



CATHOLICS URGED TO CHERISH AND REMAIN STEADFAST IN THEIR FAITH

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IBADAN, NIGERIA -

Catholics in the country have been called upon to remain steadfast in their faith and cherish the gift of the Church of Christ as an ever new Church, in spite of its being over two thousand years old. This admonition was given by the Catholic Bishop of Ijebu-Ode Diocese, Most Rev. Albert Fasina, while speaking at the Thanksgiving Mass to mark the 80th Birthday anniversary of Archbishop Felix Alaba Job, at the Most Pure Heart Catholic Church, Esure, Ijebu-Imushin, Ogun State; the home town of the celebrant.

According to Bishop Fasina, the Catholic Church, in spite of its old age is ever new in Christ, in the Sacrament and teachings of the Church, which are ever relevant, even in the present-day world. He called on Catholics to stop drifting from the very source of Christianity which is the Catholic Church, in search of miracles; stressing that all they need for their salvation, spiritual and social life are in the Sacraments, prayers and teachings of the Church.

He commended the celebrant for his contributions in making the Church in Esure, Ijebu-Imushin and the diocese in general, a vibrant and flourishing Church, bringing salvation to the people. The bishop noted that God has touched the life of the Church, the lives of many people and the universal Church through the celebrant. Stressing that “we benefit a lot by holding on to Jesus Christ”, Bishop Fasina called on the faithful to study and have in-depth knowledge

of their faith, the Sacraments and the teachings of the Church.

Earlier in his homily at the celebration of the Mass, Bishop Peter Kayode Odetoyinbo went down memory lane on the life and times of the celebrant, especially his Episcopate life and how he had positively impacted on the lives of many priests, lay faithful and lived a Christ-like life in his relationship with all those who came across him in life. He described Archbishop Job as teacher, father and disciplinarian of note, who exudes the love of Christ and fatherly love in his relationship with humanity.

The ceremony was attended by the Catholic Archbishop of Ibadan, Most Rev. Gabriel Abegunrin, Rev. Frs. And Sisters, traditional rulers, Knights of the Church, many faithful from Lagos, Ijebu-Ode, Ibadan and members of the Job family from all parts of the country.