

ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF ASANTE MAMPONG

(In The Church of the Province of West Africa)

THE BISHOP'S CHARGE

TO

THE FIRST SPECIAL SYNOD 2015

HELD AT

**THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
ASANTE MAMPONG**

ON FRIDAY 9 JANUARY 2015

BY

THE RT. REVD. CYRIL KOBINA BEN-SMITH,

L.TH., M.A, M.PHIL., PHD, (MANCHESTER)

1ST ANGLICAN BISHOP OF ASANTE MAMPONG

THEME: BEHOLD, I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW, REV. 21:5

WELCOME AND GRRETINGS:

HYMN

PRAYER Almighty And eternal God, we invite your Holy Presence into this Synod, Grant us your heavenly wisdom, the counsel of the Holy Spirit on all the issues before us as the maiden synod of the New Diocese. In these special times, teach us to know and to do your will, and to find joy and peace in the perfect freedom of your service. Amen.

In the name of God the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, I warmly welcome you all to this first special Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Asante Mampong, in the Church of the province of West Africa.

I welcome especially the representative of His Grace, Most Revd Prof. Daniel Yinka Sarfo, Primate and Metropolitan of the CPWA, My Lord Bishops, Our Beloved Provincial Chancellor and Registrar who come to us from Our Mother Diocese as Acting Chancellor and Registrar for our benefit, Municipal Chief Executive, Representative of Nana Mamponghene, Daasebre Osei Bonsu II, Heads of Churches Present, Heads of our Institutions, Special Guests, Members of Synod, Observers, Sisters and Brothers in Christ, Last but not the least the Press

APPRECIATION

It is a wonderful honour for me to welcome you to my first Synod as Diocesan Bishop of Asante Mampong since I was consecrated as a Bishop in 2011 and enthroned a little over a month ago. May I start off by expressing our deepest appreciation to His Grace The Most Revd. Prof. Daniel Yinka Sarfo and the entire Anglican Diocese of Kumasi whose vision has seen the birth and the ongoing cradling of this new and budding Diocese. We congratulate His Grace Daniel and Mother Mary for a good work done and hope that we would continue to work together for the growth of the Anglican Church in Ashanti.

PURPOSE OF THE SYNOD

The constitution of our Church intimates that in every Triennial there shall be convened at least two sessions of Synod, namely the First session of the

Triennial which shall be residential and at least one other which may be non-residential. In this case we are having this special Synod to set the ball rolling for the fortunes of this our Diocese. Thus this may count within the Triennial as the non-residential one and we may hopefully have the residential session within the next two years.

A Diocesan Synod is a legal provision within our constitution, comprising of all clergy and elected/ appointed Laity as mandated by the constitution. However it is more than a legal obligation, it is a gathering of the Body of Christ, who have declared their intention and will to follow Christ who is the Alpha and the Omega. It is coming together of God's people, who are reminded of His everlasting Presence in their life and work. So this first Special Synod is to set the parameters and the route of our journey as a New Diocese. It is for us to set the targets, the vision and the goals of what we hope to be, where we hope to go, what we hope to do and how we purpose to achieve it.

Thus we are gathered here for this special synod of this DIOCESE in fulfilment of our constitution and to start on our way towards the fulfilment of the mandate of Christ.

IN MEMORIAM/ NECROLOGY

I can recall the dedication of our dear Catechist, Nana Dwomoh of Blessed memory and others whose names we cannot readily recall. Let us stand and observe a minute's silence in His memory and others we cannot readily recall.

Bishop; Rest Eternal grant unto them, oh Lord

Response; AND LET LIGHT PERPETUAL Shine Upon them

Bishop; May they rest in peace

Response: Amen

Bishop: Lord May the Soul of Nana Dwomoh and the Souls of all the Faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace and rise in glory, Amen.

THEME FOR SYNOD

BEHOLD I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW.

As a Diocese we stand at the threshold of what we can do for the Lord and how we can do it to the best of our ability and to the greater glory of God. Ours is a calling to lay a good and solid foundation for the future fortunes of the Diocese and for posterity.

I have chosen this theme for this maiden special synod to emphasise the fact that as we start this maiden journey as a Diocese we have the promise of God behind us. We are also reminded that it is not us, who can accomplish anything but it is the Good Lord working in us will accomplish all we desire and hope to do.

