hold on to our faith in every situation we find ourselves, even at the threat of death.
- 3.04 From her story, the King Ahasuerus who was a very powerful King of Persia and Medina held a banquet where he desired to show off his wife Queen Vashti whom he assumed was the most beautiful woman in the world. The Queen was however very busy with her own banquet and refused to honour the King's command which led to the King being annoyed and she was consequently ousted as Queen.

- 3.05 The dethronement of Queen Vashti led to the discovery of Esther who as an orphan was brought up by her Uncle Mordecai. Esther was among the 400 young virgin maidens who were gathered for the purpose of selecting a Queen for the King. She came from a minority community that was hated and despised, but God was with them at every stage of the preparation to meet with the King. She received favour until it was her turn to meet the King at which point she was made the Queen. The nature of the marriage was one where the King summoned the Queen at his pleasure and anything contrary to that would be met with death.
- 3.06 After Esther's marriage to the King, the Jewish people faced execution and her Uncle Mordecai sought her out to appeal to the King. Esther had to break protocol and enter into his presence without being summoned which was a crime punishable by death. Esther made up her mind to see the King with a resolution that "If I perish I perish." Esther's actions and statements showed very strong faith that can be seen throughout the Bible.
- 3.07 The Preacher averred that loving God and following His precept is more than loving one's own life which was the fundamental attitude of Our Fathers to the Gospel and examples of faith throughout the Bible as referenced in ***Revelation 12:11; Daniel 3:16-20; Matthew 10:17-18; Acts 4:17-19 and Acts 5:25; 40-42.***
- 3.08 The Apostles and Disciples of old spread out to minister and evangelize; they went far and wide as heralds of the message of the Risen Christ. They suffered greatly for their faith and in most cases met violent deaths on account of their bold witness. Examples of people with the '**If I perish, I perish**' approach includes James the Son of Zebedee who was executed by Herod about 44AD; Peter and Paul that were martyred in Rome about 66AD during the persecution under Emperor Nero; Peter was crucified upside down.
- 3.09 Drawing from church history, the Preacher said that the early church leaders were dragged off, persecuted and tortured to death by the most cruel of methods but their perseverance rendered the powers of Rome ineffective as it could not crush the allegiance of the Church to Christ.
- 3.10 He concluded that, as children of God, we need to come to a point of Total Surrender like our fathers of old and Esther. It is in doing this that we can be transformed and placed on a citadel where we are able to operate at a very different level of the supernatural like Leah Sharibu and Timothy of Mauritania, in the face of Boko Haram and other religious terrorists. Though the world may look down on us and count us as dead, but it is no longer we that live, it is rather the supernatural life of Jesus at work in and through us. We therefore need to respond to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in our lives, bearing in mind that we have been called by a faithful God, who will not fail us. He has however assured His presence with us till the very end of age (**Matt. 28:20**).
- 3.11 The service ended at 9:31am with the Hymns AMNS 33 '**Onward Christian Soldiers...**'
- 3.12 Attendance at the service was 550 while the Offertory was N115,300.

3.13 The Synod Secretary appreciated the Synod delegates, on behalf of the President of Synod and requested delegates to be seated for the Bible Study session, as he introduced and invited the Bible Study Leader.

4.0 BIBLE STUDY

4.01 The Bible Study Leader, The Ven. Dr. Solomon M. Mepaiyeda of the University of Ibadan, started the Bible Exposition with the Theme: **THE UNFAILING FAITH OF OUR FATHERS: EVER-SUFFICIENT** (2 Timothy 1:5) from 9:35am

4.02 In his Introduction, the Bible Study Leader defined the term 'faith' from the Hebrew root as '*emun*' and also the Greek word '*pistis*'.

4.03 Based on that background, he explained that the word 'faith' has a two-fold meaning in the Bible: firstly as 'trust', which is 'absolute reliance' or 'confidence' in God. (Rom. 4:18-22; Matt. 17:20); Gal. 3:6-9; Jam. 2: 21-25) and secondly as 'fidelity', which is 'absolute loyalty' to the unseen reality.

4.04 He went further to define the word 'faith' as given by Martin Luther King (Jnr.) as "taking the first step when we do not see the whole staircase". The Bible in Hebrews 11:6 defined 'faith' in a very simplistic form as "confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see". (Heb. 11:6)

4.05 In the context of our study therefore, the Apostle Paul referred to the sincere faith handed down to Timothy by his grandmother (Lois) and his mother (Eunice). Paul addressed Timothy as "my true son in the faith" (1 Tim. 1:2) perhaps, because he led him to Christ at Lystra (Modern day Turkey), during his first missionary visit.

4.06 The Bible Expositor therefore summarized faith in three concepts. Firstly, as a spiritual concept, which is putting total trust in God and in the efficacy of His Word. Hence, faith is therefore the real and substantial thing (2 Cor. 4:18). Secondly, as a connecting link between the natural and the supernatural which is the possibility we see in impossible circumstances and lastly, Faith as the rod of our spiritual journey with God. (Heb. 11:6; 2 Cor. 5:17)

4.07 He maintained that some people (even Christians) in the world argue that faith is not a necessity of life, but reasoning; which they maintained could make anyone stand on his own without recourse to his Creator. An example of this school of thought is Pelagius, who maintained that man's endowed freewill is capable of making him sufficient in life, without God.

4.08 In conclusion, the Bible Study Expositor gave some incontrovertible truth that affirmed man's dependence on God from Proverbs 3:5 & 6; Psalm 118:18; Jeremiah 17:5; 1 Cor. 1:21, 2:14a & Isa. 55:8&9.

4.09 To close the Introductory session of the Bible Study, the Leader gave allowance for questions which he handled effectively to the admiration and increased knowledge of the delegates.

4.10 The Bible Study ended at 10:07am and was time for Breakfast

5:00 THE OPENING CEREMONIES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 34TH SYNOD

5:01 The Opening Ceremonies commenced at 11:00am with the Hymn A&MNS 170 **‘The Church’s One Foundation...’** and heralded in the Governor of Lagos State, His Excellency Mr. Akinwunmi Ambode; the President of Synod, The Rt. Revd Dr. Humphrey Bamisebi Olumakaiye; the Special Adviser to the President on Millennium Development Goals, Mrs. Victoria Adejoke Orelope-Adefulire; the Lord Chancellor of the Diocese of Lagos, Hon. Justice Adedayo Oyebanji and the Diocesan Chaplains followed by the Governor's entourage.

5.02 After the stately entry and at the instance of the President of Synod, the Opening Prayer was said by The Most Revd Michael Akinyemi, the retired Bishop of Igbomina West and Archbishop of Kwara Province.

5:03 ROLL CALL

The President of Synod, The Rt. Revd. Dr. Humphrey Bamisebi Olumakaiye requested the Synod Secretary, The Ven. Segun Ladeinde, for the Roll call which he gave as follows:

House of Bishop – 1
House of Clergy – 163
House of Laity – 272

Viewed against that background, the President of Synod, His Lordship, The Rt. Revd. Dr. Humphrey Bamisebi Olumakaiye declared the Synod legally and constitutionally constituted.

6:00 OPENING CEREMONIES

6:01 The Bishop requested the Synod Secretary to formally welcome the dignitaries and read out the Goodwill messages.

6.02 The Synod Secretary, on behalf of the Synod welcomed the following individuals:

- The Executive Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Akinwunmi Ambode
- The Chancellor of the Diocese of Lagos, Hon. Justice Adedayo Oyebanji
- The First Lady in Waiting of Lagos State, Dr. (Mrs.) Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu
- The former Deputy Governor of Lagos State and Special Adviser to the President on Millenium Development Goals, Mrs. Victoria Adejoke Orelope-Adefulire.

