



Aid to the  
Church in Need

ACN UNITED KINGDOM

**ACN:** *E-news*  
SUPPORTING THE FAITHFUL WORLDWIDE



With picture of Father John Mark Cheitnum (© Aid to the Church in Need)

**Catholic leaders in Nigeria have announced the “gruesome murder” of Father Mark John Cheitnum – the fourth priest to be killed this year alone.**

Father Cheitnum was abducted on 15th July and, in a statement, the Diocese of Kafanchan, in Middle Belt, said that on 19th July his corpse was found “already decomposing”.

*The statement, signed by diocesan chancellor Father Emmanuel Okolo, a copy of which was received by Aid to the Church in Need (ACN), revealed that Father Cheitnum had been “brutally murdered”.*

**Meanwhile, in Benue State, central Nigeria, the diocese sent a report to ACN calling for help and slamming government inaction in the face of relentless attacks by Islamist Fulani herdsmen.**

At least 68 Christians have been killed – with many more abducted or displaced – in the last two months in Benue State. About 80 percent of displaced people from Benue are in the capital, Makurdi, and the Church is providing emergency and spiritual support.

**Nigeria has long been a priority country for ACN, and in 2021 ACN financed 105 projects there, including emergency aid, trauma counselling, and a fence at a seminary where staff and students are at risk of abduction. With your continued support, we can help these people who are suffering. Please click [here](#) to read the full story.**

**HELP US SUPPORT THOSE IN NEED**



*Paulos Al Wakeel stands in front of anti-Christian graffiti at a church in Bartella. (© ACN)*

**Iraq Appeal**

**Iraq BLOG: 15 death threats but undaunted**

## John Pontifex writes:

*I met Paulos in the Nineveh town of Bartella, he told me: “When the extremists took over, they began calling me day and night, demanding I pay them. Fifteen times they called me and threatened to kill me.”*

For the sake of his family, Paulos eventually took sanctuary in Baghdad but, with the militants defeated, Paulos is back doing what he loves best. He describes how as a civil engineer he is working with ACN to restore churches and other structures desecrated by the extremists.

*As we speak, we pass Daesh (ISIS) graffiti: ‘The Government of ISIS will stay here.’ He responds: “But we say to ISIS: It is us who will stay here, not ISIS. We must work so that Christians can stay. It is our country.”*

**Download the full report [here](#) and find out how you can help.**

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*Bishop Robert Barron is the Keynote speaker at this exciting one-day Conference  
(© sharingthechurchsstory.com)*

**ACN Events**

**ONE-DAY CONFERENCE: 'Sharing the Church's Story'**

**Hosted by: Catholic Voices and Word on Fire Institute**

**Date:** Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

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**Time:** 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

**Location:** Friends House, 173-177 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ

**Keynote Speaker:** Bishop Robert Barron – founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries.

ACN (UK) is delighted to be an official sponsor at this exciting national conference. ACN's John Pontifex will speak at a panel session 'Christian persecution: Breaking the Silence'.

Whether you are a volunteer, parent, catechist, clergy, religious, or just want a boost for your faith life, then this conference is for YOU. With a capacity of 1,000, demand for tickets has been strong, so act now to secure your place.

**For ticket prices and to book click [here](#).**

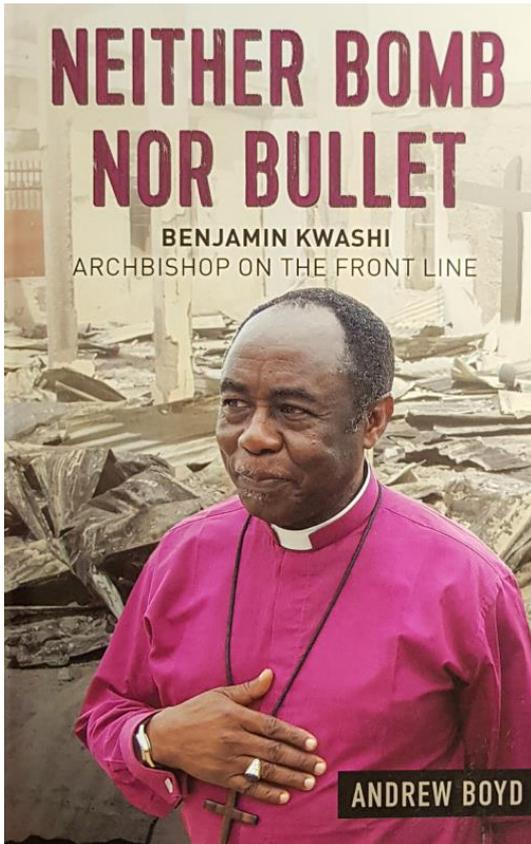
### Other dates for your diary:

- **#RedWednesday:** Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022
- **Annual Carol Service:** 7 pm on Monday 12th December 2022 at Farm Street parish, Mayfair

**Details in the coming weeks.**

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ACN Shop

## Neither Bomb Nor Bullet

In the warzone that Nigeria has become, Anglican Archbishop Ben Kwashi has survived three assassination attempts. A brutal assault on his wife, Gloria, drove him to his knees – to forgive and find the strength to press on. In this biography you can read about how his faith grows ever more vibrant. And the challenge of his message – to live for the Gospel even in the face of terror – has never been so timely. **Please click [here](#) to order!**

## ACN SHOP

Please go to [www.acnuk.org/shop](http://www.acnuk.org/shop) for Icons and rosaries just in from Lviv, Ukraine.

Let us pray for peace in Ukraine.

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