

ANNOUNCEMENT

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

APRIL

23 SUNDAY 23RD APRIL, 2023
Celebration Service
 Venue: ACFM Cathedral of Compassion.
 Time: 9:00 AM

24 MONDAY 24TH APRIL, 2023
2nd National Prayer and Fasting (14 Days)
 Round-up: Monday – Saturday.
 Time: 5:00pm.
 Venue: ACFM Cathedral of Compassion.
 Date: Mon 24th April – Sun. 7th May, 2023

29 SATURDAY 29TH APRIL, 2023
Church Sanitation
 Kindness group, Sanitation Group D and the Youth Fellowship All (Tribes).

MAY

12 FRIDAY 12TH MAY, 2023
Women Fellowship Weekend/Mothers' Day 2023
 Date: Fri. 12th – Sun. 14th May, 2023

Women choir rehearsal will start next Sunday: 30th April, 2023.

New members will be welcomed!
 Rehearsal starts immediately after church service.
 The rehearsal is towards the forthcoming

Women/Mother's Day coming up in May.

Women Fellowship Weekend



ONWARD, CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS

1. Onward, Christian soldiers,
 marching as to war,
 With the cross of Jesus
 going on before!
 Christ, the royal Master,
 leads against the foe;
 Forward into battle,
 see his banner go!

Chorus

*Onward, Christian soldiers,
 marching as to war,
 With the cross of Jesus
 going on before!*

2. At the sign of triumph
 Satan's host doth flee;
 On, then, Christian soldiers,
 on to victory!
 Hell's foundations quiver
 at the shout of praise;
 Brothers, lift your voices,
 loud your anthems raise!

3. Like a mighty army
 moves the church of God;
 Brothers, we are treading
 where the saints have trod;
 We are not divided;
 all one body we,
 One in hope and doctrine,
 one in charity.

4. Onward, then, ye people,
 join our happy throng,
 Blend with ours your voices
 in the triumph song;
 Glory, laud, and honor,
 unto Christ the King;
 This thro' countless ages
 men and angels sing.



COMPASSION DIGEST

A WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF ALL CHRISTIANS FELLOWSHIP MISSION

THEME OF THE YEAR

GOD OF ALL IMPOSSIBILITIES

JEREMIAH 32:27 KJV

FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES

FIRST DAY OF THE MONTH

Atmosphere of Worship
 ACFM Cathedral of Compassion

6AM

EVERY TUESDAY

Bible Studies
 Small Group Centres

6PM

EVERY THURSDAY

Help from Above
 ACFM Cathedral of Compassion

5PM

EVERY SUNDAY

Celebration Service
 ACFM Cathedral of Compassion

8AM

PASTOR IN CHARGE

Resident Pastor
 08033141485

MON - FRI

1 OUR VISION **2 OUR MISSION**

To raise Christ-like disciples who would be agents of transformation in the world.

To bring people to Jesus and **membership** in his family, develop them to Christ-like **maturity**, equip them for their **ministry** in the Church and life **mission** in the world, in order to **magnify** God's name.

3 2023 MEMORY VERSE **4 OUR MOTTO**

"Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh; Is there anything too hard for me?"
JEREMIAH 32:27 KJV

LOVE GOD AND LOVE PEOPLE.
 Life is all about love and developing relationship with God and with other people. Learning to love is life's most important lesson.
 Jesus called it **THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT.**

5 WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
Ephesians 6:12 KJV

ACCOUNTS

TITHES & OFFERING

ZENITH BANK
 ACFM MAITAMA
 1010516655

KINGDOM BUILDERS CLUB 1000

GUARANTY TRUST BANK
 ACFM MAITAMA
 0215507515

TV ACCOUNT

ACCESS BANK
 ACFM TV
 0088076679

PROJECT

ZENITH BANK
 ACFM MAITAMA
 1012662178

GLOBAL MISSIONS - GIVERS

FIRST BANK
 ACFM MAITAMA
 2031750510

RADIO ACCOUNT

ACCESS BANK
 ACFM RADIO
 0075709935



A PUBLICATION OF ALL CHRISTIANS FELLOWSHIP MISSION

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ENRICH YOUR LIFE SPIRITUALLY with balanced and inspiring messages by **Rev. Dr. William Okoye** and other Ministers. Visit the Church's **AUDIO VISUAL DEPARTMENT** or call +2348033327841 to place your order.



FOLLOW OUR WEEKLY RADIO PROGRAMME aired on

Kapital FM 92.9 - Sundays 6:30AM
Wazobia FM 99.5 - Saturdays 2:00AM

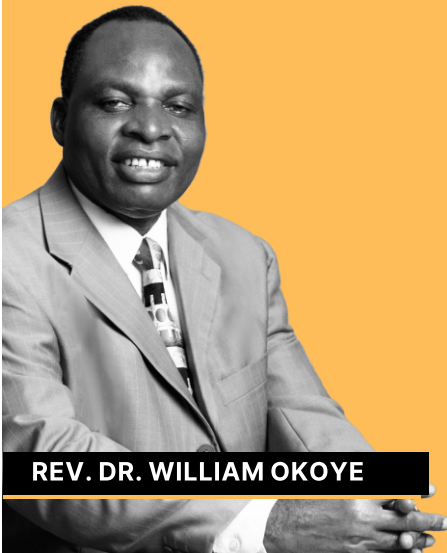


TUNE IN TO OUR WEEKLY TV BROADCAST aired on **Wazobia Max Channel 259 (DSTV)** Sundays 2:00PM



@acfmonline

LIVESTREAM on our Online Channels Sundays 9:00AM



REV. DR. WILLIAM OKOYE

POST RESSURECTION APPEARANCES OF CHRIST

TEXT: ACTS 1: 1 - 3

REV. (DR.) WILLIAM OKOYE

NOTES

"In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach, until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God" [TLB].

