

DIOCESAN NEW YEAR MESSAGE

**YOU ARE GREAT O GOD OUR FATHER,
YOU ARE AWESOME O CHRIST OUR REDEEMER,
YOU ARE MARVELOUS SPIRIT DIVINE.
WE WORSHIP YOUR MAJESTY, O HOLY GOD, THREE IN ONE
NOW AND FOREVER.**

Beloved In The Lord

As we sing this song on your behalf, We welcome you to the year 2021. We cannot accommodate our joy and gratitude looking back to the year 2020. Not only was our God extraordinarily gracious to us, He demonstrated to the entire humanity that without Him in Christ, we are nothing but dust. We congratulate you all for the successes we achieved at different fronts in our journey together as a Diocese. I know we encountered some challenges, but I do not want to dwell much on them because every one of them turned out to be a lesson, a step to future successes and a strength to our faith in Christ in whom we live and have our being.

In a time like the one we are in at the moment, it is easy to focus on the minuses losing site of the pluses. Yes, the news we receive globally of the Pandemic can be frustrating. The state of our national economy doesn't bring much joy, neither does the state of insecurity and inhumanity in our civil governance present any hope. But we must understand that our life depends on none of these. Our life, hope and future are all in His hands, who has been our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, who has led us safely till now, the unchangeable God, in whose hands and under whose control are ,all safety and protection, economic activities and whose service brings perfect freedom and security.

Therefore as we enter the year 2021, let's resolve to seek for solution from no other source but rather commit our whole life to Him, through Christ Jesus. Let's pursue all that makes for peace, unity and the good of our communal life. While it is a good thing to be active, hardworking and diligent in order to excel in life, **we must understand that our struggles are not to be "do or die". There is absolutely nothing ahead of us that is worth dying for. Our labor and toiling should not be made to maim or harm, but encourage others. We must run away from whatever would make others weep or suffer. We must live our life knowing fully well that "We Are Nothing But Dust And To Dust We Will Surely Return"**.

As we wish you all an awesome new year, I speak divine turnaround for good unto everything that concerns you.

HAPPY 2021 TO YOU ALL; AND MAY YOUR DAYS REMAIN LONG AND BRIGHT.

And to Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before His throne; to the only wise God be all glory honor and majesty now till the end of the age. Amen.

Your Father in the Lord.

✠ **Nath, Aba Ngwa North.**
January 2021.