PASTORAL STAFF

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THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF OSOGBO by Bishop John Oyejola

The Catholic Diocese of Osogbo was created out of the old Oyo Diocese with its canonical erection and the Episcopal Ordination and the Installation of its first Bishop, Most Rev. Gabriel ‘Leke Abegunrin on March 14 1995. The second and incumbent bishop of Osogbo Diocese, Most Rev John Akin Oyejola was ordained and installed on the 30th of June 2016.

The diocese is a rural locality covering 25 out of 30 Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Osun State in South-West Nigeria. It presently comprises of 42 parishes with numerous out-stations. The parishes are grouped under 4 deaneries namely Ife, Ilesa, Osogbo and Otan-Ayegbaju. Out of Osun State’s population of 3.1million; 2.1 million are Muslims, while adherents of traditional Yoruba religion, Christianity and free-thinking, make up about a million. The Catholic Church has a population of about 63,000. Over 60% of this Catholic population is youths and children. The diocese has personnel of 70 incardinated priests, two transitory deacons, and two missionary congregations of male religious with about 9 members, four female religious congregations with over 60 members on various missions within the diocese and about 40 seminarians.

PASTORAL VISION

Our pastoral vision is to build a Christian community witnessing to the love of Christ among the poor with individual members deeply rooted in the faith and can witness to it as evangelizers to our peculiar environment.

MISSION STRATEGY

Pastoral Service

As a young diocese located in a dominantly Muslim locality and the cradle of the traditional Yoruba civilization and various indigenous Pentecostal movements, the diocese is basically focused on pastoral formation of the faithful, on-going formation of clergy and lay collaborators for effective evangelization especially at the grassroots. For effective program of formation, the diocese currently embarks on the following projects:

- Completion of the Diocesan Catechetical Training Centre and School of Evangelization
- Completion of the Diocesan Pastoral Centre

Social Service

The State of Osun is a rural agrarian locality (one of the poorest states in Nigeria) of 90% peasant farmers who live on less than 3 US dollars daily with high rate of illiteracy, poor public educational and health services, the near absence of facilities for eye-care and the care of the discriminated disabled children and the aged. The diocese embarks on the following social services:

- Health services to the poor in rural communities (Ibokun, Aagba, Otan-Ayegbaju, Ipetu-modu, Ipetu Ijesa, and Iree).
- Provision of accessible eye-care services for the rural communities
- Establishment of qualitative elementary schools and secondary schools in poor rural communities.
- Establishment of Vocational Training Centers for the empowerment of unskilled youths particularly the girl-child.
- Establishment of Agricultural Training School for the youths and development of peasant farmers.
- Various social welfare and advocacy programs to combat child-marriage, child-prostitution, child-trafficking, domestic violence on women, radicalization of youths by fundamentalist groups which are prevalent in our locality.
- Prison apostolate and the care of those living with AIDS.
DAILY MASS IN THE CHAPEL
Monday - Saturday at 8:00 AM. (Communion Service on Wed.)

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION - Chapel 24/7
Contact Sumner or Veronica Peery at 827-0916 for scheduling.

FOR ADULT LEARNING:
SCRIPTURE SHARING - Thursday 9:30 a.m. in the Ministry Ctr.
BIBLE STUDY—Wednesday 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. in the Ministry Ctr.

FOR MINISTRY:
PRAYER TREE - a ministry of people who pray specifically for those who are ill. Please notify the parish office if you or a member of your family are in, or going into, the hospital.

HELPING HANDS: Please call Joanne Doorack at 798-1735.

MARTINEZ SHELTER MEALS: Plan a meal for 35 residents.
Purchase & prepare food; serve dinner at the shelter. Please contact to volunteer: Yvonne Mennel: 925-200-6716 or yumennel@yahoo.com.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MINISTRY
Please contact the St. Vincent de Paul Hotline at (925) 689-0838, Ext. 250.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Please call Naomi (925) 768-3587.

CARING HANDS-JOHN MUIR HEALTH:
Contact Kathy Friend by e-mail at kathy.friend@johnmuirhealth.com.

