MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL (SSVP) NIGERIA, ABUJA CENTRAL COUNCIL HELD ON 11TH NOVEMBER, 2017 AT ST. ANTHONY CONFERENCE, KABUSA **ATTENDANCE:** 1.0 A total of 143 Vincentians was in attendance at the meeting. Details are as shown on pages 12, 13 and 14 **OPENING:** 2.0 The meeting started with an opening prayer said by Sis. Elizabeth Ogidan, the Vice President of Guardian Angel Conference, Lugbe at 10.30am. **SPIRITUAL READING:** 3.0 The reading with the theme "All in the Church are called to Holiness" From a talk by St. Vincent to the Daughters of Charity, 15 November, 1657 on page 48 of the Manual of the Society was read by Bro. Baba Oliver, the newly elected president of St. Martins Conference, Lugbe. Reflecting on the reading, he said that what counts is not the multiplicity of work done or the quantum of work carried out but the perfection in implementation. We should also learn to achieve holiness through the work done and learn not to do a lot of work and ending up achieving very little. We also have to be pure in mind when performing our work and also be diligent and dedicated in doing it. Contributing to the topic, the Secretary OLQM, Sis. Onyeka Judith Chioma, pointed out that we ought to do our work well and to the glory of God. Further contributing to the topic, Sir. Emmanuel Ajewole noted that holiness lies in doing all things in extraordinary way and godliness should show in our actions. Furthermore, as Vincentians we should do all things in humility, with the fear of God and imbibe in the injunction to be perfect as my heavenly father is perfect. The Council president in his concluding contribution stated that the first segment of the meeting is directed to draw our mind towards God and there is need for concentration as whatever we share within this period should always be applied in the course of our work. **OPENING REMARKS BY THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT:** 4.0 The Central Council President, welcomed all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. He apologized for starting the meeting late which he attributed to the location of the conference. He also reminded the Council that today will be the last he will be presiding over the meeting as Council President. He further noted that the world is a passing phase and this requires humility in any position one is appointed knowing full well that you are not better than others but God wants to use you in a special way. He enjoined Vincentians to always do all things in their respective conferences to the glory of He thanked all for being present at the days meeting and prayed for fruitful deliberations. WELCOME REMARKS BY THE PARISH PRIEST OF ST ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH, 5.0 KABUSA: The Catechist of the Parish, Mr. Michael Arumo, representing the Parish Priest, welcomed the Council. He noted that the Parish Priest is a student and as such went for his lectures today and asked him to stand on his behalf. In his remarks, he firstly apologized for coming late to the meeting but however noted that the master of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ is already present. He also said that it is a great privilege for them to host an event such as this in their parish and he equally thanked the leadership of the Society for finding them worthy for such. He once more welcomed the Council and prayed for fruitful deliberations and journey mercies back to our various destinations. The Council president, while thanking him for welcoming the Council, also told him to extend the Council's gratitude to the Parish Priest whom he said that from the information at the disposal of the Council, he had been of great support to the conference.

6.0 WELCOME REMARKS BY THE HOST CONFERENCE:

The Conference president, Bro. Akubo Johnson, on behalf of his conference members, parishioners and the resident priests welcomed the Council to his conference noting that they are pleased to have the Council in their midst. He equally prayed for fruitful deliberations and for journey mercies for all.

7.0 READING, OBSERVATION, AMENDMENT AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the previous meeting held at SS Peter & Paul Conference, on the 15th July, 2017 was studied by all present and the following observations/corrections were made.

- i. Attendance: Sir. Emmanuel Ajewole's name was omitted
- ii. Attendance: 165 members attended instead of 150 as reported

8.0 APOLOGIES:

- i. Sis. Oby Adoro President, CKC Conference, Kubwa
- ii. Bro. Paschal Ahizih Patron
- iii. Sis. Margaret Egenti Board Member
- iv. Bro. Emma Nnaemeka Board Member
- v. Bro. Daniel Makavah President, Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Conference, Sabon-Lugbe
- vi. Bro. Austin Inoh Board Member
- vii. Sis. Jumai Kwanashie President, Holy Family Conference, Life Camp

9.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

9.1 Report of the 400th Anniversary of the Birth of the Vincentian Charism:

The planning committee chairman, Sir. Patrick Ebhojie, reported that the jubilee celebration of the 400th anniversary of the flame of Charity ignited by St. Vincent de Paul in service to the poor in 1617 in the cities of Chatilon and Foleville in Paris, France took place as scheduled. As part of the celebration, the Committee visited Karshi General Hospital where items were distributed and hospital bills for some indigent patients were paid.

The celebration on Sunday started with a holy mass by His Eminence, John Cardinal Onaiyekan and a host of other priests including the Rev. Fr. Victor Nyoroh, CM, the Vincentian family coordinator in Abuja and Rev. Fr. Sebastian Musa, our spiritual adviser.

Several dignitaries graced the occasion including His Eminence, John Cardinal Onaiyekan, who in his brief remarks at the event, commended the activities of the Vincentian Family, especially the Society of St. Vincent de Paul(SSVP), saying that they are faced with the enormous task of catering for the poor, the needy and the less privileged ones in the Archdiocese. He also revealed the intention to include SSVP in the budget of the Archdiocese for the support of their activities and pledged to immediately put machinery in motion to see to the fulfillment of the plan.

The celebration also witnessed a talk on the topic: "The Spirit of the Company" presented by Rev. Fr. Michael Iroh, CM. In his talk, he x-rayed the life and times of St. Vincent de Paul, touching on his spirituality and the emergence of the Vincentian family from the period when the charism was ignited by St. Vincent de Paul 400 years ago. He equally traced the origin of the various families; those established by St. Vincent himself as well as those established through his inspiration, dwelling also on their actions today and prospects.

Members and Guests were treated to a sumptuous meal while being entertained through the rendition of the anniversary hymn and drama performed by the SSVP conferences of St. Johnmary Vianney, Kubwa and St. Jude, Zuba, respectively.