He went further to give a list of Goodwill messages that have been received:

- Diocese of Oru
- Diocese of Ndokwa
- Diocese of Agwuata
- Diocese of Oke Ogun
- Diocese of Lagos West
- Diocese of Ijebu
- Diocese of Oke Osun
- Diocese of Egba West
- Diocese of Otukpo

- Diocese of Lagos Mainland
- Diocese of Egba
- Diocese of Ilesa
- Diocese of Ideato
- Diocese of Aba
- Diocese of Osun North
- Diocese of Ijebu South West
- Diocese of Remo
- Diocese of Igbomina West
- Chancellor of the Diocese of Badagry - The Hon. Justice Olusola Humponu-Wusu
- The former Synod Secretary, The Ven. Sam Igien Isemede

6.03 He went further to recognise the following representatives of some Dioceses:

- Diocese of Ijebu in the persons of The Very Revd Peter Oludipe and The Ven. Gbade Adetunji
- Diocese of Remo - The Ven. Dr. F. O. Babatunji
- Diocese of Ijebu South
- Diocese of Ijebu North in the persons of The Ven. Bosun Otubanjo and The Ven. Yemi Akintade

6.04 He also noted that the following retired Clergymen were in attendance, namely:

- The Very Revd. Dr. Yinka Omololu
- The Ven. Bamgbose
- The Ven. Segun Bamisebi
- The Ven. Rufus Ayo Akinwale
- The Revd. Canon Okenile

In conclusion, he further welcomed the following Bishops in attendance:

- The Most Revd. Dr. Ephraim Adebola Ademowo, *the former Bishop of Lagos Diocese*
- Retired Mama Lagos, Mrs. Oluranti Ademowo
- The Most Revd Michael Akinyemi, *the retired Bishop of Igbomina and Archbishop of Kwara Province*
- The Most Revd. Israel Amoo - *the Bishop of New Bussa and Archbishop of Kwara Diocese*
- The Rt. Revd. J. O. K. Olowokure - *the retired Bishop of Akoko Diocese*
- The Rt. Revd. Praises Omole-Ekun, *the Dean of St. Francis of Assisi Theological College, Wusasa, Zaria.*
- The Rt. Revd. James Olusola Odedeji - *Bishop of Lagos Mainland Diocese*
- The Rt. Revd. Abiodun Olaoye - *Bishop of Osun North*
- The Rt. Revd. James Akinola - *retired Bishop of Igbomina West*
- The Rt. Revd. Dr. Iwabiolorun Oluyamo - *Bishop of Ijesa North*
- The Rt. Revd. Samuel Ogundeji - *Bishop of Egba West*
- The Rt. Revd. Paul Udogu - *Bishop of Afikpo Diocese*
- The Rt. Revd Kemi Oduntan - *Bishop of Ajayi Crowther*
- The Rt. Revd. Festus Davies - *Bishop of Ogori-Magongo*
- The Rt. Revd. Dr. Babatunde Akinyemi - *Bishop of Badagry Diocese*

- The Rt. Revd Philip Adeyemo - *Bishop of Omu Aran Diocese*
- The Rt. Revd. Daniel Olinya - *Bishop of Eha-Amufu*
- The Rt. Revd. Prof. Andrew Igeroza - *The Bishop Theologian*
- The Rt. Revd. Rufus Adepoju - *Bishop of Ekiti West*
- The Rt. Revd. Dr. Cornelius Adagbada - *Bishop of Oke Ogun*
- The Rt. Revd. Oluwaseun Aderogba - *Bishop of Jebba*
- The Rt. Rev. Ebenezer Okuyelu - *Bishop of Osun North East*
- The Rt. Revd. Festus Sobanke - *Bishop Successor of Omu Aran Diocese*
- The Rt. Revd. Prof. Dapo Asaju - *the Bishop Theologian and Vice Chancellor of the Ajayi Crowther University, Oyo*
- The Rt. Revd. Nathaniel Ogundipe - *Diocese of Ifo*
- The Rt. Revd. Jezreel Vandeh - *Diocese of Zaki Biam*

Also in attendance were:

- Mrs. Abigail Iyabo Olumakaiye - *the mother of the Diocesan and President of Synod*
- Sir Folu Olamiti - *Chairman of the Board of ACNN*

- 6.02 The President of Synod requested the former Bishop, the Most Revd. Dr. Ephraim Adebola Ademowo to address the Synod.
- 6.03 In his Address, he thanked God for the Diocese of Lagos and acknowledged the rapid growth, monumental achievements coupled with the unprecedented performance of the Diocese since the Diocesan and Mama Lagos assumed office on the 4th of July 2018. He appreciated him for the spiritual innovations he has brought to bear which he doesn't miss wherever he is in the world.
- 6.04 He also thanked the Governor of Lagos State, His Excellency Mr Akinwunmi Ambode for a successful tenure and assured him that his name has been written indelibly in gold.
- 6.05 In conclusion, he encouraged the church from 1 Corinthians 15:58 that we should be steadfast and immovable
- 6.06 The President of Synod appreciated him and asked the former Deputy Governor of Lagos State, Mrs. Victoria Adejoke Orelope-Adefulire to address the Synod.
- 6.07 She congratulated the President of Synod for a well-organized Synod and thanked very profusely, the retired Bishop for the choice of his successor and prayed for him. She also thanked Mama Lagos for supporting the Bishop acknowledging the roles of mothers in home and nation building.
- 6.08 Her vote of thanks too was extended to Baba and Mama Ademowo for being worthy mentors to lots of people, herself inclusive. She appreciated them for being present at the Synod.
- 6.09 Lastly, she congratulated the incoming Governor, Mr. Babatunde Sanwo-Olu and prayed that God will support him in his tenure as Governor of Lagos.

7.0 THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

- 7.1 The President of Synod appreciated God who answers all prayers and who will always be God. He thanked Him for bringing forth the Diocese one hundred years ago, and gave God adoration for his first Synod which is unique in the annals of the church. He paid glowing tributes to his predecessors, with specific mention of his mentors, The Most Revd. Dr. Ephraim Adebola Ademowo and Mama Oluranti Ademowo for their vision, charisma, vision, wisdom, meticulousness, intellectual capacity and elegant personality.
- 7.2 He saluted His Excellency, Mr. Akinwunmi Ambode, the Executive Governor of Lagos State for his hard work, administrative skill and patriotism, which had lifted Lagos State to a higher pedestal.
- 7.3 In appreciation of the statesmanship and tremendous achievements of the Executive Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Akinwunmi Ambode to the state and our church, the Ven. Tunde Oduwole was requested to read his Citation. The Episcopal award was thereafter presented to him by Mama Lagos, Professor (Mrs.) Motunrayo Olumakaiye
- 7.5 In his response, the Governor thanked the church for the honor done to him, he congratulated the President of Synod for the achievements in the Diocese within the few months he has been in the saddle of church leadership.
- 7.6 The governor stressed the significance of this Synod, being the first by the Diocesan and the last he would be attending as the Executive Governor of Lagos State.
- 7.7 He noted the significance and aptness of the Synod theme, to remind us of who we are, despite our hostile operating environment, in the midst of adversaries and asked for prayers for the incoming Governor and his team.
- 7.8 He thanked the Clergy for their support in the four years that he was Governor and acknowledged that the successes achieved were made possible due to the peaceful co-existence within the state that was devoid of a single religious crisis.
- 7.9 The Diocesan Chancellor was invited by the President of Synod to appreciate the Executive Governor.
- 7.10 The Chancellor appreciated the Governor for the prompt payment of workers' salaries, road network within the State, for fulfilling his promise of a 32 seater bus to Our Saviour's Church, TBS and another one to the Diocese among other laudable achievements.
- 7.11 The first session of the President Address came to an end at 12:36pm as the Hymn A&MNS 171 **'Thy Hand O God, Has Guided...'** was sung and the Executive Governor of Lagos State and his entourage were escorted out of the venue. The President of Synod was accompanied by Mama Lagos, the retired Bishop of Lagos and former Mama Lagos, The Most Revd. Dr. Ephraim Adebola & Mama Oluranti Ademowo while the Chancellor, Hon. Justice Adedayo Oyebanji and Mrs. Victoria Adejoke Orelope-Adefulire led Choruses.

