

BP/DANN/0322/02

BISHOP'S 2022 LENTEN MESSAGE

Beloved Faithful,

We bring you greetings of love and service as we welcome you to the soul searching and empowering season of lent, a time of personal and community renewal, leading to the mystery of the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. We remain heartily grateful to our God and Father for preservation, protection, and providence.

In our Diocesan Lenten meditation this year, our focus will be on making our identity as followers of Christ, evident in our daily living and dealings with all people. We are clearly instructed to “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”(Matthew 5:16 KJV).

In these words, our Lord Jesus implies that our identity, claim and confession as Christians can only be authenticated and evident by the life we live. It is our daily living and dealings with people as Christ would, that will make the rest of the world be convinced that we are followers of Christ, causing them acknowledge and submit to Him as Lord and Savior.

Therefore as we humbly and soberly observe this holy season, May the personal and corporate fasting to which it calls us enable us to grow and never be weary of doing good to all. May our prayer life be rekindled and our devotion to Christ renewed. May we received grace and power to lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

We enjoin you to endeavor to spend more time reflecting on our individual journey with Christ for the fortification of our corporate life and ministry as a Diocese. May our love for one another grow towards our spiritual maturity that we may showcase the glory of He who has called us from darkness into His marvelous light, even Jesus the Christ our Lord. May His Spirit guide you.

And to Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before His throne; to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be all honor, glory and dominion now till the end of the age. Amen.

Your Bishop and Father In God,

 **Nath, Aba Ngwa North.**

February 2022