Thereafter, the Anniversary Cake, which signifies the unity and strength of purpose of the Vincentian family, was cut to the cheering and admiration of the members of the family.

The Council President, in his remarks, thanked God for the success of the event. He however noted

that there existed some lapses at the event especially as it concerns the shortage of food, but attributed it to the imperfection of man. He then apologized for the shortcomings experienced. He further expressed his delight that SSVP played a key role in ensuring to the success recorded and thanked the members of the committee for their selfless service.

The pictures and the reports of the activities will be forwarded later to the emails of various conferences.

9.2 Metro Youth Rally Report:

The Council's youth coordinator, Bro. Fidelis Akomaye, reported that the rally which had as its theme: "**Repositioning the Vincentian Youth for a more effective service to the poor in our society**", took place as scheduled from the 4th – 6th August, 2017 at SS Simon and Jude Minor Seminary, Kuje, Abuja.

Delegates from Abuja, Gboko, Lafia, Idah, Lokoja, Makurdi and Otukpo Central Councils were present except Kastina Ala Central Council.

The guest speaker at the rally, Rev. Fr. Jeremiah Agada, CM, delivered a lecture which was centered on the theme above. In his lecture, he admonished delegates to see themselves as the mirror and pillars of the society through which the objectives and vision of the society can clearly be achieved at all times.

Also speaking at the event, Sir G. P. Ebhojie advised the youth to always be proactive and creative in their work just as Blessed Frederic Ozanam was. The rally also witnessed activities such as football match and other games, quiz competition, drama, choreography, cultural dance and the cutting of the unity cake.

Present at the event were board members of Abuja Central Council including: Sir. G.P Ebhojie, Mr. Augustine G. Inoh, Sis. Joy Ohiagu, Mr. Henry Enwerem, Sir Emmanuel Ajewole, Bro. Ezewulu Olisa and Bro. Kolo Audu and a host of others.

He thereafter thanked the Central Council, Conference presidents for their support and the management of the Seminary for availing them the use of their facilities at no cost.

Responding to the report, the Council president thanked the metro youth rally committee for the successful organization of the rally. He also noted that he observed that though some conferences are without the youth, some that have youth members failed to send them to the rally. He then enjoined those without youth to go for a drive for youths in their respective parishes and also mandated the youth coordinator to compile a list the conferences that failed to send their youth to the rally.

He further noted that there were some obvious lapses observed which he advised that the youth members should be more closely monitored in future events.

In the same vein, the National Patron, Sir. Patrick Ebhojie made a special appeal to conferences to establish a youth wing of the Society in their respective conferences stating that it is mandatory to have the youth wing. At the International level, the youth is very much recognized saying that a conference without youth is not advised. He also remarked that the Society was started by the youth and the youth succeeds the Society. There are certain jobs the youth does in the Society.

9.3 Report of the Investigation of St. Linus Chika, Airport Road:

Bro. John Okoro in his report thanked God for the progress achieved though very little. He also stated that they organized a training for the conference at St. Francis Galadimawa and they are still monitoring the them before scheduling for an election.

Sis. Justina Ukpabi, the coordinator of the conference stated that they had 8 active members and had meeting at 7.00am today before coming for the Council meeting in which 2 masters were attended to with 5 members in attendance.

9.4 Update on Ozanam House Project:

The Chairman of the Committee, Sir. Emmanuel Ajewole, reported that on the 5th Day of August, 2017, same day as the Metro Youth rally, the committee left the rally to pay a visit to the site. He stated that the essence of the visit is to access the current situation at the site and see the next steps to move the project forward. The progress of the project is hampered by access to the site. Having access will enable the Council take the step of building a dwarf fence to secure the property.

The Committee after the visit found out that it is possible to have an alternative access through the nearby estate being developed within the vicinity and thereby decided that the estate developer will be contacted to see to the possibility of getting access. It was also discovered that the TDP of the property was not signed and hence decided that the Area Council will be approached to have that done.

However, till the day of this meeting they've not been able to meet with the developer as all efforts made to secure appointment proved abortive.

He finally reported that the sum of N₁₅,000 will be released for the Area Council action on the TDP and efforts will be geared towards securing access and then continue with the fencing.

Responding to the report, the Council president thanked the Committee for the selfless service and noted that the Council targets April 2018, for the completion of the fencing work on the site.

9.5 Awareness Campaign at 12 Apostles Conference, Central Area:

Bro. John Okoro reported they are yet to carry out awareness campaign at the Conference because the opportunity has not been given by the parish priest whose parish have been occupied with various activities. He also stated that they will approach the parish priest for a date for the awareness campaign as soon as the harvest and bazaar season is over from the 19th of September.

The president of the conference, Bro. Okoli Emma also corroborated the report given by Bro. John Okoro.

9.6 Awareness Campaign at Pope John Paul II Conference, Papal Ground, Kubwa:

Sis. Chika Atep, the president of St. Monica Conference Byazhin, reporting on behalf of the monitoring team, stated that they visited the conference and discovered, amongst others that:

- i. The conference is dysfunctional
- ii. All the records of the conference are with the secretary who travelled.
- iii. They have 11 members that are not active

The conference claims they do not receive messages from the Council and is also not internally twinned. She concluded that the conference needs serious attention from the Council.

The conference president, Sis. Tombari Akere informed the Council that they were due for election but they did not form a quorum on the election day and therefore, an interim president was selected.

Responding to the report, the Council president noted that there is no place for interim president in the manual of the Society. He equally stated that the conference is twinned and also dysfunctional but blamed CKC Conference, Kubwa, who nurtured and overlooked them. He used the opportunity to remind conferences of their duty to continue to follow-up and monitor the conferences they nurtured even after inauguration.

He then asked the committee to put in more effort and collaborate with CKC conference to resuscitate the conference. He finally told the conference president to wait behind after the meeting for a brief

chat.