- 7.12 The President of Synod and his entourage returned at 1:00pm for resumption of The Presidential Address (B)
- 7.13 The President of Synod, in the continuation of the Presidential Address, appreciated the General T. Y. Danjuma, an octogenarian, who is the Grand Patron of the Centenary celebrations of the Diocese. He traced his involvement in the evolvement of the nation and his heart of gold. He averred that the history of the nation is incomplete without eternal reference to him.
- 7.14 Since his appointment as the Grand Patron of the Centenary celebrations, he noted that he has shown very outstanding commitments to the actualization of the Centenary City, together with the growth of the Diocese.
- 7.15 He expressed his delight with the election of Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu as Governor-Elect, who without doubt is quintessential, suave, enigmatic, highly revered, deeply loved and irrepressible. He congratulated him on his election and wished him a glory-filled tenure.
- 7.16 The President of Synod thereafter appreciated the following Resource persons:
- The Most Rev. Dr. Joseph Olatunji Akinfenwa, Preacher at the Opening service of Synod
 - The Rt. Rev. Dr. Johnson Akin Atere - *the Bishop of Awori Diocese*
 - The Ven. Dr. Solomon Makanjuola Mepaiyeda - *the Bible Study Leader*
 - The Ven. Obinna Ulogwara
 - The Rev. Canon Kiri Wakama
 - The Rev. Canon Olasupo Adekunle Ajado
- 7.17 Having done that, he went into an elaborate overview of the achievements of the Diocese since assumption of office nine months ago, namely:
- Declaration of a message of Arise and Shine (Isaiah 60:1)
 - Declaration of the 5-fold Divine mandate of Priestly, Pastoral, Prophetic, Prayer and Praise
 - 21 days Prayer and fasting from 1st to 21st August 2018' which was rounded off with a Prayer convocation
 - Episcopal Visitation to all parishes and preaching stations in the Diocese
 - 50% of the Diocesan Mission Seed proceeds were deployed to meeting the critical needs of local churches
 - Reform of Archbishop Abiodun Adetiloye Comprehensive College, Igboye Epe
 - Maiden Diocesan Festival of Hymns which held on Sunday, 18th November 2018 at Our Saviour's Church, TBS
 - Formal launch of the Divine Mandate Voices
 - Second edition of the Festival of Hymns as part of our Centenary celebration
 - Diocesan Victory Night tagged "Fragrance" held at the Cricket Pitch of the Tafawa Balewa Square on Sunday 30th December 2018
 - 14 days fasting and praying programme that commenced on 2nd January 2019 that was climaxed with a Mega Prayer convocation held at the Cathedral Church of Christ Marina on January 15, 2019

- Transfer and Location of priests that affected no less than 60 clergymen and other field workers
- Central Internet Facility Service at the Diocesan Headquarters
- Unveiling of the Centenary Celebration logo and Commissioning of the Divine Mandate Partners
- Official launch of the Lagoon Radio
- Establishment of a giant, ultramodern and state of the art electronic billboard
- Donation of a 5 bedroom fully detached duplex and four bedroom semi detached duplex buildings located at Lekki Peninsula Residential Scheme (Phase 2)
- Donation of a flat and one bedroom en-suite at Constain, Apapa Road, Lagos
- Delivery of a new Toyota Coaster bus
- The purchase of 100 Heactares (1,500 plots) of land for Diocese of Lagos Centenary City, which is to house a Youth Development Centre, Rehabilitation Centre, Games Village and Sporting Centre, Convention Ground, Garden of Gethsemane Prayer Ground, Retreat Centre, St. Luke's Hospital, Women Empowerment Centre, Resorts, Amusement Park and a Low Income Housing Estate.

7.18 **WOMEN & GIRLS ORGANIZATIONS**

He appreciated the leadership of the Organization, Professor Mrs. Motunrayo Olumakaiye and listed some of their achievements namely:

- Huge progress at Archbishop Abiodun Adetiloye Comprehensive College Igboye - Epe since it was handed to them
- Sponsor of 14 indigent students that were given scholarships
- Foundation of a 40 room 3 star lodge at the Faith Plaza, Bariga
- The Faith Kiddies (Creche and Pre-School) to commence full operations soon at the Faith Plaza, Bariga
- One Day Women conference on November 16, 2018
- Festival of Faith, held on 1st December 2018 tagged "Unchangeable God"
- Annual Women's World Day of Prayer on 1st March 2019 etc

7.19 **BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH**

The Anglican Church is the worldwide fellowship of self-governing churches that upholds the doctrine and ministry of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church in the Communion.

7.20 The Church came into being at the same time as the Reformation across the globe, exclusively in the authority of the Holy Scriptures, subscribes completely to Apostolic succession, it is a constitutional church and it is structured.

7.21 The Vicar of every parish has a derived authority from the Bishop, who is the principal minister, invested with powers in the Diocese and the tenure of his office is constitutionally regulated.

7.22 He concluded that the Anglicans have specifically laid out structures, in literature form. Anyone who cares to study the Constitution of the Church and the Book of Common Prayer will be able to appreciate the rich culture of the Church.

7.23 SYNOD THEME - THE UNFAILING FAITH OF OUR FATHERS: EVER SUFFICIENT

- 7.24 In his exposition of the theme, the President of Synod stated the difficulty to define faith, but averred that there are fundamentals for a proper understanding of the concept of Faith, which he explained from the Hebrew and Greek perspectives.
- 7.25 He expounded that faith is choosing to believe, it is a choice and it is in the person of Jesus Christ. To have faith is to believe in something or someone, to fully trust or to be so confident that you base your actions on what is believed. It is a spiritual substance, force and form.
- 7.26 Some characteristics of a life of faith from Hebrews 11 are that a life of faith is a life that believes, it is a life of sacrifice, it is a life that is pleasing to God, it is a life of righteousness and a life of patience and obedience.
- 7.27 From the Holy Bible we have a catalogue of people that exemplified a life of faith such as: Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, King David, Queen Esther, Apostle Paul, Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego and our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 7.28 In the early church history, we have lots of the church fathers such as Ignatius, Augustine, Tertullian, Athanasius, Origen and William Tyndale, Bishop Samuel Ajayi Crowther etc.
- 7.29 The faith of our fathers is very efficient as it is a living faith, it is an all-sufficient faith, it is a conquering faith, it is an emboldening faith, it is an all-embracing and inclusive faith, it is a justifying faith and it is a saving faith.
- 7.30 The rise of the Evangelical movements of the 18th century was one of the unforgettable products of faith such as the Baptist (1792), The Joint Efforts (1795), Church Missionary Society (1799) etc
- 7.31 The Synod President traced the church history from Henry Townsend, Birch Freeman, Samuel Ajayi Crowther, Herbert Tugwell, The Rt. Rev. Melville Jones, The Most Rev. Leslie Gordon, The Rt. Rev. Adelakun Williams Howells, The Rt. Rev. Seth Irunsewe Kale, The Rt. Rev. Festus Oluwole Segun, The Most Rev. Dr. Joseph Abiodun Adetiloye to The Most Revd. Dr. Ephraim Adebola Ademowo.
- 7.32 What they had in common was that their faith was in God, their faith was fully rested on the Creator and not the creatures; their faith was all-sufficient, it was an unfailing one and was a manifested faith of righteousness. It was rigid, rugged, meek and merciful.
- 7.33 To persevere in the faith, attention must be paid to the fact that unfailing faith is the basic Christian doctrine and truth. Not only that, the faith must be translated into contemporary Christian experience and must reflect on our thoughts and characters.
- 7.34 In the Diocese of Lagos, the sufficiency of faith is expressed in the five-fold ministry of priestly, pastoral, prophetic, prayer and praise.

