



CSN WORKERS URGED TO IMBIBE LOVE AND COMPASSION TO SERVE HUMANITY BETTER

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ABUJA, NIGERIA -

Love and compassion are two of the virtues bequeathed by Christ as pillars of the Christian faith which every true Christian must imbibe; the Catholic Bishop of Nsukka Diocese, Most Rev. Godfrey Onah has declared. The bishop made the assertion in his homily at the celebration of the Mass, while facilitating the 2020 Annual Retreat for staff of the Catholic Secretariat of Nigeria (CSN); and other agencies of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Nigeria (CBCN).

The 2-day retreat which was to kick-start work in all the offices of the Bishops' Conference agencies throughout the country, was attended by over 350 workers of the Catholic Secretariat of Nigeria; Catholic Caritas Foundation of Nigeria (CCFN) and other agencies of the Conference; took place at the CSN Resource Centre and Guest House at Durumi, Abuja.

The theme for the retreat was: ***Walking in the Footsteps of the Maggi.*** Other agencies whose workers were present at the retreat are: Veritas Travels Ltd; National Catholic Service Centre

(NCSC)Salus Trust Ltd, *Opus Securitatis*, Pontifical Mission Societies (PMS) and Catholic Secretariat Investments Concepts Ltd (CICL).

According to the bishop, the love of God made him to sacrifice himself for us and Christian love is love in practice and compassionate. Stressing the need to have the knowledge of God to be able to practice the Christian faith properly, Bishop Onah noted that when Christ came, it was difficult to teach to the people the faith because they were ignorant. He continued: “While the people came looking for Christ for bread; he told them what he was teaching them was more important – love and compassion.

Bishop Onah told the workers that Christian gathering is not for miracle performance adding that it was the compassion that Christ and the apostles had for the people that resulted in the miracle of the feeding of the multitude. He advised the workers not to intervene in a situation if they were not prepared to be used to solve the problem. “Don’t just identify a problem but make efforts to address it;” he added.

Speaking on the challenges of the Nigerian situation, Bishop Onah noted that every Nigerian has a role to play within the context of our community, environment and offices, as individuals and groups.