As the Psalmist intimates: Not unto us, not unto us but to thy name be all Praise and Glory. The Revelation of St. John makes it abundantly clear that the initiative for the birth of this Diocese can be traced to only one divine architect, HE WHO SITS UPON THE THRONE, WHO COMMANDS, BEHOLD I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW.

Thus we are called to be faithful and to trust in His divine provision for us in the midst of the challenges of our contemporary world. There is also an important point when he says, Write this Down, put it on paper, it will come to pass. In the midst of the delay in the inauguration some people almost lost heart, but he who sat on the THRONE had already decreed it. But we now come to the actualisation of our calling as a Diocese and the mandate to Go Labour on, spend and be spent, thy joy to do the Master's will. I believe the word NEW stands for three things.

First, Nurture. We must nurture ourselves and our congregants in the way of Christ. We must not take their faith for granted, but we must seek to develop and nurture their gifts and talents and to make sure that they can achieve their full potential in Christ mindedness. The primary calling of the Church as given in the Great Commission is to go out and to make disciples of All nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all I have commanded you, for Lo I am with you to the end of the age. Our primary focus as a Diocese from hence will be to encourage and

foster the teaching and nurturing of our congregants. We will not tolerate a situation where our membership lurks in the darkness of ignorance and are thus susceptible to any kind of false gospel and teaching. Thus I am directing that all parishes must have the full complement of teaching materials including PowerPoint, projectors and other audio visual aids. I will arrange for training sessions for all clergy and lay leaders in the use of the computer and skills in Microsoft word, excel and PowerPoint at least. Training sessions will also be organised in Bible studies and evangelism.

Secondly the concept of newness entails expressing your goals and aspirations in such a way that they are clear and distinct. There should be no ambiguity in what we stand for. We stand as a people of Faith for Christ. For no person can lay any other foundation besides that which has already been laid and accomplished by Christ on the Cross. There we must express ourselves in such a way that people can appreciate what we stand for. It is my wish that every parish church or congregation should have at least two sign boards that are clear and express what we stand for. I will personally be inspecting it. The deadline for every parish and church is the 1st of March 2015. Clergy and wardens and Synod delegates are to ensure that this directive is promulgated.

Thirdly the concept of Newness must have the compliment of withstanding the test of time. If we build on the faith of Christ we will be like the wise builder who build his house on a rock, the wind blew, the storm raged but it stood firm because it was built on solid rock. Unlike what the Bible calls the foolish builder who built his house on the sand and when the storms came, it collapsed. We intend to build a Diocese that will withstand the test of time and will be vibrant at its middle and old age. Thus our vision must not be short-sighted, it must be a vision for all ages, so that His Kingdom may stretch from shore to shore till moon shall wax and set no more. If we are to withstand the test of time we must strategies and not to do things haphazardly. In the course of the year ahead we must put in well planned structures and mechanisms that will ensure that we build for foundation for a vibrant Diocese. We must build long term, medium term and short term measured that would keep the Diocese going and growing from strength to strength.

Thus as a New Diocese we must forget the things of old and strive for new things. I am counting on my clergy and lay faithful to be innovative and to

allow the spirit to work in new ways to grow this Diocese. Ephesians 4: 22-24. We are also called to look up to Christ who is the author and finisher of our faith and to forge ahead in faith. Philippians 3:13

LINK WITH THE DIOCESE OF KUMASI

Although we are now an independent Diocese weaned from our Mother Diocese with our umbilical cord cut yet we remain within the Love of Christ our Lord and within the Ashanti Kingdom in the Kingdom of the Otumfuo Osei Tutu Ababio II. Our mission and link with the Mother Diocese still holds fast and we will do all in our power to maintain the link with Kumasi. It is our hope also to support the work and mission of the Primate and Metropolitan Archbishop of the Church of the Province of West Africa who has made history as the First Primate from Kumasi Diocese.

However we must as the Diocesan Synod of Asante Mampong look critically at the Memorandum of Understanding with the Diocese of Kumasi to ratify it or otherwise. However it is my intention to recommend that we deal with those crucial issues at our regular synod to be held hopefully in 2016. Meanwhile we can critically peruse issues namely areas of boundaries, assets and future areas of cooperation. However further to an unofficial discussion with His Grace, may I humbly use this forum to humbly request His Grace, Archbishop Daniel Yinka Sarfo to give to the Diocese of Mampong some of his ordinands at the St. Nicholas Seminary, Cape Coast.