7.35 OUR NATION

The Diocesan congratulated His Excellency, The President of Nigeria Muhammadu Buhari and his Vice, Professor Yemi Osinbajo for their victory at the recent elections. He appreciated their good works, the war against corruption, insurgency and kidnapping, and encouraged them to be more focused and show more commitment to the provision of infrastructural facilities in the country.

7.36 ECONOMY

He commended the efforts of the Federal government aimed at rescuing the nation from the economic recession and encouraged them to ensure that the nation's economy does not slide back into recession.

7.37 GENERAL ELECTION

While thanking God for the success of the 2019 general elections, the Diocesan sympathized and commiserated with the families that lost their loved ones during the electioneering process. He urged the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to begin early preparations for the next elections and ensure that the observed lapses at the last elections are corrected.

7.38 THE POWER/ENERGY SECTOR

While not despising the recorded gains in the power sector, the Diocesan appealed to the Federal government to look more critically into the power sector above other sectors.

7.39 YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

The Diocesan appealed to the Federal Government very passionately to do more in the area of youth unemployment. The antidote to this is to lay emphasis on Agriculture. The Government should increase funding in the Agricultural sector.

7.40 The Synod Secretary called on the Diocesan Chancellor to give a Vote of Thanks to the President for the Presidential Address.

7.41 In her speech, The Chancellor noted that indeed, the Church of God is marching on and confirmed that the gates of hell shall never prevail. She acknowledged that the achievements of the Diocesan within nine months have been amazing and unprecedented. She thanked him for the energy, prayers and fasting put into his episcopacy. She recommended that the Presidential Address should be put in the Church Archives and be a source of reference for generations.

7.42 After the Vote of appreciation by the Chancellor, the Synod rose up and gave the Diocesan a round of applause for the scholarly presentation.

7.43 The Morning session came to an end at 1.45pm with the Closing Prayer by His Grace, The Most Revd. Dr. Ephraim Adebola Ademowo with the singing of Hymn AMNS 188 **'Sing Alleluia Forth in Duteous Praise...'**

AFTERNOON SESSION

8.00 At 3:42pm, the Synod Secretary announced a slight change in the programme for the afternoon. Instead of considering the Diocesan Board Report, the Auditor's Report

and the Diocesan Treasurer's Report, Synod delegates would now proceed to Committee Meetings. He announced the venues as follows:

- Committee 1 - Pulpit side of the Gallery
- “ 2 - Lectern side of the Gallery
- “ 3 - Rear Section of the Gallery (near the Control Room)
- “ 4 - Pulpit side Front section of the main Church
- “ 5 - Lectern side front section of the main Church
- “ 6 - Rear section of the main Church (near the West Door)
- “ 7 - Chapel
- “ 8 - Sunday School Room, Upstairs on the second floor

8.01 The Synod Secretary added that Synod would reconvene at 5pm.

8.02 At 5:12pm, the Chancellor, Hon. Justice Adedayo Oyebanji welcomed delegates back from their meetings and asked for a motion to close the day's session. The Motion was moved by Mrs. Temitope Toluhi Orhewere and supported by the Ven. John Agboro.

8.03 The Hymn A&MNS 235 – '**O Jesus I Have Promised...**' was sung and the Ven. John Agboro was requested to say the closing prayer with emphasis on the Diocesan and Missioner. The grace was said by all at 5:19pm.

DAY 3 -TUESDAY, 7TH MAY, 2019

MORNING SESSION

9.00 The morning session commenced with a Holy Communion service at 8:00am with the opening Hymn A&MNS 104 '**For the Beauty of the Earth...**' The celebrant was the Ven. Ife Okupevi, Vicar Our Saviours Church, TBS. He was assisted by the Ven. Samuel Ifeyemi, the Ven. Obinna Ulogwara, the Rev. Olalekan Popoola, the Rev. Charles Ezeh, the Rev. Canon Kiri Wakama, the Revd. Silas Okoh and the Revd. Bola Osinupebi.

9.01 The choristers were from Our Saviour's Church TBS, St John's Church, Falomo, The Good Shepherd Church, Marine Beach, Apapa and Kings Anglican Church, Enu Owa. The Old Testament Reading, taken from 2 Samuel 12: 1-12 was by the Rev. Charles Ezeh, while the Epistle, taken from Ephesians 6: 10 – 20 was read by the Revd. Olalekan Popoola. The Rev Oliver U. Nwokoma read the Gospel from Mark 6: 14-20. The gradual Hymn was CH 280 '**To Thee Our God We Fly...**'.

9.02 The sermon was preached by the Rev Canon Kiri Wakama, titled: '**Faith Healing in the Anglican Church.**'

9.03 The preacher appreciated the Diocesan and acknowledged the beautiful of God for giving us a beautiful day to have a beautiful synod theme at a beautiful time of the Centenary in a beautiful Church. The text was taken from 1Cor. 2: 4-5. He described healing as restoration to wholeness of life. This could be seen as part of the earthly Ministry of Jesus Christ and when He departed, He handed the power to the disciples and gave various gifts to the believers. One of the gifts of the Holy Spirit to believers is the gift of healing 1Cor. 12: 13-14. He stressed that our fathers healed as part of their Anglican ministry. The Book of Common Prayer points to healing as an integral

part of the Anglican Church Ministration to the sick or Anointing of the sick. Even the Holy Communion service is a healing service.

- 9.04 He also spoke of a lay reader in the Niger Delta Province in 1912, Sokari Braile, who was believed to have raised the dead and was called the Elijah of our time. He was later jailed on trumped up charges and later died in prison. He also made reference to the Precious Stone Society of Our Saviour's Church, in Ijebu Ode, Moses Orimolade of the C&S Church, Joseph Ayo Babalola of the Christ Apostolic Church and Josiah Ositelu of Church of the Lord, Aladura, as examples of Anglicans who believed in faith healing and pursued it tenaciously.
- 9.05 All these were Anglican lay people who believed in faith healing but were not supported by the church authorities of those days. But time has changed since then, that today, we have healing services being organised by the Church authority even Episcopal Bishops.
- 9.06 He laid emphasis on Faith, obedience and belief as the basic ingredients for healing, urging the Synod members to believe in the healing power of God and to demonstrate our faith in God. It is the will of God that we live in Good health 3John 2. The intercession was thereafter led by the Ven. Samuel O. Ifeyemi.
- 9.07 The service ended at 9:30 with the Hymn A&MNS 235 '**O Jesus, I Have Promised...**'
- 9.08 Thereafter, the synod secretary gave the notices and encouraged the delegates to be prepared for the Bible Study which followed immediately.
- 9.09 Attendance at the service was 332 while the Offering collected during the service was N158, 320.

