



## Catholic Diocese of Ijebu-Ode

# Social Communication Commission

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### BISHOP ADESINA JOINS ONDO DIOCESE IN GRIEF OVER GRUESOME PENTECOST DAY MASSACRE

The Bishop of Ijebu-Ode Diocese, Most Rev. Francis Obafemi Adesina bemoans the tragic event that took place on Pentecost Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022, at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Owo, Ondo State, where innocent worshipping parishioners were brutally murdered in cold blood.

The report that reached us indicates that unidentified gunmen came into the church and unleashed mayhem on innocent people of God leading to the loss of many lives and many still seriously injured and hospitalized.

In a Press release signed by Fr. Anthony Adetayo, Director of Social Communications, the Bishop laments the nature of the terrorist attack.


*"The pictures are fearful; the tears are uncontrollable from most Nigerians as the news went far and wide. Many people are asking similar question; how long shall this continue? My sincere condolences to the Bishop of Ondo Diocese, Most Rev. Jude Arogundade, the Priests, Religious and the entire faithful of the Diocese."*

*"Though we have been informed that the security personnel are carrying out a man-hunt, but this should not be mere lips service. Justice must not just be done but must be seen to be done. The Federal Government should take security as a core responsibility for relevance. This is the fundamental reason why Government exists anywhere in the world; protection of life and property."*

*"We acknowledge the presence of the State Governor, some Southern States' Governors and the visit of the Vice President, Prof Yemi Osinbajo to console the people."*

*"At this period, we shall continue to pray for Ondo Diocese and quick recovery for all the victims that God has kept alive. We extend our consolation to the bereaved and pray for happy repose of the souls of the dead who found a worthy way to approach Paradise by participating in the Holy Mass before their death. We also appreciate all those who donated blood and money to assist the victims in this devastating time."*

The Bishop appeals that all should remain calm and not take laws into their hand but be very vigilant for we should not fail ourselves even if Government seems to be failing us. May God continue to protect us.

  
Rev. Fr. Anthony Adetayo  
Director of Social Communications  
Catholic Diocese of Ijebu-Ode  
6<sup>th</sup> June 2022