Next Weekend our parish will take up the Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (AMS). The AMS relies solely on private donors in support of its mission, “Serving those who serve” and its ministry to provide the same pastoral care and services to Catholics serving in the United States Armed Forces, enrolled in U.S. Military Academies, undergoing treatment at VA Medical Centers, and the families of these populations. There will not be a second collection, but envelopes will be in the pews next weekend. We ask that you be generous in your support. To learn more about the AMS, go to www.milarch.org/nationalcollection.

We ask for your financial generosity today in support of Bishop John’s Diocese in Nigeria as well as prayers for him and his ministries.

Faith and Spirituality

ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS
Please join us for an Encounter with Jesus sponsored by the Confraternity of Eucharistic Devotion, Diocese of Oakland (CEDDO), at the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, November 12. Fr. Brandon Macadaeq will celebrate Mass, lead us in Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a period of reflection on the true presence of Jesus, and Benediction. Hospitality will follow in the Parish Hall.

CELEBRATE THE END OF THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

Sunday—November 13, 2016
12:00 noon—1:30 p.m.
St. Agnes Church

1. Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet.
2. Immerse in an hour with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration.
3. Watch the Second Greatest Story Ever Told Videos:
   - Episode 1: God’s School of Trust
   - Episode 2: Behold, This Heart

For information, please contact:
Pat Jung @ 925-825-7390

PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING

- Ryan Abele
- Spencer Allen
- Ben Andersen
- Kay Andersen
- Ron Artale
- Relinda Atienza
- Mary Lou Austria
- GinaMarie Balbuena
- Vivienne Behrens
- Amalia Bunge
- Ana Bunge
- Goody Carino
- Marcia Carter
- Trinity Cereghino
- George Conlow
- Rose Viagi Cuinonez
- Dave Dewan
- Stephen Dixon
- Pauline Elenko
- Amador Rodriguez
- Espinoza
- Marietta Finnegan
- Amia Garcia
- Guy Grace
- Maria Hills
- Camila Koven
- Joseph Mallon
- Crystal Martinez
- Maria McCarthy
- Marv McKean
- Rosalia Messina
- Joshua Monitz
- Chris Morris
- Evangeline Narag
- Edward Nettleman
- Carol Peters
- Rich Peters
- Micah Pilkerton
- Joanna Poplawaska
- Mary Pulliam
- Elizabeth Renfro
- Joseph Riccobuono
- Laura Rizza
- Gina Rubin
- Maureen Ryan
- Connie Schulte
- Rick Smith
- Carolyn Thompson
- Cliona Thuillier
- Bob Vetro
- Laura Wehrle
- Pat Weisinger
- Ellie Rowe

Please call the church office to add/remove names from the above list.
Calendar for the Week

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 29, 2016
5:00 p.m. Mike Noard—Repose
Rolf & Josefine Stolz—Repose

Sunday, October 30, 2016
7:00 a.m. Maria McCarthey—Special Intention
9:00 a.m. Jesus Hernandez—Repose
Maria Maciel—Repose
10:45 a.m. Patricia Afinowicz—Repose
Raymundo Manalac—Repose
Norm Andrews—In appreciation
5:00 p.m. For the people of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased

Monday, October 31, 2016
8:00 a.m. Ed Joaquin—Repose
Mai Nguyen—Repose

Tuesday, November 1, 2016
8:00 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased

Wednesday, November 2, 2016
8:00 a.m. Communion Service Only

Thursday, November 3, 2016
8:00 a.m. Stephen Cox—Repose
Ramon Santos—Repose

Friday, November 4, 2016
8:15 a.m. Ed Joaquin—Repose
Joseph Joaquin—Repose

Saturday, November 5, 2016
8:00 a.m. Rosita Frazier—Repose
Dennis Robles—Repose
Debbie Marconi—Special Intention
5:00 p.m. Dustin & Christen Rubash—Spec. Int.