10.00 THE BIBLE STUDY 2

The Bible Study continued after the service at 9:32am. The leader, Ven. Dr. Solomon M. Mepaiyeda started with prayers and appreciated the members of the Synod. He briefly reviewed the previous day's study on the introduction of the Unfailing Faith of Our Fathers: Ever Sufficient.

- 10.01 He then proceeded to the days topic 'Faith of our Fathers' Biblical and Historical Veracity: He pointed out that the Bible contains a list of individuals who earned divine commendations for their faith in God. The book of Hebrews particularly names some of them in chapter 11. Among this epitome of faith were Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Moses, Rehab, Gideon etc. He stated further that the faith of our forebears was characterized by persecution, pain, rejection, miracles, victory and even death etc.
- 10.02 The disciples had it rough for their faith and so did many of our Anglican forebears. In recent time in Nigeria, Leah Sharibu, a 14 years old Christian girl was abducted alongside other Dapchi girls by Boko Haram members and was refused freedom because of her Christian faith. He further examined the lives of a few of our forebears male and female, whose faith serves as examples to our generation. These are: Abraham, Gen. 17:3-8, Gen. 18, Gen. 22, The 3 Hebrews : Shadrach, Meshach and

Abednego -Dan. 3, Caleb and Joshua versus other ten spies Number 13: 30ff, 14:6-8, Daniel: Daniel 6:22-23, The Hemorrhaged Woman : Luke 8, Lois and Eunice 2Tim. 1:5

- 10.03 He concluded that, the understanding of faith as a gift from God, as recorded in 1Cor. 12:7-9 will fan our faith to flame. He urged all to ask God to strengthen our faith and enable us to stand unshaken. There were questions and answers, while some members made comments and salient contributions to the study.
- 10.04 The Bible Study was rounded off at 10:35 with the prayer said by the Provost of the Cathedral Church of Christ, Marina, The Very Rev. Adebola A. Ojofeitimi. Thereafter, the Synod Secretary welcomed all delegates to the third day of the Synod. He appreciated the celebrant and those who assisted: the Choir, members of the Guild of Stewards etc. He gave the notices and implored the delegates to re-convene at 11:10am after breakfast.
- 10.05 After the breakfast the Synod reconvened at 11:25am. The hymn CH 202 ‘The King of Love My Shepherd Is...’ was sung and thereafter, the Diocesan invited the Ven. John Agboro to say the opening prayer.

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

11.00 DIOCESAN BOARD REPORT

- 11.01 The report expressed gratitude to God for the progress in the Diocese of Lagos, He appreciated the Diocesan and the immediate past Bishop, The Most Revd Dr. E. A. Ademowo.
- 11.02 The report also stated that despite the challenges of insecurity in our nation, the Church keeps moving forward. The report pointed out that the driving force of our Founding Fathers as a Diocese has been the unashamed, unbiased and unwavering march towards a destiny of accomplishments. This it emphasized is the reason why the synod theme this year: ‘The Unfailing Faith of Our Fathers: Ever sufficient is so apt for the celebration of the centenary of the Diocese of Lagos.
- 11.03 In the spirit of the Centenary celebration, the report applauded the courage of those who drove the narrative over the last century. These were Bishop Samuel Ajayi Crowther, the pioneer Bishop of Lagos, the Rt. Revd Francis Melville Jones (1919-1940), the Most Revd Leslie Gordon Vining (1940-1955) the Rt. Revd Adelokun Williams Howells (1955-1963), the Rt. Revd Seth Irunsewe Kale. (1963-1975), the Rt. Revd Festus Oluwole Segun (1975-1985), the Most Revd Dr. Joseph Abiodun Adetiloye(1985-1999), and the Most Revd Dr. Ephraim Adebola Ademowo under whose care, the Diocese became financially independent through various investments and assets guaranteed to keep the Diocese boisterous for years to come.
- 11.04 The report appealed to the Global Anglican World to maintained Biblical Orthodoxy and applauds the leadership the Anglican Church in Nigeria plays in GAFCON, especially the efforts of the Primate, The Most Revd Nicholas Okoh.

- 11.05 The report went further to thank God for the success of the just concluded General elections which ushered in the re-election of president Muhammadu Buhari and Prof. Yemi Osinbajo and hoped that their second term in office will deliver the dividends of democracy to the populace.
- 11.06 The report noted that despite the obvious challenges of our nationhood, in terms of the incessant bloodletting in different parts of Nigeria, the persistent epileptic power sector and many other challenges, Nigerians continue to excel all over the world and locally.
- 11.07 The report finds it unfortunate that the current Executive Governor of Lagos State Mr Akinwumi Ambode was not able to secure a second term in office. The report however wished him well in all his future endeavours.
- 11.08 In terms of finance and investment in the Diocese, the report appreciated all parishes and Archdeaconries who defied the harsh economic climate to continue to make payments as and when due to the Diocesan headquarters. It also noted and appreciated the Cathedral and other Archdeaconries in the various success stories recorded during the year under review.
- 11.09 The report singled out the wonderful achievements of the women and girls' Organisations in affecting the lives of women and girls within and outside the Diocese. In addition, the Board applauded the handing over of the Archbishop Abiodun Adetiloye Comprehensive College, Igboye, Epe to the Women and Girls Organizations which has yielded significant increase in the enrollment, from 19 students that started to 47 students at the last count.
- 11.10 The report highlighted the joys of the Diocesan Board which included various birthdays celebrated in the Diocese, appointments, retirements, ordination, preferment and some of the pains which included some aged deaths.
- 11.11 In conclusion, the report lauded the achievements of the Diocesan in the few months he has assumed offices as the Bishop of Lagos and prayed that God who has sustained us for the past 100years will not leave nor forsake the diocese in the journey ahead. The report was later moved for discussion by Sir Amechi Ebeledike, supported by Ven. C. E. O. Akingbesote.
- 11.12 Chief (Mrs.) Dupe Damazio of Holy Trinity Church, Ebute Ero pointed out that the death of Pa James Adekunle, Diocesan Organist Plenipotentiary was not included in the list of deaths of the Diocesan Board. The Synod Secretary described it as an unfortunate omission, apologized and accepted responsibility for it.
- 11.13 Prince Amobi Nwosu of St. Paul's Church, Kirikiri also expressed his opinion that the activities of the Diocesan Action Committee on Aids (DACA) should be extended to the parishes to educate the youth.
- 11.13 Mr. Oni Patrick appreciated the Synod Secretary for a job well done and with that commendation the Diocesan said it was taken that the report was accepted by all to which members of the Synod accented.

12.00 AUDITOR'S REPORT

- 12.01 Mr. Goriola Emmanuel Tunde moved for discussion of the Auditor's Report and was seconded by Mrs. Bola Adebessin after the presentation of the Auditors' Report presented by the Joint Honorary Auditors, Sir Ike Nwokolo, and the Ven. Samuel Ope.
- 12.02 Sir, Ike Nwokolo who presented the report on both their behalves assured that they carried out their auditing in accordance with the highest standards of independent audit especially in line with the provision of the financial reporting Council of Nigeria Act No 6 of 2011. In their opinion the Diocese has kept their books in line with expected standards and it gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Diocese as at 31st Dec. 2018.

13.00 DIOCESAN TREASURER'S REPORT

- 13.01 The treasurer, Sir Gbolahan O. Folayan appreciated the Diocesan, The Rt. Revd Dr. H. B. Olumakaiye who upon resumption implemented some financial strategies which has enabled the department to be more efficient.
- 13.02 He reported that the Diocese now operates a cashless policy, indicating that there is an improved accounting system. He explained the reasons for increment in the expenditure of the Diocese.
- 13.03 He reported that the deficit to the tune of N55M in the account reduced the accumulated funds. The President of Synod thanked the Treasurer. The motion for the discussion of the Treasurer's report was moved by Mr. Chima Iwuagwu and seconded by Lady Ngozi Ajero.