9.7 Awareness Campaign at St. John Conference, Ketti:

Bro. John Okoro reported that the awareness campaign took place as scheduled and they were able to get 4 members. They equally discussed with the new parish priest on how to organize the Society and he promised to assist.

He further reported that part of the problem of the members of the conference is that they are themselves poor and as such hampered in carrying out their activities effectively.

Responding to the report, the Council president noted that nobody is so poor not to have a way of rendering assistance to another person. He further remarked that if the members claim they are so poor that they cannot function effectively, then the conference should be closed down.

The Spiritual Adviser of the Council, Rev. Fr. Sebastian Musa, who came in to the meeting shortly before this report was given, in his remarks, firstly apologized for coming late to the meeting having had to come straight to the meeting from a journey. He also apologized for having been absent for some time from the Council meetings but will try as much as possible to schedule the Council activities as streamlined in the 2018 Year Planner of the Council.

He however advised that closing down St. John Conference, Ketti is not advisable as their needs may be, differs from that of other conferences. He then suggested that the Council should meet with the new Parish Priest and possibly carry out one more awareness campaign.

He equally commended the youth for their turnout at the 400 years anniversary of the Vincentian Charism.

Responding to the remarks by the Spiritual Adviser, the Council President thanked him for his advice and also for finding time to attend the Central Council activities.

He finally stated that conferences around St. John Conference, Ketti should handle their cases while efforts will be made by the Council to find a solution to their problem.

9.8 Update on the activities of St. John Conference Mpape:

The President of Holy Trinity Conference, Maitama reported that he had been communicating with the conference president on certain issues but as regards the assignment of monitoring of the conference, the team coordinator has not called him.

Responding also, the team coordinator, Bro. John Okoro, said that the monitoring team was divided into 3 groups for effective coordination and ease of monitoring. He however has not gotten any report from the group overseeing Maitama and Mpape area.

Also commenting on the matter at hand, Bro. Sylvester Odogwu, also said that the conference president seems not to be effective based on certain reasons and as such may have to step aside for the conference to move forward.

In his response to the report of the monitoring team, the Council President noted that from the foregoing, it is obvious that nothing much has been achieved by the team because of lack of coordination. He quickly added that conference presidents should bear in mind that the monitoring teams re not taking up their duties on the conferences they are nurturing.

He thereafter, asked all the parties concerned in the matter to wait behind after the meeting for a brief discussion.

9.9 Update on Catholic Television of Nigeria(CTV):

Sis. Ugonna Ezekwem, a member of the committee representing SSVP in the CTV committee, reported that they have been, of recent, having meeting twice weekly and are currently planning another fundraising dinner and award night. The invitation to the event will come soon.

Responding to the report, the Council president thanked the committee for their service to the Council noting that they have been very committed and effective. He also enjoined them to keep it up and keep updating the Council as events unfold.

9.10 Council Training at Holy Rosary Conference, Wuse:

The Council 1st Vice President, Sis. Joy Ohiagu, reported that the training held as scheduled on the 19th August, 2017. In attendance at the training was over 200 Vincentians from 51 conferences in Abuja Central Council.

Vincentians were trained on topics such as "Vincentian Faith and Patience in Handling Clients" and "Comprehensive Annual Reporting and Packaging" handled by Rev. (Barr.) Victor Nyoroh, CM and Sis. Joy Ohiagu, respectively.

Thereafter, the training attracted various questions from the trainees and answers were equally preferred to their satisfaction by the trainers.

She thanked the conferences that attended the training while also reminding the conferences that failed to attend that they are to pay the mandatory registration fee for the training. The training came to an end at about 3.30pm

In his Vote off thanks, Bro Chuks Okonkwo of St. Mary's Conference, Karu, on behalf of the Council, thanked the host conference, Holy Rosary, for their hospitality and for proper organization of the event. He equally thanked the resource persons for their efficient delivery on the topics.

10.0 MONITORING OF CONFERENCES - ZONAL REPORTS:

10.1 Garki Zone:

Bro. John Okoro noted that much of the activity of the group has been reported earlier in his reports of the various conferences. He however made some recommendations to the Council:

- i. Central Council should look into the way and manner conferences interview and investigate their masters saying that it has been observed that some conferences are in the habit of interrogating their masters.
- ii. Conference presidents should be educated on the need and how to carry their members along.
- iii. There is the need to pay attention to the conference's local training
- iv. The need for conferences to understand the importance adhering to and maintaining the principle of jurisdiction or area of coverage should be emphasized.
- v. The need for conferences to establish the youth wing.

10.2 Gwagwalada Zone:

The leader of the group, Bro. Fidelis Molokwu, reported that most of the conferences visited are doing well but observed however that some of the Conference president were elected based on personality grounds. He also stated that the situation where a conference president scantly attends meeting should be discouraged.

Responding to the report, the Council president thanked the reporter but however remarked that in future the reports and recommendations should be articulated in writing and submitted to the secretariat.

10.3 Kubwa Zone:

Sis. Chika Atep, reported that they paid a visit to some conferences within their jurisdiction including Church of Annunciation, Arab Road; St. Edwin 2/2 Kubwa, St. Luke Kubwa; St. John Paul II, Papal Ground, St. JohnMary Vianney, Kubwa, CKC Kubwa, St. Monica Byazhin, St. John de Beloved, TungaMaji and St. Jude, Zuba.

In all the Conferences visited, they made several observations and also made recommendations on the way forward. She also noted that apart from St. John Paul II conference reported earlier as dysfunctional, it was discovered that the Church of Annunciation Arab Road is not using the Uniform Account Booklet for their account records because of lack of understanding of the usage.

Also at St. John De Beloved, Tunga maje, they observed that members are not regular at meetings and they have no youth members. They equally have a challenge of opening account with a bank because of their inability to meet up to the requirements.

Other observations and recommendations are contained in a written report which she submitted to the Council.

