

Diocese of Jamaica & the Cayman Islands
Mothers Day Brunch Speaking Notes
May 9, 2009

Address by:

Bruce Bowen, President and CEO – Scotiabank
Patron –Fundraising Mothers Day Brunch

- Greetings
- Acknowledgements
- Express personal pleasure at being invited to speak at this event
- Mothers day is indeed a very important day for everyone across the globe.
- Mothers have been the backbone of families and have taken on new roles in recent decades.
- They are required to be caregivers, nurturers, counsellors and providers. Many single parent families are now headed by mothers and this has placed extreme demands on females who have had to rise to the occasion and assume responsibilities of both mother and father to many children.
- Despite these challenges many mothers continue to raise stellar families with success. Their children are successful in their academic endeavors, are well rounded, mannerly and display excellent social graces. They ensure that they pass on excellent values, attitudes, morals and work ethic.
- We need to raise our hats to them and congratulate them for their hard work and commitment. I want to personally recognize all mothers across Jamaica for their outstanding work and give them encouragement to carry on.

- This church has taken the responsibility of guiding children and supporting families in general through its oversight and management of four basic schools and two high schools. I want to congratulate and encourage them to continue to take their role serious in this area.
- As you may be aware, Scotiabank is a strong family organization. Through the extensive support we give to our staff encouraging them to balance life and work and to spend time with their families.
- We also actively support by:
 - Providing assistance with educational scholarships
 - Encouraging them to share some of their work life experience with their kids through our “Take Your Kids To Work days.”
 - Helping to establish healthy families which can communicate and work through their issues. Through our relationship with the Family Life Ministries.

Scotiabank has extended core support to our communities and several families across Jamaica through our Scotiabank Jamaica Foundation through health, education and community.

We focus improving the quality of life by caring for children through our islandwide schools breakfast feeding, improving infrastructure in their school by providing furniture, office equipment, computers, establishing computer labs, paying their school fees and providing them with health care.

We continue to provide parents with counseling and training through parenting seminars which help them to better communicate with their children and discuss just about any issue,

including previously taboo subjects involved in health and family life education.

In summary, Scotiabank is committed to improving family life through various channels, particularly through the work of our volunteers who undertake mentorship and other community outreach projects throughout the year.

We are pleased to be associated with this event to honour mothers and invite you all to give a standing ovation to all the mothers here today.

I want to applaud all the family members who have brought them out this afternoon. This event is meaningful in more ways than one this brunch is also a fundraising venture to help to repair an authentic antique pipe organ which suffered water damage and we are helping to get restored. This organ is over 90 years old and has beautifully for this church for several generations.

I thank the diocese for inviting me to be the patron of this event and once again I wish all mothers here blessed and happy mothers day!