



## The Old Catholic Apostolic Church

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**I wish you abundant grace and mercy in our Lord Christ this Advent, Christmas and for the coming New Year.**

**This has been a busy and eventful year for OCAC here in the UK and around the world. We have grown again this year; in number and in obedience to Christ. We have continued our progress from being a historic yet declining church to our present course which is central in the Kingdom and an increasingly important denomination in our own right. We are following Jesus!**

**I want to personally thank you for your faith, and for your obedience to your calling – to Christ. You are an apostle: following the Great Commission that Jesus gave to his first apostles, who through our Succession, have passed that on to us. It is an honour to serve alongside Christians like you.**

**The best is yet to come: our walk of obedience has not been and will not be easy; but Christ promises to be with us every step of the way. Our church is increasingly serving those who find 'ordinary' churches difficult, and we are different for such a time as this. Whereas other churches are organised as dioceses of congregations, we are dioceses of \*ministries\*, a subtle yet powerful difference. That is why you are street preachers, chaplains, Christian broadcasters, prayer leaders, healers: as well as deacons, priests or other orders. The weak, the poor and the marginalised receive the Gospel as OCAC can do things that other denominations can't, and God has called us to serve Him. We must not allow ourselves to be distracted from this; do not be fooled into situations where other denominations question or challenge your authenticity. They are not your judge, Christ is. We get on well with the other denominations on the whole – although there are instances where some have disrespect for our calling. We must not be like that: we must love one another, in respect and equality. We have a part in the great spectrum of Christendom.**

**So, I would like each of you in OCAC to be humble, Spirit filled, prayerful and alive in Christ. Be the powerful clergy that you are; not because of any strength of our own, but because 'Greater is He that is in us, than he that is in the world'. Let us proclaim the gospel, by words if necessary, but actions are better; in the name of Christ as OCAC. The world needs to hear. Only when every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord will this renewal be achieved. We are right in the middle of this task.**

**I wish you, your families and those dear to you, blessings and grace and mercy this Advent and Christmas. '...unto us a child is born...'**

*+ Mar Trimlett*



**Bishop Adrian  
Patriarch and Presiding Bishop Old Catholic Apostolic Church**



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