10.4 Karu Zone:

Bro. Bonaventure Nwokpor reported that the committee visited some conferences within their zone. During their visits some observations were made which includes:

- i. Challenges of lack of fund rampant,
- ii. Some conference presidents should be more transparent in handling of funds and should try to make known the state of their finances to members,
- iii. Some uninaugurated conferences claims they are due for inauguration but will confirm their readiness with their mother conferences.

10.5 Life Camp Zone:

Bro. Chika Muobike reported that they had a meeting with the conference presidents within their zone where they identified some problems. The presidents of the conferences were directed to come along with their account booklets and minute books to the meeting. Some of their observations include:

- i. Some groups exist and operating as SSVP without any link with the Central Council.
- ii. St. John Shagari quarters gave a much better account record and they were encouraged.
- iii. St. Joseph Gwagwa should stop operating as they are not viable. St. Peter conference Jiwa, goes to St. Joseph to hit the boxes for the poor.
- iv. St. Fabian Jabi started after the demolition of St. Anthony, Jabi which is still operational.

He also reported that in the course of the monitoring, they had to go to a hospital to pay a bill for a patient. Out of the Nı6o,ooo billed the patient, they were able to pressurize the doctor to accept 60% of the sum. They finally paid N9o,ooo and they patient was discharged.

The Council President in his response thanked the group as well as others for their selfless service. He however enjoined them to always submit a written report to the Council.

11.0 REPORTS FROM CONFERENCES:

11.1 St. Martin Conference, Lugbe:

The immediate past conference president, Bro. Fidelis Molokwu, informed the Council that on the 28th of October, 2017 they had an election, which saw the emergence of Bro. Baba Oliver as the new president of the conference. The election was coordinated by the Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Solomon Uko. He thereafter, introduced the new president and two of his board members present to the Council.

The Council President welcomed the new president and his board members to the Council and urged

	him to be very committed so as to take the conference to greater heights. He equally requested that he	
	submit the list of his board members to the Council.	
11.2	St. Monica Conference, Byazhin	
	The president of the conference, Sis. Chika Atep, informed the Council that they are nurturing a new	
	conference named Holy Spirit, Byazhin, who has 7 active members presently. He thereafter introduced	
	the coordinator of the conference as Bro. Luke Kanu.	
11.3	St. Kevin Conference, Jikwoyi:	
	The president of the conference reported that they are nurturing a new conference, St. Ephraim, Jikwoyi but was unable to give some details. The Council President mandated him to represent the new conference in the next Council meeting.	
11.4	St. Donald Conference, Karu:	
	The conference informed the Council of a new conference they are nurturing named St. Gab	
	Conference and also introduced the coordinator as Bro. Benjamin Ugochukwu.	
11.5	St. Theresa Conference, Bwari:	
	The conference president, Bro. Imuse Magnus reported that they lost a member, Bro. Alex	
	Jaiyeola(KSM), who is the secretary of St. Gabriel, Kuduru-Bwari Conference.	
	The Council president responding to the report reminded members to always inform the Council	
	immediately they lose a member so that information will be circulated to members and not to wait for	
	the Council meeting for notification. Members were asked to book masses for the repose of the soul of	
	the dead. Thereafter, Sir. P Ebhojie led the Council in saying the resurrection prayer for the faithful	
	departed.	
11.6	The Council Youth Wing:	
	The youth Coordinator informed the Council that the youth will be having their last meeting of the	
	year on Sunday, 19 th November, 2017 at Holy Trinity Conference, Maitama. He pleaded with the	
	conference presidents to sponsor their youth to the meeting.	
11.7	Remarks by the International Territorial Vice President for Africa 1(ITVP1):	
,	In his remarks, the ITVP1, Sir. Patrick Ebhojie, thanked all present for attending the Council meeting	
	despite the location and distance. He also remarked that we are all workers in the Lord's vineyard and	
	we should at all times refrain from using harsh and unpalatable words on a member, saying that we can	
	encourage each other.	
	He also informed the Council that:	
	i. The minimum number of members for a conference is seven (7) and as such, the president or	
	coordinator of a conference should make sure that their membership is not lower than 7. This	
	is to say that you should have at least 7 members to say you are a conference or before you	
	introduce a conference you are nurturing.	
	ii. The outstations attached to a mother parish can form conferences if they are viable and report	
	to their mother parish.	
	To give a sense of belonging and human dignity guided the decision. The decision was also	
	informed by the fact that through them we gain salvation and as such we ought to treat them as	
	we would our Lord Jesus Christ.	
	Finally, he urged the zonal coordinators to take a cue from Kubwa Zone represented by Sis. Chika Atep	
	by submitting a written report to the Council. The Society is a well-organized one and members	
	should not deviate from the standards.	
11.8	Information from the Council President:	
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	Annual Dues:	

He reminded members that the annual due is now Niooo and as such conferences are expected collect the dues from their members, attach the list to their annual report as well as pay the corresponding sum as they submit the annual report.

Annual Report:

The last date for the submission of annual report is 27th January, 2017. Conferences are enjoined not to exceed this deadline as failure will attract some fines.

Hosting of Abuja Metro Meeting and the Visit of the President General-International Council:

The Council will be hosting the Abuja Metro Meeting and also the visit of the President General in February 2018. To plan for these, a committee has been set up with Bro. Ugo Anaedobe, the Council Secretary as the Chairman.

Other members of the committee include: Sis. Joy Ohiagu, Bro. Linus Njoku, Bro Sylvester Odogwu, Bro. Chibuzor Ezeani, Bro. John Okoro, Bro. Kolo Audu, Sis. Damaris Nguumbur Uja and Bro. Fidelis Akomaye.

The Committee will be coopting more members as necessary.

Christmas Sharing:

Conferences were reminded that the date for Christmas sharing is 23rd December, 2017. The sharing will happen simultaneously at 10.00am. All conferences are enjoined to work towards the date and time. The Council will no longer tolerate a situation where conferences will share at a different date and time.

