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## **FIVE CHILDREN BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST IN NIGERIA**



In the midst of tragically high levels of Christian persecution throughout the country, one tiny house-church community in the Nigerian capital is joyously welcoming several new members.

Having returned from his studies in Greece last year, Archimandrite Cornelius Osuji now heads the Church of St. Andrew the First-Called in Abuja, where he recently celebrated the Baptism and Chrismation of five children, reports the [Orthodoxia News Agency](#).



Fr. Cornelius celebrated the Divine Liturgy the next day and communed the newly-illuminated children for the first time.

The parish is small but steadily growing, the agency reports.

According to the site of the Metropolis of Nigeria, there are 29 parishes and 9 communities served by 22 priests and 2 deacons.

According to a recent report from the Catholic outlet Crux, anti-Christian persecution in Nigeria is at its highest level in years, with at least 3,462 Christians, including ten priests or pastors, murdered in the first 200 days of 2021.

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