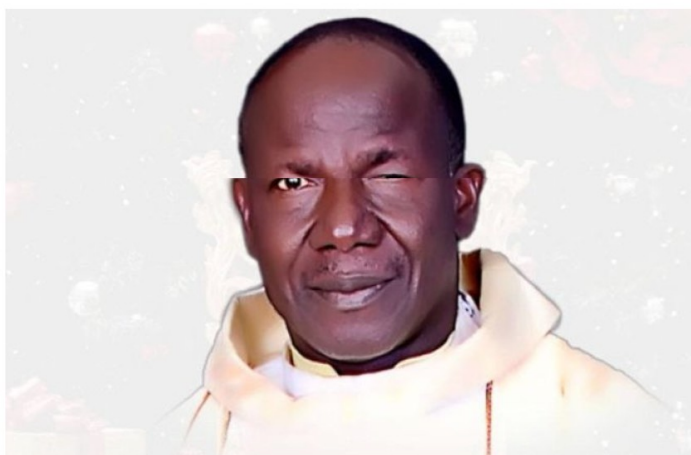


## Catholic priest burned to death in Nigeria



Father Isaac Achi, a Nigerian Catholic priest, was murdered in Niger State on Jan. 15, 2023. | Diocese of Minna



By Courtney Mares

Rome Newsroom, Jan 15, 2023 / 07:02 am

A Catholic priest burned to death on Sunday after bandits set fire to his parish rectory in northern Nigeria.

The body of Father Isaac Achi was found among the charred parish building of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church on Jan. 15, according to the Catholic Diocese of Minna, Nigeria.

He died after armed bandits attacked the priest's residence in the village of Kafin Koro at 3 a.m. Another priest at the rectory, Father Collins Omeh, escaped the building, but sustained gunshot wounds and is being treated in a hospital.

15th of January 2021, it was Fr John GBAKAN. 15th of January 2023, its Now Fr Isaac ACHI, Both of Minna Diocese, Niger...

Posted by [Cyon Minna Diocese](#) on **Sunday, January 15, 2023**

Alhaji Sani Bello Abubakar, the governor of the Nigerian state of Niger where the attack took place, described the attack as "ungodly and inhumane" and directed the local security agencies to pursue the attackers, according to The Daily Post.

"This is a sad moment, for a priest to be killed in such a manner means that we are not all safe, these terrorists have lost it, and drastic action is needed to end this ongoing carnage," Bello said.

Achi served as the parish priest of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church where he died. He was also the chairman of his local branch of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN).

"May the soul of very Reverend Father Isaac Achi and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in perfect peace," the Diocese of Minna said in a statement shared by the Nigeria Catholic Network.

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Courtney Mares is a Rome Correspondent for Catholic News Agency. A graduate of Harvard University, she has reported from news bureaus on three continents and was awarded the Gardner Fellowship for her work with North Korean refugees.

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