11.9 Year Planner and Budget of the Council:

The Council has drawn up the plan for the year 2018 as well as the budget which is attached to the minutes and also will be posted to the platform and emails of various conferences. He urged the conference presidents to draw up the year plan putting into consideration the activities of the Council. Also, the plan serves as a notification to members on the dates for various activities of the Council. The Council budgeted as follows:

RECURRENT:

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S/No.	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT(N)
1.	Contribution to Abuja Metro Council Budget	300,000.00
2.	Administrative Expenses	250,000.00
3.	Higher Council Meetings (Vincentian Family Meeting/Annual	300,000.00
	General Meeting/ one Metro Council meetings),	
	Transportation and Registration of Delegates.	
4.	Hosting of International President General	400,000.00
5.	National Youth Workshop	55,000.00
6.	National Youth Rally	40,000.00
7.	Metro Council Meeting(Hosting)	800,000.00
8.	Contingency	100,000.00
	Total:	2, 245,000.00

CAPITAL:

S/No.	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT(N)
1.	Ozanam House Project	1,000,000.00
	Total:	1, 000,000.00

GRAND TOTAL: N₃, 245,000.00

Projected Income:

The projected income for the Central Council which is expected from the conferences is shared as follows:

CONFERENCE CATEGORY	AMOUNT(N)
A	120,000
В	80,000
С	50,000
D (Un-inaugurated Conferences)	10,000

New Manual of the Society: Council President informed the Council that the new manual is out but the cost is yet to be communicated to the Council. The cost will be made known as soon as the information is received from the higher Council.

11.11 Council's Election: The Council president reminded the Council of the election for a new Council president scheduled to hold at the meeting. As a result of the new directive from the Catholic Bishops Conference of Nigeria, that leadership of the Societies in the Church revert to a single term of 4 years as against the 3-years tenure which is renewable after the first term. He has served for 3 years and need to step aside for a new leadership which will serve the Society for a single term of 4 years.

He also informed the Council that, in line with the rules of the Society, the Metro Council, the Spiritual Adviser and the Archbishop, were duly notified of the election. The Metro Council has also appointed the National Patron, Sir. P. Ebhojie to oversee to the election of the Council president.

11.12 | Advice to the Conference/Council Leaders by the Out-Going Council President:

Bro. Chibuzor Ezeani, as part of his last moments as the Central Council president proffered some advice to guide the leaders of the Society and those who will aspire to lead at various levels to avert leadership crises. He posited that, for sound leadership, you have to:

- Commit the entire process to God
- ii. To lead with the right intention
- iii. Have a vision, set goals and be focused within the rules of the Society
- iv. Get a quality team to help fine tune your vision
- v. Present a vision that is convincing for members to buy into it.
- vi. Do your best to keep to rules of the Society knowing that there is always an intention for setting out the rules.
- vii. Eschew the idea of having a clique or cabal. Always carry everybody along
- viii. Eschew castigation of the previous leadership
- ix. Seek for knowledge and be teachable
- x. Always consult experienced members and the higher council.
- xi. Collaborate with your predecessors

He finally thanked the Central Council Board in a very special way, saying that it was like a marathon race, working tirelessly to move this Council to the next level.

11.13 | Valedictory Speech and Account for Stewardship by the Council President:

In his speech, the president reminded the Council that he was elected on 23rd December, 2014 and he constituted and inaugurated his board on 31st January, 2015 at St. Mary's conference, Karu. The month marks the end of three (3) years tenure of his presidency as enshrined in the rule of the Society. However, he would have had opportunity to decide whether to stand for reelection for another 3-year tenure, but for the well thought out policy of the Catholic Bishops Conference of Nigeria, which mandates all associations and societies' in the Church to adhere to a single tenure of 4 years. The Council has to adhere to this policy which depicts the Society's total compliance and loyalty to the

Church and the rules of the Society without reservation.

On assumption, he set his agenda amongst which are:

- 1) Uniformity in Accounts, Logo, Letterheaded paper and T-shirts etc
- 2) Preparing strategic programmes and budget each year
- 3) Yearly budgeting and funding of Ozanam House Project
- 4) Intensive leadership training and workshops
- 5) Repositioning dysfunctional conferences and instilling discipline and loyalty to the higher council and the Church into members.
- 6) Applying internal twinning programme, monitoring and regulating conference activities etc

The agenda was set to achieve a minimum standard of performance for all conferences and to be motivated to engage, serve and soar to the top.

He further reeled out his achievements within the period and these includes:

- 1) Securing a temporary secretariat for the Society at OLQN Pro Cathedral for securing the Councils documents.
- 2) Purchasing office and training equipment such as Cabinet and box files, public address system, Projector Screen and laser pointer for training programmes.
- 3) Creation of E-mail, SMS Accounts and WhatsApp platforms for dissemination of information.
- 4) Website development which is still in progress.
- 5) Appointment of a Spiritual Adviser.
- 6) Successfully carrying out bi-annual training for the Council.
- 7) Successfully hosted the Annual General Meeting and Metro Council Meeting
- 8) **Financial Account**: Timely preparation of annual accounts and submission of same to Cardinal and the Spiritual Adviser, presentation to the Council and forwarding to all conferences.
- 9) Introduction of a systematic uniform account system with definition of terms to enable conferences keep their annual and quarterly account records with ease.
- 10) Annual report submission to the MetroC and fulfillment of all financial obligations
- 11) Tremendous growth in the membership strength and increase in the financial income of the Council
- 12) Contribution of N1,000,000 yearly and some donations to Ozanam Project account
- 13) **Aggregation and Twining**: Ensured that over twenty (20) non-aggregated conferences fill out the aggregation forms and submission of same to the National Council. Internal twinning arrangement introduced to enable conferences interact; exchanging ideas and finances for the progress of their conferences.
- 14) **Youth Wing:** Tremendous encouragement, guidance and support was given to the youth by the administration knowing full well that the youth are the leaders of tomorrow. This enabled them participate and host youth rallies, carry out training and visitations to the needy.
- 15) **The Vincentian Family**: The Council played a leading role to ensure that the fraternity is intact and strengthened. This particularly can be seen in the roles played by the Council during the 400th Anniversary of the Vincentian Charism, the Year of Collaboration celebration in 2014 and Vincentian Family feast celebration in 2016
- 16) Resolution of problems that emanated from various conferences such as St. Paul's Conference, Gwagwalada, St. Damian Conference, Church of Assumption Asokoro etc.
- 17) Establishment of Zonal monitoring teams to assist and collaborate with conferences to strategically reposition ailing conferences within their zones.

