

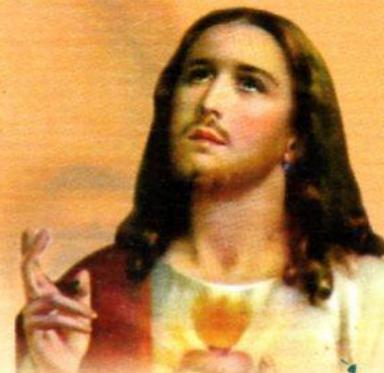


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To: All Members of EXCO

December 28, 2011.

**Regional Supervisors
 State Supervisors
 Shepherds**

Memorandum #7 (amended)

In closing the year 2011, it has become, once again, necessary to draw our attention to the following important and critical doctrinal issues that are still suffering serious violation, lapses, or abuse in a number of parishes. Celestial Church of Christ is a structured church with established governing rules and controls that must necessarily be observed for the effective functioning of the Holy Spirit in our parishes. They must not only be observed, they must be strictly adhered to, without any excuse.

- ❖ The shepherd is the appointee/employee of the Pastor and not of the congregation or the parochial committee. He represents the Pastor and can only be removed or transferred by the Pastor. No Resolution taken by the Parochial Committee or any other committee in the Parish shall be valid for execution unless it is duly approved by the Shepherd. Where any Congregation or Parochial Committee is, however, aggrieved by any act of unrighteousness of the shepherd, his ineptitude or abdication of duties, a Petition sponsored by 75% of the committee's full house and 75% of the congregation of God shall be forwarded through, and under the endorsement of the State and regional supervisors to the office of the General Superintendent for his processing and recommendation to the Pastor.
- ❖ Only a duly ordained clergy who had been made to swear to the Oath of Priesthood at Imeko and anointed as a shepherd of the flock of God can administer the Holy Order which include:
 - Baptism of members,
 - Washing of the feet feast,
 - Administration of the holy Sacrament,
 - Naming and dedication of new babies,
 - Solemnization of marriages,
 - Burial and Amissa Services,
 - Foundation laying, Dedication of New Churches and new homes.

No matter how old, elderly or experienced in the Church a member of the laity may be, he cannot carry out any of these divine assignments under any circumstance. You must have taken the Oath of Priesthood and be duly anointed and ordained as a shepherd before you can perform any of these assignments. You are warned.

- ❖ A number of members are discovered to have risen so high in anointments but without first passing through the process of regeneration or baptism in this church. Please note that baptism is far more important than anointment. Until you are duly baptized by an ordained minister of the church you are not yet a member, and more importantly you are not yet one of Christ's own. John 3:1-5. It is a spiritual crime for any shepherd to recommend any member for anointment without first having the member baptized. All those affected should ensure that the situation is redressed as soon as possible.
- ❖ Monthly Pastoral Mission obligation is compulsory and in-excusable for every parish. Defaulting parishes shall no longer be recognized, accredited or entertained for any service from the state, region, diocese or even pastoral visit. Shepherds of such parishes shall also not be assigned for any state, regional or diocesan responsibility.
- ❖ Harvest celebrations shall not be allowed to extend beyond the period of "harvest of latter-rain" which is November to give members a break in preparing their families for the Christmas.
- ❖ From January 2012, no parish shall be allowed to take the Alter of God to a Public hall or building for the celebration of the harvest. It is simply sacrilegious. Harvest shall be celebrated strictly within the church sanctuary.
- ❖ Breaking up of a parish to establish another parish by splitter groups is causing a lot of hatred and disaffection among members and serious embarrassment to the entire system. Members are consequently turned to followers of shepherds rather than followers of Christ. Henceforth, in the USA diocese, establishment of new parishes shall be in accordance with the policy paper and shall be stimulated through planned arrangement from the state/region/diocese.

May the good Lord continue to guide His church along the track of righteousness.

Thanks and God bless.



Sup. Evan. Joseph Olorunnisola
Gen. Superintendent