

# **DIOCESAN MESSAGE TO THE YOUTH**

Our Dearest In The Lord,

We bring you greetings of love and hope in His name, The Perfect Man, Jesus The Christ, our Lord and Savior. It is with gratitude to our Creator and Sustainer-The Almighty God, that we welcome you all as we celebrate the blessedness of being youth.

We appreciate your commitment to, and participation in, the life and programs of the Diocese. And so we congratulate you, especially your leadership on the success of your programs and activities in the past one year. Your contribution to our mission and vision is very evident in our local stations across the Diocese despite challenges and trials of our time. We therefore remind those of our youth who neither contribute nor participate in the life and ministry of the youth of the Diocese, to have a rethink as this godly train is moving fast and there may not be time to play catch up. The Diocese is determined to do everything, under God, to build a bright future by helping our youth discover what is that perfect will of God for their lives. So we call on parents to ensure that their young ones are part of our youth ministry to avoid making mistakes today that can become very costly tomorrow.

Our celebration this year brings us to an interesting discussion. As the theme reminds, we are instructed to "Give Thanks". (1Thessalonians 5:18). This is interesting because, the present life of a Nigerian youth, seen from the human eyes, provides no basis for thanksgiving. The staggering rate of unemployment, hatred, child prostitution, corruption, and other social vices, paints an almost perfect picture of fear, desperation, and hopelessness. But our theme reminds us that our future is not anchored on the activities of men, but on the love, and perfect will of God as revealed in Christ, The Perfect Man our Lord. So we charge every one of you to ensure that your lives are surrendered to Christ, who alone can change our present turbulence to peace and calm, but above all, whose service is perfect freedom, and whose knowledge is eternal life. Let us never let anything take away our joy and hope, knowing that the troubles of this time are nothing compared to the glory to be revealed at the visitation of our Lord. Let us never let the present situation and conditions in our society lure us into any form of ungodly life which will amount to ingratitude to God. Rather let us present our bodies as a living sacrifice to God, which is our reasonable service. Remember, an ungodly youthful life will lead to an unguided adulthood which is a recipe for depression and frustration.

May this celebration bring joy to all your hearts and cause you to remain thankful to God and appreciate the blessedness of our life together as a Diocese.

**HAPPY YOUTH SUNDAY TO YOU ALL AND FORGET NOT TO ENJOY.**

**! 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.