Sunday, November 6, 2016
7:00 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased
9:00 a.m. Justo Garcia—Repose
Leroy Lagamarsino—Repose
10:45 a.m. Cy Coenen—Repose
Amanda Maltez—Repose
Karen Mills—Special Intention
5:00 p.m. Debbie Marconi—Special Intention

Parish Events and Meetings

Sunday, October 30, 2016
We welcome Bishop John as our celebrant!
Hospitality after all Masses
Cookbooks for sale after Masses
8:30 a.m. RCIA—A.R.
10:45 a.m. Friends and Family Mass
1st Reconciliation/1st Communion
Enrollment Celebration

Monday, October 31, 2016
8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel

Tuesday, November 1, 2016
All Saints Day—Holy Day of Obligation
8:00 a.m. Mass
9:00 a.m. School Mass
7:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul—A.R.
7:30 p.m. Mass

Wednesday, November 2, 2016
8:00 a.m. Communion Service—Chapel
6:30 p.m. CHS Meeting—EX
6:30 p.m. Bible Study—A.R.
7:30 p.m. Bible Study—A.R.
7:30 p.m. Jim Gill’s Band Practice—Church
8:00 p.m. Young Adult Ministry—Cauchi Hall

Thursday, November 3, 2016
8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
9:30 a.m. Scripture Study—A.R.
11:40 a.m. School Program—Church Hall
3:00 p.m. CYO Mass Practice—Church
6:00 p.m. School Board Meeting—8th Gr. CR
6:00 p.m. Children’s Choir Practice—Church
7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Practice—Church

Friday, November 4, 2016
8:15 a.m. Daily Mass—Church
1:00 p.m. Scripture Study—A.R.
11:40 a.m. School Program—Church Hall
3:00 p.m. CYO Mass Practice—Church
6:00 p.m. School Board Meeting—8th Gr. CR
6:00 p.m. Children’s Choir Practice—Church
6:45 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet—Chapel

Saturday, November 5, 2016
8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
8:30 a.m. Lector Practice—Church
9:00 a.m. Work Party—Grounds
10:00 a.m. Forum for Med. Decisions—Church
6:00 p.m. Couples for Christ—Cauchi Hall

BLUE STAR MOMS will have a Post Card Table after Masses Nov. 5-6. Stop by and write a note to our Veterans.
The Next Meeting of the St. Agnes Retired Seniors will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 8, in the Church hall. This will be a pot luck luncheon, and attendees are asked to bring their choice of a main dish, or a salad, or a dessert (enough for 6 helpings). This month’s speaker will be our Pastor, Father Johnson, who will talk about his home in India.

STARS plans 10 luncheon meetings per year, as well as other activities such as casino bus trips.

STARS welcomes all seniors and guests. There are no dues or fees for membership. For more information, you are invited to inquire at the Welcome Table or at the Office. You may also call Bob or Sandi Rigor at 925-682-0387.

GIVING TREE

Once again this year the St. Agnes Parish family will be making Christmas a little brighter for the needy families of our community and diocese. Some of the agencies that St. Agnes helps are: St. Mary’s Senior Center in Oakland, Family Justice Center—Domestic Violence Support Group, Birthright, Share, St. Agnes School and parish families and more. Individuals receiving gifts have been carefully screened and are very deserving. The trees will be up in the front of church and in the vestibules on both sides of church next weekend. Thanks for your generosity in making Christmas a little brighter for the young, needy, infirmed, and aged of our area.

If you are a member of the St. Agnes Parish Family and are having a difficult time financially this season, the St. Agnes Giving Tree could help make your or your family's Christmas a little brighter. Stop by the Ministry Center and complete a short form by Wednesday, December 7th. The information you provide will be kept confidential.

Thank you to Janine Le Judge whose donation provided our flowers for the altar this weekend!

GET YOUR ST. AGNES COOKBOOKS AFTER MASS!

Cookbooks may be purchased after Mass for the next couple of weekends. Just stop by the Welcome Table. Also, you may purchase them at the Ministry Center.

These cookbooks contain 250 tried-and-true recipes from our parishioners and friends and make great Christmas or Hostess gifts.