This message is a follow up to the Easter message on the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which is the foundation of the Christian faith. Jesus after His resurrection did not go back immediately to heaven, He stayed on earth for 40 days and appeared to His disciples at different times. These appearances before going back to Heaven to be with the Father are what we are looking at to find out why. Jesus Christ met His disciples for the first time on their way to Galilee but some of them doubted. But Jesus was focused more on what He will accomplish with them after the Holy Spirit had come upon them.

Jesus Christ had earlier told the disciples about His death and resurrection at different times. One would have expected that the disciples would not doubt when they saw Him. But it was not so. And these were the same people Jesus would be entrusting the destiny of men and women all over the world and that of the kingdom.

In **John 20: 18 - 29**, the Bible records, *"Mary Magdalene found the disciples and told them, "I have seen the Lord!" Then she gave them his message. That evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors, in fear of the Jewish leaders, when suddenly Jesus was standing there among them... He spoke to them again and said, "As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you. "Then he breathed on them and told them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven.... One of the disciples, Thomas, "The Twin," was not there at the time with the others. When they kept telling him, "We have seen the Lord," he replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his*

hands—and put my fingers into them—and place my hand into his side. "Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them and greeting them. Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger into my hands. Put your hand into my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!" "My Lord and my God!" Thomas said. Then Jesus told him, "You believe because you have seen me. But blessed are those who haven't seen me and believe anyway" [TLB].

This is another appearance of Jesus to His disciples. John here recorded the commissioning of the Apostles who will take the gospel to the ends of the earth. That is what is observed on Monday as "Galilee day" after the resurrection of Jesus on Sunday. While this happened, one of the disciples named Thomas was not in their midst and so when he was informed that Jesus visited them he didn't believe. Jesus came eight days after to meet with the disciples again and this time Thomas was

"If we labour out of the will of God, our labour will be in vain. The Bible says, "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it..."

with them."...Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger into my hands. Put your hand into my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!" [John 20: 27 - 29 TLB].

The lesson here is that although the world says, "seeing is believing" but the Bible makes it clear that "believing is seeing." If we believe, we will see the glory of God. Our faith is not based on what we see, feel or think rather on what the scripture says: *"For we walk by faith, not by sight..."* [2 Corinthians 5: 7 KJV].

If Jesus had risen and gone back to the Father,

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the disciples wouldn't have been strengthened to be able shoulder the responsibility He had given to them. The effect of the 40 - day's period He spent with them was that Thomas, the doubter, was the one who took the gospel to India because something had happened to him!

For the third time Jesus appeared to the disciples in **John 21: 1 - 25**. Previously, He had commissioned them to go and do the work of preaching the gospel. But what Peter did was to go back to his business as a fisherman. And because he was influential among the other disciples, they joined him. The Bible records that they labored all night without catching any fish; the reason being that they were out of the will of God. If we labour out of the will of God, our labour will be in vain. The Bible says, *"Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it..."* [Psalm 127:1 KJV]

One would have expected that Jesus would descend heavily on them for abandoning the work they were commissioned to do. Instead, He went to where they were fishing and asked that they cast their net on the right side, meaning that if we do the right thing, we will get the required result. When they did, they caught so many fishes that they could not pull the net in. The Bible says, *"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you"* [Mathew 6: 33 KJV].

After preparing the fish for them to eat, He spoke to Peter three times about loving Him more than fishing. After the third time Jesus told him to feed His lamb. Jesus had to restore them to the ministry He

called them to do before ascending to heaven. Why did Jesus do all of these? In the book of **Job 42: 5 - 6**, the Bible records: *'I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth thee. Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes'* [KJV]. The scripture is saying in effect that we need to have a deep and personal relationship with God. Jesus wanted His disciples to encounter Him beyond theory, because they are going out with the gospel mandate to face the unbelieving world that doesn't believe that Jesus Christ died and rose again. For them to be ready, equipped and strong enough to preach the gospel regardless of the situation, they have to know God in a personal way. It is easy to feel self-righteous until we encounter God.

The Bible says in **1 John 1:1-3**, *"Which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life... That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ."* Again in **2 Peter 1: 16** it says, *"For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty"* [KJV],

That is why the disciples were able to stand and proclaim the gospel in the face of severe opposition and challenges. They had first-hand knowledge and experience of who Jesus was. If we are to go far in these last days, especially with the daunting opposition and challenges, then we must have a deep and personal knowledge of Christ. If we know who Christ is, problems will draw us closer to Him. That is why Paul at the tail end of his ministry prayed: *"That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death"* [Philippians 3: 10 KJV]. The Bible also says, *"...but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits"* [Daniel 11: 32b KJV].

• **REVEREND (DR.) WILLIAM OKOYE** IS THE GENERAL OVERSEER. ALL CHRISTIANS FELLOWSHIP MISSION (ACFM)

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN II

STAND UP! STAND UP FOR JESUS!

- Stand up! stand up for Jesus!
Ye soldiers of the cross;
Lift high His royal banner,
It must not suffer loss:
From vict'ry unto vict'ry
His army shall He lead,
Till every foe is vanquished
And Christ is Lord indeed.
- Stand up! stand up for Jesus!
Stand in His strength alone;
The arm of flesh will fail you;
Ye dare not trust your own.
Put on the Gospel armor,
Each piece put on with prayer;
Where duty calls, or danger,
Be never wanting there.
- Stand up! stand up for Jesus!
The strife will not be long:
This day the noise of battle,
The next the victor's song;
To him that overcometh
A crown of life shall be;
He, with the King of glory,
Shall reign eternally. A-MEN

Welcome to All Christians Fellowship Mission - A caring church