

## **IFEOMACHUKWU HARVEST THANKSGIVING AND BAZAAR 2018**

Beloved Chaplaincy members,

Every year we come together as one family to celebrate God's immeasurable goodness and favours in our lives. Also each year we express our gratitude in a beautiful thematic fashion. It is of course Herculean to capture all the colours of God's favours under one theme. For these favours come in various shapes, sizes and colours of contouring individual circumstances. They also depend on us as a chaplaincy in different forms, intensity and frequency. Sometimes we feel them like heavy downpours of the month of July, ferociously refreshing. But one thing is always clear: God's favours make us happy and fulfilled.

This year we have chosen a theme with such octopus-like fingers that can catch every colour of God's goodness and favours (though without the full narrative of their variegated expressions): Ifeomachukwu. In fact, Ifeomachukwu could be another name for God's goodness and favours. Our life is indeed an unmistakable expression of Ifeomachukwu because we are what Ndigbo call 'madu' (short form for mmachukwudi, meaning 'the beauty or goodness of God'). We are created in God's goodness and favours. In other words, we all are Ifeomachukwu! We know of course that some bear this name, even though it is our collective nomenclature (just as some have the name 'Christian', even though the name belongs to all of us). Besides, we are aware that Ifeomachukwu is the name of our most outstanding chaplaincy member: Mrs Ifeoma Udebunu (late). No doubt, her infectious personality, candour and angelic piety inspired the choice of this name and theme of Harvest Thanksgiving and Bazaar. Therefore, in choosing this name we not only honour Mrs Ifeoma Udebunu (whom I would like to call 'the Golden Lady of Omnium Sanctorum') but also each of us since we all are Ifeomachukwu.

It is therefore appropriate that we come together this year to celebrate Ifeomachukwu, to celebrate what we really are. Let us celebrate with indescribable joy and palpable generosity. In such a setting of infectious joy and love, God will certainly be smiling as he sees each of us expressing a deep understanding that he is good and that we indeed are his Ifeoma!

I wish you all a happy celebration of this year's Ifeomachukwu Harvest Thanksgiving and Bazaar 2018!

Rev. Fr. Prof. Dr. Christian Anieke  
Rector of Omnium Sanctorum Chaplaincy