THE ST MONICA'S COMPLEX

The St. Monica's Complex belongs to the entire Anglican Church of Ghana but since it is within our jurisdiction we have primary access to the complex. Invariably we are the first point of contact for the Church and of course we are answerable to the Archbishop of the Internal Province of Ghana who happens to be the Diocesan Bishop of Kumasi. Over the years the Diocese of Kumasi has supported the Mampong Babies Home and actually runs it, it is our intention to cooperate with the Diocese of Kumasi to ensure the growth of the Home and the welfare of the Babies. The chairmanship of the various boards on the complex may be shared in like manner. It is our hope that parishes within the Diocese of Asante Mampong will support the Babies Home. Hopefully our

Lenten offerings for 2015 will be substantial and will go towards the needs of the Babies Home.

CHALLENGES

As a new Diocese we can actually count on what has been bequeath to us from our parents. No doubt we are faced with a host of challenges including the following:

1. Need for Continued Development of our Human resources
 - a. Low number of clergy 12 at present
 - b. Clergy academic levels
 - c. Training of Seminarians
2.
 - a. financial Challenges
 - b. Low stipends for Clergy
 - c. Lack of Endowment Fund
3. Need for permanent Administrative Structures
 - a. Diocesan Office
 - b. Diocesan staff
4. Facilitating the Bishop's Work
 - a. Means of transport
 - b. Provision of a permanent Bishop's Court
5. Establishment of Income Generating projects
 - a. Diocesan Credit Union
 - b. Establishment of Cattle Ranch/ poultry and livestock farming
6. Developing of Strategic Plan for the Diocese

ORDINATION

As a new Diocese it is contingent on us to train and ordain more clergy for our mission and ministry and to ensure that because we are a sacramental church we have adequate clergy to take care of parishes and many upcoming churches. There are also major towns in our jurisdiction that must have ordained clergy to minister in these localities. We must as a matter of urgency have clergy and churches in towns such as Effiduasi, Agogo, Asankare, Bompata, Asokore, Wiemoase, Jamasi, Konongo, Agona etc. It is my intention to ordain into the Diaconate a number of men and women who are in training at the Centre for Theological Studies in Kumasi. I have personally been involved in their training as the Principal for the Centre and can vouch for them. In the next few months the Ordinands Board would be constituted to interview and shortlist those we wish to ordain. However a few of them have already passed the ordinands board in the Kumasi Diocese namely Hannah Annin and Charles Sarfo. God willing I will ordain a number of deacons to the Diaconate on Saturday 23RD May 2015 which is the eve of Pentecost. Pray for us.

FRIENDS OF ASANTE MAMPONG DIOCESE

It is our recommendation to Synod that we form and inaugurate an association to be known as friends of the Diocese. These friends could come together once or twice a year to think about the welfare of the Diocese and to raise funds for the Diocese. We wish Synod to appreciate and honour the work of the following in the cause of this Diocese. Namely Nana Owusu Ansah Ababio, Botaasehene, Nana Adjei Duku, Nkosuohene, Nana Boakye Agyemang , Mr Justice Aboagye, Mr Sonny Kumi, Mr George Kumi, Nana Serwah Amponsah, Kumawu hema, Nana Botafo Acheampong, Konongo and Wife, Prof. Edward Badu, now Nana Mensah Bonsu II, hon. Dr Kwame Addo-Kufuor, Mr Jackson Prah, Mr Ato Ampiah, Nana Kwamanghene, Justice Barbara Mensah UK among others. It is hoped that at our first anniversary later this year citations and Bishop's Badge of Honour will be given to our friends. A committee to oversee the friends of Asante is to be formed comprising the following.

CHAIRMAN- Mr James Kwakye Amoako,

Ag. Dean and All Archdeacons

1 Representative from each Parish

Leaders of Diocesan Guilds

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

It is our intention and prayer that all our clergy will have access to Post ordination training in and outside the country. As the Bishop in Charge of the Human Resource Desk of the Internal province of Ghana we will explore all avenues for clergy and lay training. It is my hope that all my clergy will take advantage of the many opportunities that abound and to upgrade themselves. The Diocesan will arrange systematically for the training of our senior clergy in the Diocese as appropriate.

