



SUORE DI NOSTRA SIGNORA DEGLI APOSTOLI

Rome, November 21, 2025

PRESS RELEASE

To all Media Houses and Friends,

OLA Sisters Call for Global Prayers for the Abducted Pupils, Students, and Staff of St. Mary's Catholic Schools, Papiri – Nigeria

The Sisters of Our Lady of Apostles (OLA) earnestly request the prayers and spiritual solidarity of the global Catholic Religious family following the abduction of pupils, students, and staff of St. Mary's Catholic Primary and Secondary Schools in Papiri, Nigeria, schools owned by the Catholic Diocese of Kontagora, and under the direction and management of the OLA Sisters.

In the early hours of 21st November, armed individuals attacked the school community and forcefully took away several children and staff members. This tragic incident has caused deep anguish among families, the local community, Bishop Bulus Dauwa Yohanna and all the clergy in the Diocese, and the OLA Congregation.

At this critical and painful moment, we turn to God with trust and hope, and we ask all Religious Congregations, Catholic institutions, faith communities, and people of goodwill around the world to join us in fervent prayer:

- For the safe and swift return of the abducted pupils, students, and staff.
- For God's protection, strength, and consolation for their families and the community of Papiri.
- For the safety and protection of our people in Nigeria, who continue to face growing insecurity.
- For an end to all forms of violence, and the restoration of peace, justice, and dignity in the area.

We believe deeply in the power of unified prayer. We need as many people as possible to lift this community before God during this moment of suffering and uncertainty.

May God, in God's infinite mercy, protect the innocent, guide leaders to act with justice, and bring all those taken back home safely.

Thank you, one and all. God's blessings!

Signed:

Mary T. Buxton, OLA

Congregational Leader