Having enumerated some of the achievements of his administration, he finally went ahead to thank his board and all those that were instrumental to the achievement recorded. He also apologized to those he may have offended in the course of his work and sought for their forgiveness.

After delivering his speech which attracted a standing ovation from the Council, he thereafter formally, by the powers conferred on him, dissolved his board to pave way for the election of a new president after a motion for the dissolution was moved by Bro. Charles Ogba, the president of St. Jude Conference, Zuba and seconded by Sis. Patience Peters, the president of Church of the Archangel Conference, Drunmi/Gaduwa.

11.14 | Election of the Council President:

After the board dissolution, the International Territorial Vice President for Africa 1 and the National Patron, Sir. P Ebhojie, who was mandated by the Abuja Metro President to oversee the election of the Abuja Central Council President, took charge of the election process.

He went ahead to appoint some members to serve in the electoral panel and these include: Sir. Emmanuel Ajewole, Bro. Sylvester Odogwu and Sis. Tombari Akere.

Having formed the panel, he then informed the Council that only the members of the inaugurated conferences present will vote in the elections. He also informed the Council that 3 persons will be nominated and seconded for election. He also called for suggestions on the mode of voting after which voting by raising up hands by the electorate was agreed upon.

The members of the uninaugurated conferences were asked to move behind. Having agreed on the rules to guide the election, he then called for nominations. The nominations happened as follows:

S/No.	Nominee	Nominated By	Seconded By
1	Sis. Joy Ohiagu	Bro. Charles Nwachukwu	Bro. Chika Muobike
2	Bro. Gerald Onyemaize	Bro. Fidelis Molokwu	Nil
3	Bro. Ugochukwu Anaedobe	Bro. Oliver Baba	Oboigbator Unity
4	Bro. Bonaventure Nwokpor	Sis. Angela Jonah	Bro. Peter Okoma

Bro. Gerald Onyemaize rejected his nomination and hence no seconder, thus paving the way for a call for 2 other nominations which resulted in the nomination of 3rd and 4th Nominees.

Having had 3 nominees, the electoral panel asked the nominees to indicate their acceptance or otherwise of the nomination. At this call, the 3rd Nominee, Bro. Ugochukwu Anaedobe, declined and stepped down leaving the 1st and 4th Nominees, who accepted their nominations to stand for the election.

After the voting, the 1st Nominee had 86 votes while the 4th Nominee had 9 votes. Having garnered the higher number of votes in the election, Sis. Joy Ohiagu was declared the president-elect of Abuja Central Council by the chairman of the electoral panel.

The president-elect subsequently accepted her election. She also thanked members for seeing her worthy to lead the Society and also solicited the cooperation and support of members to lead the Society to a higher level.

12.0 CORRESPONDENCES:

12.1 Notification for Election:

Letter from St. Theresa Conference, Bwari notifying the Council of the expiration of the tenure of their president in December, 2017 and as such has scheduled an election to hold by the end of December, 2017.

The Council president thereby appointed Bro. James Ishom and Sis. Tombari Akere to monitor the election.

12.2 Notification for Election:

Letter from Our Lady Queen of Nigeria Conference, Garki notifying the Council of the expiration of the tenure of their president in February 19, 2018 and as such has scheduled an election to hold on Friday,

19 ¹¹ January, 2018					
The Council president thereby	appointed Bro.	Steve-Mayor Agbata	and Bro.	Bonaventure	Nwokpor to

13.0 FINANCIAL REPORT:

monitor the election

Breakdown of funds realized at this Central Council meeting:

	INCOME ANALYSIS				
S/No.	Description	Amount(N)			
1	2017 Central Council Budget	145,000.00			
2	Charity Dinner	70,000.00			
3	Sale of Magazine	6,000.00			
4	Metr Youth Rally	75,000.00			
5	400 Years Anniversary Levy	60,000.00			
6	400 Years Anniversary Brochure Subscriptions	30,000.00			
7	AGM Levy	14,000.00			
8	2015 Charity Walk	5,000.00			
9	2015 Budget	5,000.00			
10	SBC	8,980.00			
11	Dues 2017	18,000.00			
	TOTAL:	436,980.00			

14.0 VOTE OF THANKS:

Bro. Chika Muobike in his vote of thanks expressed his appreciation on behalf of the Council to the host conference for their hospitality. He prayed God to continue to guide and lead the conference in their activities and also replenish their pockets.

15.0 NEXT MEETING:

Next meeting was scheduled to take place at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Conference, Sabon Lugbe on the 27th January, 2018 at 10.00am prompt.

16.0 ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING:

Motion for adjournment was moved by Bro. Gerald Onyemaize of St. Kevin Conference, Jikwoyi and seconded by Sis. Franca Ibeh of CKC Conference, Kurudu.

A closing prayer said by Sir Emmanuel Ajewole of OLQN Conference, brought the meeting to a close at about 3:15pm.