GUILD NETWORKING

As a new Diocese the various guilds must work out plans to constitute Diocesan guilds in the course of the year. To facilitate the process, the Diocesan wishes to appoint the Reverend Fr Ishmael Lartey and Mad Felicia Atakora as the Coordinators for the re-organisation and inauguration of the Archdeaconry Boards to Diocesan Guilds. The Guilds are as follows:

DIOCESAN GUILD OF ST. MARY

DIOCESAN GUILD OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

DIOCESAN WOMENS FELLOWSHIP

DIOCESAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

DIOCESAN CHOIR

DIOCESAN GUILD OF SERVANTS OF THE SANCTUARY

DIOCESAN MOTHER'S UNION

DIOCESAN YOUTH/ AYPA

It is hoped that notwithstanding the above our relationship with the various Diocesan guilds in Kumasi Diocese will be strong.

LAND ACQUISITION AND DOCUMENTATION

The subject of land acquisition is a necessity for a Diocese such as ours thus all churches in this our Diocese must pursue this agenda vigorously. All church lands that are not documented should be effected immediately without delay. Parishes should inform the Diocesan of viable lands for the Diocese to acquire for future use. It is hoped that funds from the Diocesan Endowment Funds will be used for this purpose among others.

MINISTRY TO WIDOWS, ORPHANS AND THE UNDER PRIVILEGED

THE Bible demands of us to be hospitable to widows, orphans and those in need. The church must be at the forefront of the fight against poverty, disease and deprivation. It is our intention to secure funding for the rehabilitation of the Midwifery Hospital at Mampong established by the Sisters of the Order of Holy Paraclete from Whitby. The facility is currently in a state of disrepair. I have taken the liberty of soliciting for funds to renovate the facility and thereby re-involve the Diocese in the operations in the Hospital. I have asked the Rev. Canon David Kyree Korankye to oversee the hospital rehabilitation project. In the course of the year a committee will be put in place to raise funds to support the ministry to widows, orphans and the under-privileged.

ANGLICAN EDUCATION UNIT

The birth of the Diocese of Asante Mampong means a lot of re-organisation. The Diocese will have to share the management of our school with the Diocese of Kumasi. This means that the Regional Manager of Schools for Ashanti serves two masters, and is responsible for both Dioceses in the Ashanti Region; the Diocese of Kumasi and the Diocese of Asante Mampong. Fortunately the Deputy Regional Manager belongs to our Diocese and I am happy to appoint him as our link person for the Educational Unit and Chairman of the Educational Board. Congratulations Mr David Asokwa.

MAMPONG ANGLICAN DIOCESAN RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION/ DIOCESAN CREDIT UNION

One of our short term to medium term goals is the establishment of viable credit union to provide capital to people especially our members and people in our communities. Plans are in place to also set up what we call MADDRO to raise support for various developmental and relief projects within our Diocese. I am working with Mr James Danso Kwarteng our Diocesan Finance Committee Chairperson to explore possible sources of support. In due course a committee of experts will be constituted to monitor and manage the project.

ENDOWMENT FUND

The constitution of the Church recommends the setting up of an endowment fund for the purposes of development. The endowment fund is managed by trustees of the Diocese. It is hoped that the Finance Board will work out the modalities for the establishment of the Diocesan Endowment fund as soon as practicable.

DIOCESAN CATECHISTS

The ministry of catechists is one of the most crucial in our ecclesiology. Thus Catechists are the first point of contact for many Christians especially those in the rural setting. There is no doubt we will continue to rely on their ministry if we are to make positive strides in our evangelisation. I have asked our Diocesan and Synod Secretary, Rev. Fr Simon Pius Frimpong to compile a list and to have a file of on all our catechists both trained and untrained. It is my hope that a committee comprising of selected clergy will interview and present to us the list of recognised catechists to be received and licensed as full Diocesan catechists. The training and equipping of all our Catechists will continue in the course of the year. The Diocese will have to ensure that Catechists are motivated both materially and otherwise if we are to encourage them to excel them in their ministry.