Each cookbook is only $15. Checks should be made payable to St. Agnes Church.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who so generously donated Halloween Candy to our Life Teen Outreach project. Because of your generosity, the teens were able to create "Thank you" goody bags for 160 Concord Police Officers, 30 Firefighters for Stations #6 and #8, as well as 80 EMT's from Bay Medic Ambulance. The teens themselves were very humbled by our parishioners support. God is good, all the time!

SAVE THE DATES!

December is a busy month, so put the following dates in your planner:

- **ADVENT NATIVITY ILLUM.**—Dec. 6 at 7 p.m.
- **WOMEN’S RETREAT**—December 10 at 9:30 a.m.
- **CHRISTMAS DINNER**—December 10 at 6:30 p.m.
- **ANOINTING MASS**—December 17 at 10:00 a.m.

**CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

**OCTOBER**

- 29/30 Hospitality Weekend
- 30 Friends and Family Mass—10:45 a.m.
- 1st Reconciliation/Communion Enrollment

**NOVEMBER**

- 1 All Saints Day Mass times:
  - 8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (School) & 7:30 p.m.
- 4 Fish Fry, Knights of Columbus, 5:30 p.m.
- 5 Medical Decision Forum, 10:00 a.m.
- 8 STARS Luncheon, 11:00 a.m.
- 12 Mass of Remembrance, 10:00 a.m.
- 13 Divine Mercy Holy Hour & Chaplet, 12 noon
OUR PARISH MASS OF REMEMBRANCE
Our Parish Mass of Remembrance will take place on Saturday, November 12, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. This special liturgy is for all members of St. Agnes community who have experienced the death of a family member, a loved one or friend.

You are invited to bring a photograph, holy card or memorial folder of your loved one to be placed on one of the memorial tables. A simple reception will follow in the parish hall. If you have any questions, please call Sharon Ouimet at 685-1361.

DO YOU THINK MASS IS BORING?
Here are some suggestions to alleviate that!
by Donna Roberts

Unfortunately, all too often we hear the phrase, “I hate going to Mass. It’s boring. Why can’t they make it more interesting?” And the answer is, “It doesn’t have to be boring. But you have to be the one to make the difference and make it more engaging.”

I believe that we all want to develop a deeper relationship with Christ, and that He definitely wants to develop a deeper relationship with us. And there are simple ways that we can show our love to Him and get to know Him better.

The first thing is our actual presence. We have to be here on Sundays and Holy Days. We can’t be a member of a community if we are seldom here. Smile and say hello to your fellow parishioners. They are your brothers and sisters in Christ—don’t you want to get to know your family?

Next, actively engage in the Mass. Arrive on time. Sing along with the choir. Listen actively to the readings. Our lectors practice every Saturday morning so that they can do their best to proclaim the Word of God so that you can hear it. Ask God to open your heart and mind so that you can understand the meaning that He wants you to hear.

And finally, get a church job! The hours are flexible. The pay and benefits are incredible, but are only collected in the next life. Read the next paragraph for a list of job openings!

Our next Ministry Enrollment is scheduled for the weekend of November 19-20. (Think of this as a job fair!). For this enrollment, we will have sign-ups for the Worship, Buildings and Grounds, and Communications Ministries. We have current openings in all of these areas. The Worship Ministries include Altar Servers, Adult Acolytes, Environment, Eucharistic Ministers, Greeters, Lay Presiders, Lectors, Liturgy of the Word for Children, Liturgy Planning Committee, Media Ministers, Music, Ushers, Divine Mercy Group, Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration and Vocation Prayer Group.

When you actively participate in the Mass, I can promise that you aren’t bored. Actively participating in the Mass promotes well-being and a sense of peace and joy that can’t be found elsewhere. And it shows Christ just how much you love Him.
We welcome back Bishop John Oyejola to St. Agnes this weekend. Thank you to Pat Jung for these photos from Bishop John’s ordination in Nigeria. Several parishioners from St. Agnes attended this special event on June 30th.