

## **BISHOP'S MESSAGE TO THE CHILDREN.**

Dearly Beloved Children in the Lord,

It is with a heart of sincere gratitude to God that Mama Aba Ngwa North and I bring you greetings of love. It is always a feeling of joy and appreciation whenever we recount the blessedness of being called to secure the future and power of the Gospel of Christ by equipping you with the truth that can only be found in Christ our Lord and Friend. As we go across our Diocese and see your enthusiasm, innocence, and faith in our Church and the Gospel, we cannot but ask God for more grace to continue to serve.

We are very much aware of the challenges of catching you young and keeping you firm for Christ. So, on your behalf, we sincerely thank all the leaders and teachers of our Children's Ministry at all levels. To all of them who are sincerely committed to this arduous task, we assure that the Lord whose Kingdom's future you are securing, will certainly secure a better future for you, even unto the salvation of your souls. We appreciate the commitment of parents who see that these Children and their leaders are encouraged in building a secured future for the Church and society.

As we celebrate this year's Children's Day, we need to be reminded that the main problem of the Church and our entire society is lack of godly and responsible leadership. The world, and particularly our nation Nigeria is in dire need of men and women in leadership who are godly and responsible enough to know that there is more to leadership than the comfort and luxury of them and their immediate families. Leaders who understand that the way to secure a strong and better future is to invest in the education of the Children of today and not by stacking public funds in shelves or laying them away in foreign countries. And there is no better way to build such leaders than "Catching Them Young for Christ" especially through the Anglican Children's Ministry. Let us then offer these young and innocent minds as "Living and Holy Sacrifice" to God knowing that the foundation we lay for them today will determine what leaders they will be tomorrow. Therefore we charge all parents to be very diligent in making sure that our Children are available and committed to the activities and programs of the Ministry. We remind all pastors and other Church workers that it is our avowed responsibility to ensure that the leaders of the Children's ministry are equipped, supported, encouraged, and supervised to make sure the Church's goals for the ministry are achieved.

Once again we congratulate you and the entire Diocese on this celebration and ask that we be mindful of and pray for all orphans, Children in warring regions of the world and all who are maltreated and victims of violence. May the spirit of this celebration bring joy and end to their situations.

**HAPPY CELEBRATION TO YOU ALL.**

**! 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 Bishop and Father,**



**NATH, ABA NGWA NORTH**

**Children's Day 2017**