CREATION OF NEW PARISHES

The Constitution of our Church intimates that parishes may be created by the Bishop in Consultation with Synod/ Standing Committee. It is the pleasure of the Bishop in consultation with Synod to create the following parishes. This is a strategic move to ensure that growth is induced in certain areas. The parishes are to plan towards their inauguration as full parishes in the course of the year.

1. **ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, DAAHO** IS ELEVATED TO FULL PAROCHIAL STATUS
2. **ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, KYIREMFASO** IS ALSO NOW A FULL PARISH
3. **ST. THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH, ABONKOSO** NOW ENJOYS FULL AUTONOMY AS A PARISH
4. **ST BARNABAS ANGLICAN CHURCH, KONONGO** ASSUMES FULL PAROCHIAL STATUS
5. **ST AUGUSTINE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, BONKRO** IS ALSO NOW A FULL PARISH
6. **ST NICHOLAS ANGLICAN CHURCH, JAMASI** NOW BECOMES A **SUB-PARISH**
7. THE FOLLOWING CHURCHES IN EJURA WILL CONSTITUTE A NEW PARISH NAMELY KASEI, DROMANKOMA, NKWANTA. The seat of the PARISH WILL BE **CHRIST THE KING PARISH, DROMANKOMA.**

It is the intention of the Bishop to upgrade and post clergy to the following churches within two years.

1. St. Mark's Anglican Church Effiduasi
2. St. Mary's Anglican Church, Woraso
3. Agogo Anglican Community
4. St. Anthony's Nobewam
5. Kofiase/ Benim Anglican Community

CREATION AND RE-ORGANISATION OF ARCHDEACONRIES

Appreciable growth does not come by chance, it must be thought out and directed to achieve full and positive outcomes. The Lord Bishop wishes to make the following reorganisation of the various archdeaconries as follows:

1. MAMPONG ARCHDEACONRY IS RECONSTITUTED TO COMPRISE THE FOLLOWING PARISHES

- A. ST THOMAS PARISH, ABONKOSO
- B. ST. JOHN'S PARISH, DAAHO
- C. ST. AUGUSTINE'S PARISH BONKRO
- D. ST. NICHOLAS SUB- PARISH, JAMASI

It is the pleasure of the Lord Bishop that the Mampong Archdeaconry will work to extend and to build new churches towards Agona, Kona, Asoromaso and the border with Kumasi Diocese at Mampongten.

2. EJURA ARCHDEACONRY

- A. ST. MARY'S PARISH, EJURA
- B. ST. PAUL'S PARISH, KYIREMFASO
- C. CHRIST THE KING PARISH, DROMANKOMA

The Archdeaconry is charged with mission and outreach to Sekyedumasi and the route to Nkoransa from both Ejura and Sekyedumasi. It is also charged with evangelisation towards Yeji and the border with the Diocese of Sunyani.

3. KUMAWU ARCHDEACONRY

- A. ST PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, KUMAWU
- B. ST. ANDREW'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, KWAMANG
- C. ST JOSEPH'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, NSUTA

The Archdeaconry is charged with mission and outreach to the Afram plains and towards Agogo and Suminso and the northern border with the Eastern region.

4. ASANTE AKYEM ARCHDEACONRY

- A. ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, JUABEN
- B. ST. PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, ODUMASI
- C. ST. BARNABAS ANGLICAN CHURCH, KONONGO

The Archdeaconry is charged with mission and outreach towards Agogo, Asankari and the border with the Eastern region. It is also mandated to reach out towards the Border with the Diocese of Kumasi on the western side.

The appointment letters of the various archdeacons and various parish priests will capture specific boundaries and areas of work and the expectation of the Bishop in this regard.

APPOINTMENTS OF NEW CANONS FOR THE DIOCESE

To facilitate the work of the Diocese in specific areas, Canons are appointed by the Diocesan in various specialities to compliment the work of the Bishop. In this regard the Bishop in consultation with synod makes the following clergy Canons of our Cathedral and Diocese.