13.04 COMMENTS

- 13.05 A delegate wanted to know the plans of the Diocese at getting increasing returns from investments which will reduce the financial burden the Diocesan Assessments puts on some parishes.
- 13.06 A delegate also suggested that for the growth of the Church, the Diocese should concentrate on investment for the future. This he said should be in the way of reclaiming some of our schools, Revaluation of the Assets of the Diocese. A call was also made for improvement on the expenditure on the Sunday school department and the youth. This has to be made attractive to our children and youth.
- 13.07 The motion for the acceptance was moved by Mr. Amos Ejuka and seconded by Chief (Mrs.) Dupe Damazio

14.00 ELECTION

- 14.01 The President of Synod called for election into various offices:
- 14.02 **The Synod Secretary:**
The Synod Secretary and the assistants were returned unopposed

- 14.03 **Treasurer:**
The Sir Gbolahan Folayan was returned unopposed, Chief Olubunmi Sowande and Engr. Gbenga Adebayo were appointed as assistants to understudy him.
- 14.06 **Auditors:**
Sir Ike Nwokolo and the Ven. Samuel Ope (Rtd.)
- 14.08 Representatives to General Synod
The Very Revd. Adebola Ojofeitimi, Ven. Ife Okupevi and Justice Adebayo Oyebanji.
- 14.09 **Primate's Advisory Committee**
The Rev. Canon Innocent Okafor, the Rev Canon Samuel O. Okpilolo, Justice Adedayo Oyebanji, Sir Ike Nwokolo, Chief Olufemi Adesanya, Rev. Sunday Ogundipe, the Rev. Canon Adekunle Ajado.
- 14.10 **Representative to the Lagos Provincial Council**
Ven. David Adebayo
- 14.11 **Representatives to the General Synod**
The Ven. Tunde Oyediran, Sir. Gbolahan Folayan, Mrs. Yetunde Oyewole, Justice Adedayo Oyebanji.
- 14.12 **Representatives of the Synod to the Cathedral Greater Chapter**
Dame Julie Kpokogiri and Chief Mrs. Kemi Sarumi.
- 14.18 **Bishop's Nominee to the Greater Chapter**
Chief Gbolahan Ayodele, Chief Olufemi Adesanya.
- 14.20 **Representatives of the Synod to the Diocesan Board**
The clergy below the rank of an Archdeacon: Rev Canon Francis Aduroja, Rev Nehemiah Akintade.
- 14.21 Thereafter, the president invited the chairman of the ACNN Sir Olamiti to address the Synod. He expressed his gratitude to God and extended the greetings from the Primate, The Most Rev. Nicholas Okoh.
- 14.22 He appreciated the Diocesan for granting him permission to address the Synod.
- 14.23 Anglican Cable Network Representative urged participants at the Synod to patronize ACNN by buying the HD decoder and subscribing for ACNN and other stations. He enumerated the financial challenges faced by the Network and the only way out is to covet patronage to keep hope alive.
- 14.24 He opined that the Clergy should encourage parishioners to place ACNN on their Social Media handles so as to spread the awareness to the outside world.
- 14.25 He also commented on the various programmes available on the channel. Delegates advised that ACNN should be aired via DSTV for a better coverage. He responded that viewers could access ACNN for free arguing that there are some who

cannot not afford DSTV subscription. HD decoder, he informed can be used anywhere within the borders of Nigeria.

14.26 The session ended at 1:23 to reconvene at 3:30pm.

AFTERNOON SESSION

15.00 Synod reconvened at 3:45pm with the hymn A&MNS 126 **'The King of Love My Shepherd Is...'** The opening prayer was said by The Ven. Samson Olaleetan after which the Chancellor called for the presentation from committees.

16.00 COMMITTEE 2: DIRECTORATES IN THE DIOCESE

16.01 The committee appreciated the Diocesan, for his zeal and passion for evangelism, and the Directorates of Mission and Evangelism for all the spiritual programmes in the course of the year.

16.02 The committee posited that funds be made available from the Diocesan purse to carry our Evangelism in the Diocese. They were also of the opinion that the movement of parishioners during Diocesan programmes should be paramount hence provision of vehicles in numbers should be a priority.

16.03 The committee recommended the formal training of Sunday school teachers. The committee opined that Sunday school teachers should be mandated to pay their annual dues, encouraging every parish to place importance on the upbringing of our next generation, thereby making available, manuals for their study even while away from the church.

16.04 The committee commended the Directorate of Youth for being the first to host the Diocesan immediately after his enthronement.

16.05 The committee stressed the need for training of Readers to ascertain their proficiency before officiating at the Parish.

16.06 The committee also appreciated the donor of the trophy for the football competition and encouraged every archdeaconry to participate in subsequent ones.

16.07 The committee encouraged that every parish should have altar servers and that they must be well trained and sponsored by the parish.

16.08 The committee also suggested that every parish should strengthen their prison ministry.

16.09 The motion for the discussion of the report was moved by Dame Dupe and seconded by Mrs. Olamide Ayoka Dekalu. The chancellor admitted that people must be trained before teaching in Sunday school and it was seconded by the Synod Secretary, The Ven. Segun Ladeinde. Mrs. Modupe Fashina suggested that the Manuals used by Sunday school should be more visual, to aid learning, a proposition endorsed by the Chancellor..

16.10 Motion for adoption was moved by Ven. Samson Olaleetan and seconded by Mrs. Temitope Morenike.

17.0 PAPER PRESENTATION

17.01 A paper presentation presented by The Ven. Dr. Samuel Uhie on the topic: 'Stronghold and Faithlessness: **Looking Back in Time and Ahead in Hope.**

He started by thanking God and as well as appreciating the Diocesan Bishop and Missioner: The Rt. Revd Humphrey Bamisebi Olumakaiye; *Mama Lagos*, Prof. Mrs. Motunrayo Olumakaiye and the Synod Secretariat, for the opportunity to present the paper.

17.02 He traced the origin of Christianity in Nigeria to the early 16th Century with the advent of Portuguese Missionaries. However, these Missionaries could not achieve much, due to some challenges such as: lack of transportation to convey missionaries, health, language barrier and loose of moral lives of the Missionaries.

17.03 However, in 1842, the Church Missionary Society (CMS) sent a team of missionaries led by the Rev Henry Townsend to Nigeria for pragmatic evangelism, which later resulted in having the first Church in 1851 at Ebute Ero, Holy Trinity Anglican Church. This trend of revival continued until a Diocese was established in 1919. Today, the then created Diocese in 1919 has given birth to many Dioceses.

17.04 The devil uses various weapons such as deception, tribalism, compromise, heresy and the likes, to truncate the progress of the church, yet she became stronger on a daily basis. The gates of hell will never prevail against the Church. The revival will only continue and have a great future when these are religiously and dogmatically done.

17.05 He proposed the use of Media and Technology for the propagation of the Gospel, noting that the Diocesan and Missioner is already in the fore front of this. He also opined the following:

- Teaching of the undiluted Word of God should be encourage on our pulpits
- Church members must believe in, and support the leadership
- Conflict and strong disagreement should be handled with maturity
- The rich liturgy and doctrine of our church should be celebrated
- The Liturgy should be contextualized
- Mutual relationship should be encouraged between the clergy and congregation, which will enable us go out in one voice, preaching the Gospel

17.06 He concluded the presentation by appreciating the audience for listening.

17.07 The Chancellor commended the presenter, the Ven Dr. Samuel Uhie and invited comments from the audience. Two members of the Synod rained encomiums on the presenter for a brilliant presentation. It was also suggested that the paper be available for members of our parishes in the Diocese.

