

FATHERS' SUNDAY MESSAGE

Brethren and fellow Fathers.

We and Mama Aba Ngwa North bring you hearty greetings on this special day as we celebrate this unique and divine honor of being Men and Fathers. Therefore we ask that you join us to pour our hearts out in appreciation, praise, and adoration to our Father and God, who has, out of His love and mercy, bestowed on us such honor. To Him be all Majesty ascribed for yet another opportunity to celebrate fatherhood.

As we all know Father's day is a time when we thank God and appreciate Him for privilege He has given us as fathers. As the oxford dictionary defines a father as "a man who gives care and protection to someone or something" just like God, the first in the Trinity. Who created, cares and protects everything.

Remember over the years, it seems that we have neglected this God given gift and privilege, by relieving our duties to our wives. In a family, a father should be a hero, a role model, and a provider for the family. When such duties are not discharge effectively question needs to be ask. He supposed to be a support system for the emotional, financial, and spiritual needs of the family. As we are honoured, loved and appreciated by our children and wives this season let us not forget our God given responsibilities of being the chief priest of our families.

In a situation a father will be at home and allow the wife to go and invite a prayer warrior who will come and pray for the family something is wrong. The time has come for us to exercise our functions as pastors of our homes. The time our wives use to see for the spiritual well-being of our children has gone. The era when our wives will be left with the responsibility of taken our children to church programmes and service is not now. What are our children going to learn from us as their role model?

Let us as we avoid the costliest mistake that Joseph made from our theme text Luke 2:42-46 which border on ignorance of responsibility. Let us this time and season as we celebrate allow the Holy spirit to direct us aright as father who will be able to fulfil the mandate and the purpose of God concerning our families. If we play our roles effectively it will reflect on our society and as well as on our families positively.

This Father's Day let us remember that we have been given a heritage of dedication and faithfulness from the fathers we encounter in the Bible and from those fathers who exemplify the best qualities of parenting.

Therefore as we rejoice in this year's father's day, we call on all men and fathers of our diocese to be mindful of our children. A situation where men shy away from family Altar, church activities and other bible study programs, then what are we teaching our children God is watching. Let's remember if we don't care for the children somebody else will do that for you. God forbid. What you sow today you will reap tomorrow and same they will sow in their own children.

MAY OUR CELEBRATIONS BE PEACEFUL AND JOYFUL.

! 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 in God,

**† NATH ABA NGWA NORTH.
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