1. THE REV. BALTHAZAAR OBENG LARBI AS A RESIDENT CANON
2. THE REV. DR. ALASDAIR COLES, UK
3. THE REV. ANGUS AAGAARD, UK
4. THE REV. MARK WILLIAMS, UK
5. THE REV. IAN BLAY, UK
6. THE REV. PETER BRISTOW, UK
7. THE REV. ROBERT MCLEAN, UK
8. THE REV. CHRISTOPHER DAVIES, UK
9. THE REV. JOANNA NORTHEY, UK
10. THE REV. DUAH AWERE, USA
11. THE REV. TITUS KIM, SOUTH KOREA
12. THE REV. DR GREGORY YOUN, SOUTH KOREA

It is our resolve to honour Mr James Kwakye Amoako as the first lay Canon of the Diocese of Asante Mampong for his work in the Diocese. He will be installed in due course.

In addition all our clergy who are already Canons from Kumasi will maintain their seat in our diocese. Five of these Canons will be installed by the Acting Dean of the Cathedral on Sunday 18th January 2015 at 4pm. You are cordially invited. The rest of the Canons from outside Ghana will visit in the course of the year to be installed. We wish them well, Congratulations.

APPOINTMENTS

The constitution of the Church makes the appointment of the Dean of the Cathedral and other Diocesan positions the sole prerogative of the Bishop. These positions are not based on long service but rather are on merit and also on loyalty and faithfulness to the Bishop in all things lawful and honest. The Bishop may at any time make changes as appropriate.

The Bishop in consultation with Synod makes the following appointments.

1. THE REV CANON BISMARCK OPOKU ACHEAMPONG IS HEREBY APPOINTED AS **ACTING DEAN** OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CATHEDRAL, MAMPONG WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT. The Bishop is happy to confer on him the title **Venerable from hence**.
2. THE VENERABLE JOSEPH KWABENA AMOH IS NOW THE **EXECUTIVE ARCHDEACON** OF THE DIOCESE OF ASANTE MAMPONG AND ARCHDEACON OF MAMPONG.
3. THE REV. CANON JOSEPH AMOAKO IS APPOINTED AS THE SUBSTANTIVE **ARCHDEACON OF KUMAWU**
4. THE REV. CANON DAVID APPIAH IS CONFIRMED AS THE **ARCHDEACON OF EJURA**.
5. THE REV CANON DAVID OKYERE KORANKYE IS APPOINTED AS **ARCHDEACON OF ASANTE AKYEM** FROM 1ST SEPT. 2015.
6. THE REV BALTHAZZAR OBENG LARBI IS NOW THE **ACTING PRECENTOR** OF ST. MICHAEL'S CATHEDRAL, MAMPONG
- 7.

DIOCESAN OFFICIALS

1. **DIOCESAN CHANCELLOR- TO BE APPOINTED IN DUE COURSE**
2. DIOCESAN REGISTRAR- REV CANON BALTHAZZAR OBENG LARBI
3. **DIOCESAN TREASURER- TO BE APPOINTED**
4. DIOCESAN AND SYNOD SECRETARY- FR. SIMON PIUS FRIMPONG
5. ASST. DIOCESAN SECRETARY- FR. DUAH OTUO-ACHEAMPONG
6. DIOCESAN P.R.O- MR ALEX NKRABEA
7. FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN- MR JAMES DANSO KWARTENG
8. DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION-MR DAVID ASOKWA
9. **DIOCESAN PROJECT CORDINATOR- TO BE APPOINTED**

10. DIOCESAN MEDICAL OFFICER- TO BE APPOINTED

11. DIOCESAN ESTATES OFFICER- TO BE APPOINTED

CLERGY POSITIONS AND TRANSFERS

VENERABLE BISMARCK OPOKU ACHEAMPONG- . AG. DEAN – MAMPONG **1ST JAN 2015**

CANON BALTHAZZAR OBENG LARBI AG. PRECENTOR -**1ST JAN 2015**

REV. FR SIMON PIUS FRIMPONG SUCCENTOR AT ST. MICHAEL'S
AND ALL ANGEL'S CATHEDRAL, MAMPONG AND CHAPLAIN TO **MIDWIFERY
TRAINING SCHOOL, MAMPONG.**

