

Prayer for the Persecuted Church

May 4, 2018

From International Christian Concern
https://pages.e2ma.net/pages/1806612/7925?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=newsbites&utm_campaign=Persecution%20Digest%20Weekly%20Email

Nigerian Bishops Call for Change in Leadership

5/1/18 Nigeria (World Watch Monitor)

Thirty armed men, believed to be Fulani militants, killed 19 people while storming a Catholic church in Benue state. Priests Joseph Gor and Felix Tyolaha were among those massacred. In response to the attack, the Nigeria House of Representatives summoned President Buhari, and passed a vote of no confidence in the country's service chiefs and security advisors.

- How to Pray: Pray for the Nigerian government to develop strategies to protect Christians in the region. Pray for discernment for churches and authorities and for them to find refuge in the midst of attacks. Pray for the restoration of crops, property, and worship centers that have been destroyed.

North Korean Defectors Send USB Sticks Home

5/1/18 North Korea (Channel News Asia)

Defectors have been throwing hundreds of bottles into the sea. Hoping to share a picture of freedom with North Koreans, they have filled these bottles with food, cash, medicine, and USB sticks containing movies, current affairs programs, and music videos. It is reported that many of these bottles are discovered by North Korean fishing boats.

- How to Pray: Pray for the people of North and South Korea to come to a relationship with Jesus Christ. Pray for wisdom for all authorities making decisions affecting these countries. Pray for protection and provision for defectors who have fled their homes.

Thousands Rally for Displaced Persons in Myanmar

5/1/18 Myanmar (Radio Free Asia)

In recent clashes between the national army and the Kachin Independence Army, thousands of civilians have been displaced. The latest fighting

stranded 2,000 villagers. Approximately 5,000 people protested in the capital to demand rescue for those driven from their homes. Many of those displaced from their homes have found refuge in local churches.

- How to Pray: Pray for God's protection and presence to bring comfort, provision, and refuge to escaping civilians. Pray for God's peace and discernment for authorities as they make decisions. Pray for wisdom and justice to reign and end the long-running conflict in Myanmar.

Two Churches Destroyed in Police Search

4/30/18 Kenya (Citizen)

While searching for criminals in Kisiriri village, armed officers allegedly burned down two churches and several houses during the operations. Pastor Thomas Nasikei also accused officers of taking valuable church equipment. County Police said that security personnel were deployed to the village after two people were shot by armed raiders.

- How to Pray: Pray for God's peace to reign over anger and fear in the face of loss. Pray that those who have done wrong will be brought to justice. Pray for the restoration of property and fellowship for those who have experienced loss.

From Voice of the Martyrs

<http://www.icommittoprayer.com>

May. 03, 2018 | Bangladesh

Local Muslims Angered by Literature Distribution to Children

When a Christian group distributed literature to children in a Bangladeshi village, Muslims blamed a local church. After receiving complaints about Muslim children being evangelized, police said Christians are allowed to talk about their faith only with other adults and that no one under 20 is allowed to convert to another religion. The church responded with a letter stating that they do not support controversial activities and were not affiliated with the group that distributed the literature. The leader of that group has gone into hiding due to the intense anti-Christian sentiment. Pray for resolution between community members and church members.