

God sees every tear,
every heartbreak.



URGENT NIGERIA APPEAL

Aid to the Church in Need
ACN UNITED KINGDOM

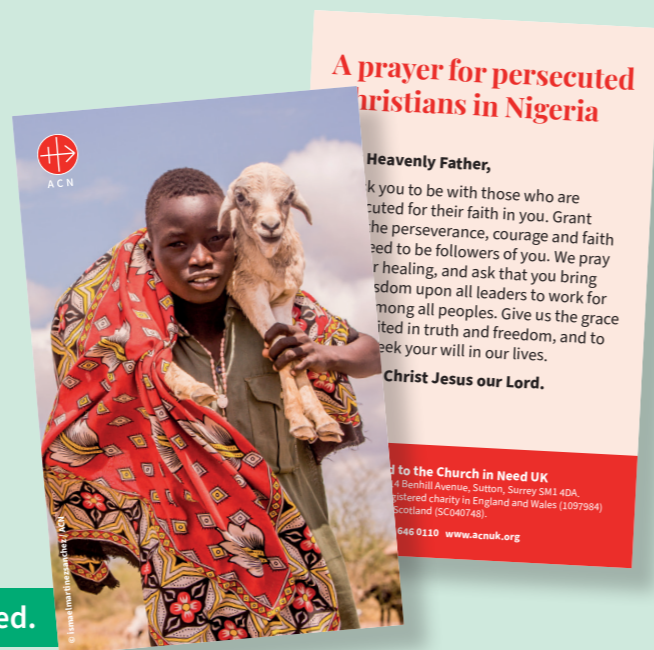
A prayer for persecuted Christians in Nigeria

Dear Heavenly Father,

We ask you to be with those who are persecuted for their faith in you. Grant them the perseverance, courage and faith they need to be followers of you. We pray for their healing, and ask that you bring your wisdom upon all leaders to work for peace among all peoples. Give us the grace to be united in truth and freedom, and to always seek your will in our lives.

Through Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

Order the Nigeria Prayer card using the order form enclosed.



You can support faithful Christians in Nigeria as they walk the Way of the Cross.

The level of Christian persecution in Nigeria is acute. Today, Nigeria could be described as the most dangerous country on earth to be a Christian. Our brothers and sisters across the country need your prayers and support more than ever.

Despite continued persecution, violence and even death, Christians in Nigeria are placing their confidence in God.

As Fr Sam Ebute explains, "In all of it, I am consoled by the fact that God is not dead and that He is watching. His time will come... The blood of these martyrs will not be in vain."

Will you prayerfully consider a gift to support our brothers and sisters in Nigeria?



Fr Sam Ebute stands before the shoes of Christians who were killed in the attack in Kudum Daji, Nigeria.

The shocking truth about being a Christian in Nigeria

- 1 Nigeria has become known as the most dangerous country to be a Christian. In any given year, the numbers of Christians killed by extremist groups is rarely less than 4,000 – often more than in the rest of the world combined.
- 2 Christians in Nigeria's Middle Belt face daily persecution linked to the introduction of *Shari'a* law in nearby Muslim-majority states, resulting in significant violence and heightened tensions within the region.
- 3 Boko Haram, originally The People of the Sunnah for Preaching and Jihad, began its violent campaign against Christians in 2009, leading to widespread suffering and displacement. After aligning with ISIS in 2015 and subsequently splitting into factions, both Boko Haram and ISWAP continue their aim to eradicate Christianity from the northern states.
- 4 ACN's *Religious Freedom in the World* report found that in the space of 12 years, over 17,500 churches have been attacked, 2,000 Christian schools destroyed. According to ACN research this brutality has led to at least 3 million internally displaced across Nigeria's Middle Belt after fleeing their homes.



Rebecca Agidi with her son Oryman, victims of the Fulani Herdsmen in Makurdi, Benue State, Nigeria



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MALI



Borno State

Standing in faith

Despite their suffering, women continue in faith and hope at a displacement camp in the city of Maiduguri in Borno State. ACN has been providing emergency aid for widows and orphans in Maiduguri, as well as supporting displaced Catholic families in Pulka Parish, Gwoza, Borno State.



CHAD

Plateau State

Turning mourning into joy

On the outskirts of Jos City, the charity has been supporting a two-year Evangelisation for Life programme, which includes:

- Programmes for single and married women, including mothers and grandmothers.
- Training on Christian education for young people.
- Two classes for graduate and commissioned women.

The women have embraced God's promise to turn their wailing into dancing, rejoicing in the joy He brings.

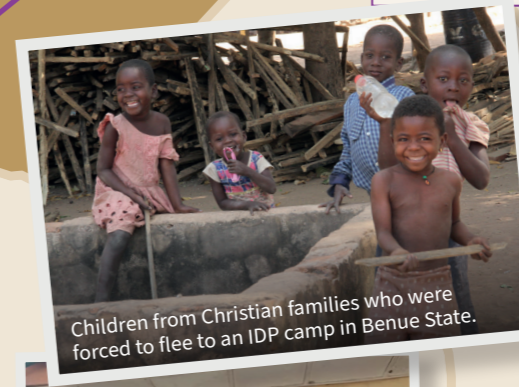
Now they celebrate, just as the Psalmist declares: **"Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing; thou hast loosed my sackcloth and girded me with gladness, that my soul may praise thee and not be silent."**



Benue State

A lifeline of support

Across Benue State, persecution against Christians has been at its most deadly. A series of attacks on Christian communities in December, including Christmas day, left dozens dead. ACN has been offering a lifeline of support to those suffering through the Church, including the Diocese of Gboko.



Anambra State

Sharing God's heart

In Ekwulobia, ACN is supporting The Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus, who are distributing aid and sharing God's heart with people who fled their homes. The crisis began in 2019, when armed groups descended on Ekwulobia, attacking farms, burning houses, killing men and raping women.

