

## Blessing of AFJN Office - Feast of All Souls 2013

**Chris: + Sign of the Cross:** Blessed be God, who has guided us in our ministry of justice for our African sisters and brothers.

**All respond: Blessed be God now and forever.**

**Jo'Ann:** From the beginning of Creation, we see God at work, fashioning, decorating, and bringing order into a chaotic universe. The Creator God commands us to continue fashioning a better world in love and justice.

**Rocco:** Our Lord Jesus often visited people in their workplaces: Simon Peter and Andrew when they were fishing, James and John in their boat mending the nets, the Samaritan woman at the well, Levi at his tax booth, and others in the market place.

**John K:** Jesus himself was a carpenter. He told stories about people's work to illustrate God's continuous creation through human agents: He told the story of the sower planting seeds, the reapers at the harvest time and the woman baking bread.

**Rita:** Jesus reminds us: You are the light for the whole world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and puts it under a table; they put it on the lampstand, where it gives light for everyone to see. In the same way let your light shine before people, so they will see the good things you do and give praise to God." (Matthew 5:14-16) **Rita: Thus has God Spoken. All: Thanks be to God.**

**Leonard:** Through the work of our hands, we let the light of truth shine in our world, we bring God's blessing upon ourselves and those we serve; we make a difference little at a time, indeed we bring sunshine to the lives of others. Let us pray for all who will work in this AFJN office – as staff, consultants, volunteers, interns, and collaborators, and for all those who will share the fruit of their labor.

**Aniedi:** God our creator, be pleased to bless the work of our hands. Bless, guide and direct all our undertakings. Grant that all who plan and serve in this office may, through your guidance and support, come to the right decisions and carry them out to the greater glory of your name. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **R. Amen.**

**+ Blessing of Office and Board members with Holy Water +**

**Chris:** May God our creator who commanded us to love and serve one another as brothers and sisters, bless the Africa Faith and Justice Network Office with his presence and look kindly on all who serve and all who enter here. **R. Amen.**

May God guide us in reading and interpreting the signs of the time and responding in faith to the promptings of the Spirit. **R. Amen**

And may almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
**R. Amen.**