Attendance:

S/N	Name	Position	Phone No.	Conference
1	Rev. Fr. Sabastian Musa	Spiritual Director	08033379434	12 Apostles
2	Sir G.P. Ebhojie	National Patron	08173496303	OLQM Sabon- Lugbe
3	Nzekwu Albert	Metro Fin Sec	08052856993	CKC Kubwa
4	Chibuzo Ezeani	CC. President	08037031990	OLQN, Garki
5	Ohiagu Joy	1st VP CC	08036231140	CKC Kubwa
6	Henry Enwerem	2 nd VP CC	08035886995	John Mary Vianney, Kubwa
7	Anaedobe Ugochukwu	CC Secretary	08069058107	St. Martins Lugbe
8	James Ishom	Training Officer, CC	07034772323	St Monica Byazin
9	Sylvester Odogwu	Board Member	08038804804	Holy Trinity Maitama
10	Nwachukwu Charles	Special Board Member	08036282939	Holy Rosary Wuse
11	Jude Akubue	CC Asst. Sec	08064003747	Holy Family, Life Camp
12	Fidelis Akomaye	CC Youth Coordinator	08069258134	St. Donard Karu
13	Sir Emmanuel Ajewole	Special Board Member	08065709528	OLQN, Garki
14	Amulu Onyinye	CC Fin Sec	08035450420	OLQN, Garki
15	Amaka Udeogu	Treasurer	08062846119	St Rapheal Garki
16	Emmanuel A. Eguriase	Vice-President	08051523614	St Charles Lwanga, Apo

