



JUSTICE AND TRUTH, ESSENTIAL REQUISITES FOR RECONCILIATION - Archbishop Ndagoso

Nov 23, 2018

KADUNA, NIGERIA -

Archbishop Matthew Ndagoso of Kaduna has described justice and truth as essential requisites for reconciliation and peace in the society. The Archbishop made this declaration in his homily at the funeral Mass for the late traditional ruler of Adara chiefdom, Agom Adara; Dr. Maiwada Raphael Galadima, who was murdered in the wave of the crisis that engulfed the city of Kaduna and its environs, recently. The ceremony took place at St John's Catholic Church, Kachia, Kaduna State.

Using the compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church which noted that "the weight of the past which cannot be forgotten can be accepted when mutual forgiveness is offered and received" to buttress his position; Archbishop Ndagoso emphasized that: "mutual forgiveness must not eliminate the need for justice and still less does it block the path that leads to the truth. On the contrary, justice and truth represent the concrete

requisites for reconciliation” (ibid,278).

Calling on the government of the state and security agencies to ensure that the perpetrators of the heinous crime are arrested and made to face the wrath of the law, Archbishop Ndagoso noted that peace is a free gift of God and like any other gift needs to be received by all who desire it.

Urging all Nigerians, especially the people of Kaduna State to create an enabling environment for the reception of this free and precious gift of God, Archbishop Ndagoso added: “We also know that forgiveness is a search for understanding and understanding does not mean condoning violent acts”. He however contended that forgiveness can only be given to an offender who request for it.

The Archbishop, particularly called on Christians in the State to remain resolute in the ways of their faith by remaining human and Christian even in the worst of times “such as the one we are in”. The local ordinary of Kaduna Archdiocese while condoling with the immediate family and people of Adara chiefdom, commended all those who have helped to bring the unrest in the state to a controllable stage; especially the law enforcement agencies and some priests of the Archdiocese who have helped to calm frayed nerves. He urged them not to relent in their efforts at returning the troubled areas to permanent normalcy.

Archbishop Ndagoso extolled the virtues of the late Agom of Adara, describing him as a committed, faithful and dedicated Catholic, an exemplary ruler and leader, meek and humble and an embodiment of all virtues that guarantee eternal rest in heaven after sojourn on this earth of iniquities.