



# NATIONAL CATHOLIC SECRETARIAT

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### **GHANA CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE COMMISERATES WITH THE PEOPLE OF APPIATSE AND CALLS FOR SUPPORT FOR THE VICTIMS**

We, the members of the Ghana Catholic Bishops' Conference (GCBC), wish to express our profound sympathy to all the victims of the fatal explosion at Appiatse in the Western Region of Ghana. This unfortunate incident resulted in the victims suffering from varied degrees of injuries, the displacement of hundreds of the inhabitants as well as 14 deaths.

We extend same sentiments of sympathy to our Brother Bishop, Most Rev. John Baptist Attakruh, Bishop of Sekondi-Takoradi Diocese and the entire faithful of the Diocese of Sekondi-Takoradi.

We wish to acknowledge the roles played by the Government of Ghana and other stakeholders to bring relief to the victims through their services and donations. We thank all the service providers and the donors for their prompt response and interventions.

In the spirit of charity, we wish to appeal to our Catholic faithful and all people of goodwill to donate towards the relief process currently ongoing to help meet the needs of the Appiatse victims. The donations should be sent through the Bishop of Sekondi-Takoradi for onward presentation to the victims.

It is our hope and prayer that as a nation, we shall learn the needed lessons from this latest fatal development and ensure that regulations are strictly enforced in the country and the appropriate punishments meted out to deserving offenders. May the necessary measures be taken to avert similar occurrences in the future.

We wish to assure the victims, especially the injured, of our prayers for speedy recovery as well as emotional and psychological healing for all. We also pray for strength and consolation for the families who lost their relatives. Finally, we pray for the peaceful repose of the souls of those who have died. May they rest in perfect peace, Amen.

May Mary our Mother of Perpetual Help continue to intercede for us!

**MOST REV. PHILIP NAAMEH**  
METROPOLITAN ARCHBISHOP OF TAMALE &  
PRESIDENT, GHANA CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2022**