

Your Grace archbishop Bert van Megen, our Apostolic Nuncio, Your Eminence John Cardinal Njue, Your Grace archbishop Anthony Muheria who is my Father and predecessor, archbishops, bishops, priests, Religious men and women, people of God in Kitui and from other parts of Kenya, I salute you all. Greetings to you National and County Government leaders here present. I recognize you all our esteemed guests who are here. I as well salute you all who are following this celebration via TV, Radio and other means of social communication.

Today I want to offer myself to God who has called me and chosen me to lead his people. I loudly promise to be a loving and caring bishop. I shall strive to be a pastoral bishop, one who smells like the sheep. May we all work together with love and joy to build the Kingdom of God. Here I am Lord, I come to do your will. I seek to joyfully do your will. In me, may your sheep find a caring shepherd in me, your servant.

I stand here with joy and confidence because I am inheriting a diocese in which people are united for a common purpose ready to serve God. We shall sustain the momentum and explore many new ways as we grow.

I salute you dear priests of Kitui. I count on you as my closest collaborators in serving our people. In me you have a loving father. Each one of you is my beloved son. Feel loved. May you make me proud by being faithful priests. Let us be friends, serious friends. As we serve, may selfishness never enslave us. Jesus warns us as he warned Martha. "You worry and fret over many things yet only one thing is necessary." Let us sit and learn at the feet of Jesus who is our friend.

I treasure lay collaboration. Our diocese is where it is due to the selflessness and maturity of the faith of our people: our Christians love our diocese. We have limited resources but we give willingly. You are to remain the greatest resource in building the Kingdom of God in Kitui