DIOCESE OF EVO

(Anglican Communion)

AN ADDRESS PRESENTED BY THE REVD. CANON JOSEPH CHILEAKAM OFOEGBU ON THE COMMISSIONING OF THE DIOCESE OF EVO YOUTH ICT EMPOWERMENT CENTRE ON THURSDAY, 27TH OCTOBER, 2016.

Your Lordship, The Rt. Rev. Innocent Uchechukwu Ordu (JP), Bishop, Diocese of Evo

Mrs. Chinyere U. Ordu, (JP), wife of the Diocesan Bishop

The Honourable Chairman, Obio/Akpor Local Government Area, Prince Hon. Collins Onunwo and your entourage,

The Clergy & Members of the Diocesan Community here present,

Staff and Students of Diocese of Evo Youth ICT Empowerment Centre,

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is with great joy that we welcome you all to this epoch making event: the official comissionoining of this great and giant non-profit making project of the Diocese of Evo, the Youth (ICT) Development/Empowerment Centre.

What you are looking at today is the coming to fruition of a long-time dream of our Lord Bishop whose burden for the development of our youths has remained un-abating. In his endless quest to equip the youths of Evo Diocese, the Lord Bishop organized a Youth Motivational/Empowerment Seminar in conjunction with The Focus Learning Support Limited, United Kingdom from Monday, 9th to Wednesday, 11th April, 2012 with the theme "Push For Success", held at St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Rumuobiokani Deanery. Hundreds of youths from across the State were in attendance.

This event was an eye opener to the Lord Bishop, who, on seeing the hunger and burning desire in the youths across the land which loudly manifested during the seminar, realized the urgent need to come up with a skills acquisition programme to help the situation. These youths literally requested the Lord Bishop to equip them with skills as much as he could.

As a man who loves and sees education as a vital tool for evangelism, the Bishop went into several consultations with individuals within and outside the Diocese who have the understanding and technical knowledge on Information and Communication Technology education. These consultations led him to the realization of the enormous opportunities that abound in this field of human endeavour and its huge potential for self-actualization and further fuelled his desire for this establishment.

The Lord Bishop looks forward to seeing every graduate of this noble Diocesan institution become employable in any sector of our society or even be able to establish their own service rendering firms and become employers of labour themselves in the nearest future.

The first batch of this training officially commenced this October, 2016 with the enrolment of 60 candidates each of whom was nominated by their various churches within the Diocese of Evo. The training sessions run morning and evening daily, except on weekends.

Courses available include - Computer Appreciation Skills, Microsoft Word Packages, Excel and Financial Database Management, PowerPoint and Projector Handling, Access and FrontPage, Hardware and Software Maintenance, Use of Research tools, interaction with the Internet Connectivity, CorelDraw and Graphics, Web Designing, Video Editing and Networking, and other related Computer Professional Courses which we intend to introduce with time.

On behalf of the Lord Bishop, we thank all who had contributed immensely both in cash and materials towards the equipping of this Centre undertaken by the Diocese especially the 2014 batch of the Evo Diocesan Council of Knights. We pray that more spirited individuals will graciously donate freely to the course of this laudable project. This Centre is equipped with a set of thirty (30) Computers (Desktops and a Laptop) with UPS. Our target however, is to have 50 computers in this Centre.

As time goes on and depending on the availability funds, we intend to install a standard internet connectivity mast here to enable people access information from the internet.

May I humbly crave your indulgence at this juncture to follow me in few minutes as I unveil the Official Website of the Diocese of Evo (Anglican Communion). This Website, now live and seen all over the world, was designed in this ICT Centre by our Staff. It is the first assignment to be carried out by this Centre.

May the good Lord bless His Lordship, our Diocesan Bishop, and Father-in-God, The Rt. Rev. Innocent Uchechukwu Ordu JP, and his amiable wife, Mrs. Chinyere U. Ordu, JP (Mama Evo). May the Lord bless your Episcopacy, and may you live to reap the fruits of the labour of your love for the young people.

Thank you and God bless!

The Rev. Canon Joseph C. Ofoegbu, Co-ordinator, Diocesan (ICT) Youth Development Centre