17.08 At the instance of the Chancellor, Mr Temitope Adeyemi appreciated the presenter profoundly on behalf of the Diocesan and the entire Synod.

18.00 COMMITTEE 6: INTER DIOCESAN INSTITUTIONS

- 18.01 The report of the committee was presented by the Chairman, Mr. Verkey Verghese. The Motion for acceptance of the report for discussion was duly moved and seconded by Barr. Oladipupo Ajayi and Sir. G. O. Folayan, respectively.
- 18.02 The Chancellor commended the Chairman's humility and generosity. Mr. Ayo. G moved for the adoption of the report and Rev. Canon Kunle Ajado seconded the motion.
- 18.03 The Chancellor appreciated the Committee.

19.00 COMMITTEE 1: ISSUES EMANATING FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS, REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN BOARD, SERMONS/BIBLE STUDY AND PAPERS PRESENTED AT SYNOD.

- 19.01 The report was delivered by Rev. Oluwashina Oso on behalf of Mr Ziggy Azike, the Secretary.
- 19.02 The committee congratulated the President of Synod for the Centenary Synod. They also commended the Diocesan for a well delivered charge during the opening ceremonies. The committee commended the Diocesan for the Episcopal visit to all parishes in the Diocese within two months. They also commended the Diocesan for transferring the management of Archbishop Abiodun Adetiloye Comprehensive College (AAACC), Igboye, to the Women and Girls Organizations.
- 19.03 The Chancellor appreciated the committee and the presenter for a job well done.
- 19.04 Motion for acceptance of the report was moved by Mr. Victor Ijoni and was seconded by Mr. Chima Iwuagwu.
- 19.05 The committee proposed that a School of Ministry be made available for members to develop and to imbibe the 5-fold ministry and mandate of the Diocesan. The Synod adopted the proposal.
- 19.06 Motion for adoption was moved by the Ven. Deji Bamikiya and seconded by Mr. Bode Patrick.

20.00 NOTICES

- 20.01 The Synod Secretary appreciated the Synod on behalf of the Diocesan, for their punctuality and cooperation, so far, in the proceedings of Synod.
- 20.02 He announced the Induction of Diocesan Legal Officers tomorrow during morning service. Also, all the sermons, paper presentations and Bible study will be available on C.D. and D.V.D.
- 20.03 The Diocese will gradually go paperless in a couple of years. Information from the Diocese and Diocesan will subsequently be passed through various electronic media.

- 20.04 The Chancellor then appreciated the Synod members for their patience and she affirmed that the Diocesan will be available throughout tomorrow and expects us all to be in attendance.
- 20.05 The closing hymn AMR 333 '**Immortal, Invisible God, Only Wise...**' was sung, bringing the day's proceedings to an end with prayers said by the Ven. Henry Adelegan at 6:05pm.

DAY 4 WEDNESDAY 9TH MAY, 2018

MORNING SESSION

- 21.00 The day started with the Bible study by 8am which was led by Ven. Dr. S. M. Mepayida which was titled '**The Sufficiency of Faith**'
- 21.01 He pointed out that faith is relevant in all situations and never waits. He also stated that faith is elastic and does not operate in a vacuum. It thrives in life-challenging situations. It also determines fate. He also reiterated that the healing ministry ordained by God through our Diocesan is the work of faith in God. Emphasis was laid on the fact that faith is sufficient for our justification, salvation, deliverance and healing, referencing Romans 5:1; John3:16; Hebrew 11:29; and Luke 17:11-19 for emphasis.
- 21.02 He opined that testimonies should be encouraged in our churches so as to help the faith of others, especially during Sunday services and not in vigils alone.
- 21.03 What should be our response to the importance of faith? We live out our faith:
- By speaking the Word of God regularly
 - By allowing the holy Spirit to be in control of our lives
 - By practising faith, living a life of holiness to enhance our faith
 - Growing our children in faith of our Lord through praying, studying the Word of God and fasting. Also engaging and involving them in church activities.
 - By being holy 1Peter1:16
- 21.04 **CONCLUSION**
- 21.05 He concluded by saying that faith is a spiritual thing and that our faith in Christ should be like that of our Fathers – 'ever sufficient'.
- 21.06 The commissioning of the Legal Officers of the Diocese began by 9:50am with the Opening Hymn A&MNS 140 '**All Hail the Power of Jesus Name...**' It was presided over by His Lordship, The Rt. Revd Dr. Humphrey Bamisebi Olumakaiye, the Lord Bishop of Lagos and Chief Missioner.
- 21.07 Also in attendance were:
- The Rt. Revd Dr. J. Akin Atere – Diocesan Bishop of Awori
 - The Rt. Revd Taiwo Olaoye – Diocesan Bishop of Osun North
 - The Rt. Revd Oluwaseun Adenugba – Diocesan Bishop of Jebba
 - The Rt. Revd Olusola Akanni – Diocesan Bishop of Offa

- 21.08 In the procession was for the choir, the priests, the legal luminaries to be commissioned and the Bishops.
- 21.09 The Ven. Stephen Adeyemi took the sentences and exhortation.
- 21.10 Psalm 6 was chanted by all, after which the Old Testament Lesson from Exodus 15: 22 - 27 was taken by the Rev. Nelson Onyenuwe, followed by the Hymn CH 165 'Heal me, O My Saviour, Heal Me...'
- 21.11 The New Testament Lesson taken from James 5: 13 - 20 was read by the Rev Kingsley Ufonaefe Oruma. Followed by another hymn, CH 612 'Heal us, Emmanuel, Hear Our Prayer...' Then the Revd Canon Johnson B. Olajana took the creed to the 3rd collect and the hymn WIS 475 'Sweet Hour of Prayer...' was sung.
- 21.12 Thereafter, the intercession/litany was led by the Revd Nehemiah A. Akintade.
- 21.13 The Commissioning of the Legal Officers of the Diocese commenced with Hymn '**A Charge to Keep I Have...**' followed by the Synod Secretary's presentation of the legal luminaries:
- Hon Justice Mrs. Adedayo Oyebanji – Chancellor
 - Mr. Olumide Sofowora (SAN) – Dep. Chancellor
 - Barr. Olusegun Ajayi- Registrar
 - Barr. Gbenga Bello- Asst. Registrar
 - Hon. Justice Sybil Nwaka - Bishop's Commissary
- 21.14 The ceremonies led by the Diocesan with all the legal requirements and oath taking were conducted and instruments of their offices handed to them. The new legal officers were prayed for, and thereafter presented to the congregation with fanfare.
- 21.15 The Synod Hymn '**Faith of Our Fathers, Living Still...**' was sung after which the sermon commenced, by the Rt. Revd Dr. J. Akin Atere, the Lord Bishop of Awori Diocese. He appreciated God, greatly and also the Diocesan for the opportunity to mount the pulpit. Also, for making him part of history as one of the preachers at the Diocese of Lagos Centenary Synod. He appreciated and also prayed for Baba and Mama Ademowo. He congratulated the newly commissioned legal officers and prayed for them.
- 21.16 Using the text 1Tim. 3:1-4, he said leaders are shepherds, Prophets, visioners, helpers, workers, vessels, etc. He said there are some questions that must be answered before a leader can be chosen. These are:
- Is he/she disciplined?
 - Does he/she have self-control?
 - Is he/she respectful?
 - Is he/she hospitable?
 - Does he/she love money more than life?
- 21.17 The preacher recommended the pattern of Nehemiah's leadership, which are:
- Deep concern for the Nation and the church
 - Ability to pray
 - Foresight

- Inspiration
- Faith in God
- Organisational skills
- Selflessness

- 21.18 He concluded with the admonition that we, who have been given grace to lead, should be humble enough and be committed, because we shall assuredly give account of our application of God's Grace and all the privileges of our leadership in the Church and in the society.
- 21.19 The praise band led the praises and the offering was taken. The newly commissioned officials then dance to the altar for thanksgiving.
- 21.20 Attendance at the service was 524 while the Offering collected during the service was N152,910.
- 21.21 The Synod Secretary thereafter took the notices and appreciated all the Bishops present, followed by the Diocesan Anthem, which was sung joyfully by all.
- 21.22 The Diocesan and President of Synod gave the Benediction and the Withdrawal Hymn 'Lo Kede Ayo Naa Fun Gbogbo Aiye...' followed thereafter, bringing the service to a close.