VEN. JOSEPH AMOH, ST. THOMAS ABONKOSO

VEN. JOSEPH AMOAKO, PARISH PRIEST, ST ANDREW'S KWAMANG-
EFFECTIVE **MAY 15TH 2015**

VEN. DAVID KWABENA APPIAH, PARISH PRIEST, ST. MARY'S EJURA EFFECTIVE
MAY 15TH-2015

VEN. DAVID OKYERE KORANKYE, PARISH PRIEST NSUTA UNTIL **1ST SEPT.
2015**

REV FR FRANCIS ASAFO-ADJEI, PARISH PRIEST, ST. PETER'S ,ODUMASI, **MAY
15TH 2015**

REV FR ISHMAEL LARTEY REMAINS AS PARISH PRIEST JUABEN **UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE**

REV FR. GILBERT DUAH OTUO ACHEAMPONG **WILL ACT AS** PARISH PRIEST OF
ST PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, KUMAWU UNTIL **1ST SEPT. 2015.**

REV MRS IVY FIAGBE WILL BE ACTING CHAPLAIN OF ST MONICA'S COLLEGE OF
EDUCATION, MAMPONG BABIES' HOME AND THE JHS. SHE IS TO **TAKE
TEMPORAL CHARGE OF ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, DAAHO.** FROM 15TH
MAY 2015

REV FR. ASANTE ABABIO FROM THE DIOCESE OF KUMASI IS TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE NEW PARISH OF **ST. AUGUSTINE'S, BONKRO FROM 15TH MAY 2015**

REV CANON FRANCIS SENKYERE IS TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE **NEW DARMANG CONGREGATION**.AT MAMPONG FROM **15TH MAY 2015** .

REV FR. JOHN DANSO BREFO WILL MOVE TO THE ST MONICA'S COMPLEX FROM **1ST SEPT. 2015**.

QUESTIONS ADDRESSED TO SYNOD

Because this is a special Synod I will address just a few questions to synod namely.

- 1. What should be the short term priorities of the Diocese**
- 2. What do you consider as medium to Long term Goals of the Diocese**
- 3. What do we need to put into place within the next two years**
- 4. How do we raise adequate funds for our mission and ministry**
- 5. What are some pressing issues that Synod needs to address**

MESSAGE FOR GHANA

We the Bishop, clergy and the Faithful of the Anglican Diocese of Asante Mampong appreciate the goodwill of the people of Ghana for their patience in the midst of the challenges of economic downturn in Ghana and the incessant power outages in the country.

We call on the leadership of the country to address the many challenges confronting the citizenry. We further encourage the government to put in appropriate measures to stop the many cases of corruption and financial malfeasance in the country especially among government officials.

We call on all Christians and non-Christians to be watchdogs of the national interest and to do all in our power to protect the good name and integrity of our country.

Finally we wish to plead with the President of Ghana , His Excellency John Dramani Mahama to ensure that the Ministry of Education and the Ghana Education Service puts an end to incessant attempt by Educational Regional Directors and District Directors to stifle the Mission established Educational Units

GRATITUDE

The Psalmist says; How can I repay the Lord for all his goodness to me, I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. With Mother Christiana and the family, We wish to express our appreciation to the Good Lord for bringing us this far as the new and first Diocesan Bishop of this Diocese. We wish to thank you for the confidence reposed in us and we pledge to work to the greater glory of God with your support and prayers.

We wish to thank all who have helped us in diverse ways as a Church during our Inauguration as a Diocese and Our Enthronement as the First Diocesan Bishop of Asante Mampong. May the Good Lord richly Bless you. Special mention must be made of HIS ROYAL MAJESTY OTUMFUO OSEI TUTU II, ASANTEHENE for His presence and his gifts towards the seed capital of this Diocese. Otumfuoh may the Lord extend your Kingdom. We must also acknowledge Daasebre Osei Bonsu II , Nana Mamponghe and His wife and all our Paramount chiefs who graced the occasion.

Let me on your behalf thanks all our Guests who have taken time to be with us But finally let us say; Ayekoo to Our Provincial Chancellor and Registrar who continue to mentor us on our journey and are now working in their capacity as Ag. Chancellor and Registrar. May the Good Lord Bless all you do in His Name. Amen

NOW TO THE KING ETERNAL BE ALL GLORY PRAISE, DOMINION NOW AND FOR EVER. AMEN.

LONG LIVE THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF ASANTE MAMPONG !!!

LONG LIVE ASANTEMAN !!!

LONG LIVE GHANA !!!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

**RT. REVD DR CYRIL KOBINA BEN-SMITH,
ANGLICAN BISHOP OF ASANTE MAMPONG
9TH JANUARY 2015**