

ACN Lenten Campaign – Praying for the suffering Church

UKRAINE

Your Prayers are...
bringing me HOPE!

Pray for Roman, Anna and their children

The devastating war in Ukraine has displaced so many families across Europe. Roman, Anna (pictured right) and their two young children originally from Kharkiv, Ukraine, endured 10 days of bombardment before fleeing their home – and not a moment too soon. Their home was hit by a rocket just as they were leaving the building. Roman said: **“The house caught fire and all the windows were blown out.”** ACN is working with church partners such as the Benedictine Sisters in Lviv Archdiocese to support displaced families like Roman’s.



#Pray4me

To learn more about our Lenten campaign, please visit www.acnuk.org/lent23

Tear here

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NIGERIA

Your Prayers are...
giving me COURAGE!

Pray for Father Andrew Adeniyi Abayomi

Fr Andrew was saying Mass on Pentecost Sunday in 2022 when gunmen opened fire at St Francis Xavier’s Catholic Church in Ondo, Nigeria. 41 people were killed and more than 70 were injured including children. Christians in Nigeria are often persecuted for their faith and live in fear of violence from Islamist militants. Priests are frequently called to pray and comfort their flock in times of suffering, but they too need our prayers. Fr Andrew said: **“I shielded them just like a hen shields her chicks...”** ACN is supporting the faithful in Nigeria with trauma counselling.



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PAKISTAN

Your Prayers are...
giving me STRENGTH!

Pray for Maira Shahbaz

Maira, a Christian girl in Pakistan, is in mortal danger after escaping from a Muslim man. Maira was kidnapped, gang-raped, blackmailed and her abductor forced her to convert and marry him. She was 14 years-old when she suffered this terrible ordeal and has been in hiding after escaping her captors. Maira told ACN: **“Please get us out...we believe in God and that you can help us get out of here.”** For more than two years, ACN has been lobbying the UK Government for action in Maira’s case but, as yet, without success. ACN is working with church partners in Pakistan to support Maira and other vulnerable girls and women.



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LEBANON

Your Prayers are...
meeting NEEDS!

Pray for Sister Patricia

Sister Patricia looks after Christian families in Bourj Hammoud, one of the poorest Christian areas in Beirut, Lebanon. The country’s economic crisis has plunged half the population into poverty and with many families struggling to survive. Sister Patricia of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, and her community offer practical assistance to those in dire need. They work tirelessly visiting families, assessing their needs and providing food, medicine, rent vouchers and more. ACN is supporting Sister Patricia and her community who devote their lives to helping the needy.



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A Prayer for suffering priests

Lord Jesus Christ, as the Good Shepherd,
You gave your life for all mankind.
You have called faithful priests to serve the suffering and persecuted,
Grant them love, courage and peace.
God of all comfort who comforts us in all affliction,
We pray that you also comfort them in their sufferings.
May their hope and faith in you be unshaken.
We make our prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

12-14 Benhill Avenue, Sutton, Surrey SM1 4DA Tel: 0345 646 0110.
Aid to the Church in Need is a Pontifical Foundation of the Catholic Church and
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A Prayer for Ukrainian Families

We ask you Lord today to have mercy upon families in Ukraine.
We ask for your peace in this war-torn land.
Families are heartbroken and in despair.
Remember all those who have had to flee their homes and seek
refugee abroad.
Give them hope where they feel hopeless.
Give them the strength to bear their burden.
Please protect them and keep them in your loving care.
We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

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A Prayer poem for Sisters

Selfless in their devotion to God and mankind,
In special consecration they have been called.
Sincere witnesses to Christ and his suffering Church,
To you O Lord do we dedicate our Sisters in prayer, as they work
tirelessly for the good of others.
Edify their faith in you in times of trouble and difficulty.
Reassure them of your lovingkindness and let the joy of the Lord be
their strength.
Send your angels to protect them day and night. Amen.

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A Prayer for the kidnapped

Lord God, nothing is ever hidden from your eyes.
Lord God, no one is ever removed from your loving care.
You know when we sit and when we rise up.
You are acquainted with all our ways.
You know the intentions of our heart and every word on our tongue.
Who can separate us from your love?
Who can take us away from your presence?
In your kindness, deliver those who have been kidnapped from their captors.
In your kindness, protect your children from evildoers.
Bring them back safely to the place where they long to be and help us
always to show your kindness to refugees and all those in need.
In Jesus name, we pray. Amen.

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