22.00 PLENARY SESSION

- 22.01 The plenary session kicked off after the lunch break with hymn A&MNS 140 'All Hail the Power of Jesus Name...' The opening prayer was said by Ven. Ife Okupevi

23.00 COMMITTEE IV: THE PERMANENT COMMISSION AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS

- 23.01 Committee 4 took the floor, led by Chief Gbolahan Adegboyega Ayodele and the secretary was Ven. Kingsley Agu.
- 23.03 The Committee made the following recommendations:
- Schools' addresses and the account numbers should be published in the Synod handbook yearly.
 - The Ven. Adebisi Gbadebo should be commended for his meritorious service to the Seafarers Mission for 22 years.
 - Collection for seafarers every second Sunday in July should be remitted to the Cathedral promptly.

24.00 COMMITTEE III: DIOCESAN ORGANS

- 24.01 The Committee was chaired by Major Gen Muyiwa Badewole(Rtd.) and the secretary was Rev Canon Kiri Wakama.
- 24.02 The Committee made the following recommendations:

- Moral and financial support should go to AAACC and the Women Organizations.
- The Men's Organisation should be set up also.
- DACA needs to expand their tentacles to all Parishes, Archdeaconries, Public Place, etc.
- Each Vicar should be made to support them DACA.
- Diocese should support them financially
- Religious Organisations should desist from using contraceptives. Instead, they should preach total abstinence and faithfulness. Many married couples should be encouraged too.
- Pregnant women should be encouraged to register with reputable hospitals for proper antenatal care.
- Intending couples should go for HIV/AIDS test before getting married.
- Parishioners are enjoined to know their HIV status.

25.00 DIOCESAN MEDICAL MISSION

- Visit more archdeaconries in the Diocese
- Churches should create awareness of the organisation within the Diocese
- Establishing of the Anglican Medical Fellowship.
- Heavily subsidized drugs and treatment for children and elders in the Diocese.

26.00 AJAYI CROWTHER UNIVERSITY

- ACU collection should be well articulated in the churches
- ACU should raise the standard, so as to be able to compete favorably
- Scholarships should be awarded to indigent students by well meaning Anglicans
- Requirements for admission should be published in the Synod handbook.

AFTERNOON SESSION

27.00 The session reconvened at 3:20pm with the opening Hymn CH 595 'Who is on the Lords side...' The Ven Tunde Oduwole gave the opening prayer at 3:25pm

27.01 COMMITTEE V: REPORTS OF THE CATHEDRAL AND THE ARCHDEACONRIES

27.02 The Chairman was Ven. Ife Okupevi and the secretary was Barrister Alero Gbemuotor.

27.03 The Chancellor commended the Committee for a job well done.

27.04 The motion for acceptance of the report for discussion was moved by Sir Simon Ukpaka and was seconded by Mrs. Chile Nweze

27.05 The Synod Secretary noted that the comments on ANCOPEN, opined that focus should now be on Evangelism by attracting more members through Evangelism to grow the church. The Committee chairman responded that it was noted that ANCOPEN had planted many churches as the fastest growing Archdeaconry in the Diocese and that it is now time to attract more members to the Archdeaconry seat.

- 27.06 Chief Siji Olowosuko mentioned that St. Johns Church, Alaba-Oro should be given urgent attention by the Diocese due to the deplorable condition of the Church Building.
- 27.07 The President of the Synod responded that during his visitation to the church, he must have made a promise to assist the Church. The Archdeacon confirmed that promise was made. The president promised to take immediate action and also informed the synod that a priest will be put in charge of the Church.
- 27.08 Mrs. Kemi Sarumi moved the motion for acceptance and was supported by Mr. Patrick Oni.

28.00 COMMITTEE VII: MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

- 28.01 The Chairman was Barr. Olumide Sofowora, SAN and the Secretary was The Rev Canon Oluwafemi Akin- Johnson
- 28.02 The President appreciated and commended the Committee for detailed work done. The report was highly comprehensive and informative.
- 28.03 The report was unanimously adopted by the Synod.

29.00 COMMITTEE VIII: COMMUNIQUE

- 29.01 The Chairman was Hon. Justice Sybil Nwaka and the Secretary was Barrister Olugbenga Oluwarimitan Bello.
- 29.02 The President appreciated the committee and remarked that the report was thorough.
- 29.03 Sir G.O. Folayan moved that the report be adopted. He was supported by Chief Adegboyega Ayodele.

30.00 EPISCOPAL AWARDS CEREMONY

- 30.01 The Synod Secretary, The Ven. Segun Ladeinde welcomed the representative of the Awardee to the Synod. The Episcopal award was designed to celebrate and reward hard work, dedication and devotion to God's work.
- 30.02 The Governor Elect was represented by Mr. Bayo Sanwo-Olu.
- 30.03 The Citation of the Governor-Elect/Awardee, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu was read by The Ven. Tunde Oduwole, while the award and gift were presented by the wife of the President of Synod and Mama Lagos, Prof. Mrs. Motunrayo Olumakaiye

31.00 DIOCESAN YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SCHEME

- 31.01 The President invited the Chairman of the Youth Empowerment Scheme to present an update on the Scheme.
- 31.02 The Chairman informed the Synod that the programme has been successful. There were six beneficiaries and Mama Lagos, Prof. Mrs. Motunrayo Olumakaiye presented the cheques to them:

- Denis, Timothy
- Ilechukwu, Chidozie
- Obodoeke, David
- Okpor, Martina
- Onyoh, Sarah
- Tomiwa, Afolakemi Opeyemi

31.03 The president appreciated the the Ven. Ife Okupevi and the committee members for their work and wished the beneficiaries well in their endeavours.

31.04 Mr. David Obodoeke gave the vote of thanks on behalf of the beneficiaries.

32.00 CLOSING REMARKS AND APPRECIATION

32.01 The Synod secretary appreciated the President of the Synod and all delegates for their dedication and commitment to the success of the Synod.

32.02 The President of Synod appreciated Our Saviour's Church, TBS for a successful hosting of the Centenary Synod.

33.00 RECORDS OF PROCEEDINGS

33.01 The Records of proceedings of the 1st session of the 34th Synod was circulated to members and it was takes as read.

33.02 The motion for adoption was moved by Dr. Bamidele Koleowo. The motion was seconded by the Revd Canon Babatunde Olajana.

34.00 ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING

34.01 The synod came to an end at 5pm with the singing of the closing hymn. **'God be with you till we meet again.....'**

34.02 Thereafter, the closing prayer was said by the Diocesan.