17	Amaka Andraw A	Duncidout	00027022072	CC Dates 9 David Niversia
17	Amako Andrew A.	President	08037933072	SS Peter & Paul, Nyanya
18	Emmanuel Obehighe	Vice-President	08033855296	OLQN, Garki
19	Delia Obi	Ag. President	07036798972	St Francis Galadimawa
20	John Ojie	Coordinator	07032093711	St John Tunga Maji
21	Chika Atep	President	08167301729	St. Monica Byazhir,Kubwa
22	Amechi Eze	Vice-President	08033153470	OLQM Sabon Lugbe
23	Patience Mbah	President	08061568872	Archangel Durumi
24	Baba Oliver	Twinning Officer	08031931811	St Martin Lugbe
25	Elizabeth Ogidan	Vice President	07033674705	Guardian Angel, Lugbe
26	Muobike Chika	President	08034517872	Holy Cross, Gwarinpa
27	Okonkwo Chuks	President	08032918059	St Mary Karu
28	Amalu Roberts	Training Officer	08038658497	St Joseph Gwagwa/Jiwa
29	Onyia Arinze	Treasurer	08187666093	CKC Kubwa
30	Obiseh Florence	Member	08036790389	CKC Kubwa
31	Eugene Bucham	Secretary	08069678455	St Joseph Gwagwa/Jiwa
32	Mathias Agbo	Member	08032872008	Holy Cross Gwarinpa
33	Edward Ashinya	Member	08071728436	OLQH Galadima
34	Nwokpor Bonaventure	Board Member	07035962004	SS. Peter & Paul Nyanya
35	Ezubebem Vivien	President	08038699222	OLQH Galadima
36	Folorunsito Nicholas	Secretary	08068117335	St Martin Lugbe
37	Fidelia Tortiv	Treasurer	07037694091	St Martin Lugbe
38	Uduojie Henry	Ag Secretary	08039726484	Sacred Heart Gwagwalada
39	Onyeka Judith Chioma	Secretary	08032745360	OLQM
40	Okafor Amaka Patience	Secretary	08061680646	St Peters Abaji
41	Eze Nkiruka	Secretary	08036046026	St John Tunga Maje
42	Titus Gyegwe	Coordinator	08074465428	St Pius X Gbagalape, Nyanya
43	Emeka Akubuike	Secretary	08132937156	Archangel Gaduwa
44	Christiana Ibeto	Asst Coordinator	08039300587	St Gabriel Chaplaincy CSN
45	Amaa Godwin	Coordinator	07064609781	OLQM, Gosa
46	Ifeyinwa Ekwuno	Secretary	08037879637	Archange Maitama
47	Simon Ande	Fin Secretary	07069469090	OLQP Utako
48		†		-
	Diejomaoh Ena	Secretary	08098290074	Holy Trinity, Maitama
49	Paul Ocheme	Member	08035961852	Guardian Angel Lugbe
50	Oboigbator Unity	Secretary	08098002866	Guardian Angel Lugbe
51	John okoro	Member	08065934440	OLQN, Garki
52	Mark Odey	Member	08031305054	OLQN, Garki
53	Bekeh John B.	Coordinator	08086942758	St Theresa Wumba Apo
54	Lanre Arokayo	Member	08055299632	St Benedict Lokogoma
55	Ify Ogochukwu Okuh	Member	07031250194	Archangel Gaduwa
56	Onuigbo Ifeoma	Member	08039325095	St Francis Galadimawa
57	Solomon Celestina	Fin Secretary	07055275062	St Linus Chika
58	Celestine Ilechukwu	Member	08064572862	St Ephraim Jikwoyi
59	Nwosa Blessing A.	Fin Secretary	08063448993	St Ephraim Jikwoyi
60	Ukwa Cornelius	Member	09035138456	St John Ketti
61	Damaris Uja	Member	07035138456	Archangel Lugbe
62	Kolo Daniel Audu	Member	08034517650	OLQN, Garki
63	Salemkaan Simeon	Member	08032815111	Archangel Gaduwa
64	Ngoli Chris Adah	Training Officer	08033231493	St Agnes Wuye
65	Isidore Udenu	Vice President	08059582107	St Agnes Wuye
66	Obiechina I.O	Secretary	08180259188	Holy Cross Gwarinpa
67	Iheoma Mary C.	Secretary	07033058646	Church of Annunciation, Saburi
68	Odo Jude	Member	08037099399	St Rapheal Garki
69	Steve-Mayor Agbata	President	08037099399	Holy Trinity, Maitama
70	Chigozie Donatus	Member	07038379020	St Rapheal Garki
71	Nicholas Anyanwu	Member	08052203581	Holy Ghost Saburi
72	Nkechi Ezeadili	Coordinator	08065485186	St Augustine Idaru
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73	Ogbobe Charles	President	08030460007	St Jude's Zuba
74	Blessing Usman	Member	08132007151	St Jude's Zuba
75	Abraham Zoko	Member	08065590667	OLQN, Garki
76	Simon Akaaer	Member	07031828510	OLQN, Garki
77	Franca Ibeh	Secretary	08033146629	CKC Kurudu
78	Lizzy Stephen Musa	Treasurer	08036017690	CKC Kurudu
79	Orji Valentine	Vice President	08035922390	12 Apostles
80	Okoli Emma	President	08037879095	12 Apostles
81	Grace Attah	Vice President	08035801413	St Kevin Jikwoyi
82	Nathaniel Barnabas	Fin Sec	08155455031	St Kevin Jikwoyi
83	Iyo Andyar Stephen	Treasurer	07063753362	OLQP Utako
84	Anthony Ogbu	President	08035617141	St John Mpape
85	Simon Ugwu	Vice President	08133230939	Annunciation Saburi
86	Samuel Owoh	Fin Sec	08164470059	St John Ketti
87	Peter Oreko	Member	07066745415	St Anthony Kabusa
88	Ozor Simeon Clinton	Secretary	07032980637	St Augustine Dutse
89	Rosemary Adebayo		08062111640	St Augustine Dutse
90	Williams Elisha	Member	08072637586	Sacred Heart Gwagwalada
91	Blessing Fidelis	Member	07082876131	Sacred Heart Gwagwalada
92	Obini Daniel	Member	07033352730	St Francis Galadimawa
93	Mimido Gberindyer	Treasurer	07063078996	St John Vianney Kubwa
94	Omenyi Moses	Member	09099519442	St John Vianney Kubwa
95	Tessy esege	Member	08133791657	Archangel Nyanya
96	Justina Damian	Member	07061254056	St Monica Kubwa
97	Kanu S.L	Member	08030825238	St Monica Kubwa
98	Okeme Peter	Member	08032372639	Archangel Nyanya
99	Anasiudu Batholemew	Member	07032840857	St John Ketti
100	Ugonna Ezekwem	President	08033101718	St. Christopher, Games Village
101	Chris Chukwu	PRO	08038723267	St. Christopher, Games Village
102	Chuka Oloto	Welfare Officer	08182667387	Holy Cross Apo
103	Jonas Angela	Asst Sec	08161811205	SS Peter and Paul, Nyanya
104	Ifeanyi Paul Izediunor	Secretary	08053511381	SS Peter and Paul, Nyanya
105	Egbulefu Chidi	Vice-President	08035229738	St Theresa Bwari
106	Imuse Magnus	President	08035956707	St Theresa Bwari
107	Idoko Emmanuel	Vice-President	08030894411	Holy Rosary Wuse
108	Linus O. Njoku	President	08033387989	St. Benedict, Lokogoma
109	Titus T. Igbila	Secretary	08037881078	St. Benedict, Lokogoma
110	Justina Ukpabi	Coordinator	08039301700	St Linus Chika
111	Onyeka Maureen	President	08065384857	St Joseph, Lugbe
112	Onyemaize Gerald	Member	08033011986	St Kevin Jikwoyi
113	Tombari Akere	President	08036621326	St John Paul II, Kubwa
114	Pauline Nwabueze	Member	08039592388	Holy Cross Kuchigoro
115	Anaesthesia Igba	Member	08069780657	St Francis Galadimawa
116	Ambrose Eguare	Member	08068523159	St Francis Galadimawa
117	Ikum Anthony	Member	08160444548	
	Francisca Ekeh			St Peter Dogongada
118		Secretary	07034568186	St Peter Dogongada
119	Chinyere Chinechendo	Fin Sec	07039878941	St Peter Dogongada
120	Franca Anoliefo	Vice President	07065796954	Gbagalape Nyanya
121	Fidelis Molokwu	Patron	08033304424	St Martin Lugbe
122	Ugochukwu Okpala	Treasurer	07036016778	St Joseph Lugbe
123	Vincent Uzo Pius	Fin Sec	08102665529	St. Anthony Kabusa
124	Nnabuihe Chrismary	Member	08135354422	St. Anthony Kabusa
125	Eze Sunday	Member	08039720909	St. Anthony Kabusa
126	Julia C. Olisa	Coordinator	08038014313	Trademore Lugbe
177	Aganama Ehuka	Secretary	08036919422	St. Matthew, Karimo
127 128	Aganama Ebuka Johnson Akubo	President	08036782711	St. Anthony Kabusa

129	Esther Kaudna	Member	08025822699	St Augustine Waru
130	Owulu Uche	Member	08035314047	St. Anthony Kabusa
131	Celestine Dike	Member	08036240291	St. Anthony Kabusa
132	Ugwu Chijindu	Member	08174708993	St. Anthony Kabusa
133	Ango Josephine	Member	07036426244	St. Anthony Kabusa
134	Terry Tanyo	Member	09081945572	St. Anthony Kabusa
135	Inya David	VP	07036883257	St. Anthony Kabusa
136	Maria Nwafor	Member	07068681961	St. Anthony Kabusa
137	Nwankwo Kingsley	Fin Sec	08039627939	St. Anthony Kabusa
138	Obu Ogochukwu	Member	08147037184	St. Anthony Kabusa
139	Ibhazukor Benjamin	Member	08067554931	OLQN Garki
140	Ugwu Cecilia	Member	07064564456	St. Anthony Kabusa
141	Abangwu Kingsley	Member	08165828344	St. Anthony Kabusa
142	Ogar James	Member	07033422182	St. Anthony Kabusa
143	Jayne Ladi Okoh	Vice-President	08168738877	CCA Asokoro

President	Secretary
Signed:	