

**Governor Soludo, Others In The East Politically Disappearing Christianity Slowly And Steadily And Making Her Sacred Practice Very Difficult Especially In Igbo Land Nigeria**

**-Intersociety**

*...strongly condemns Anambra Government's continuation of public school classes into the Holy Week and failure to close on Friday, March 27, 2026 ahead of the Good Friday National Public Holiday*

**Onitsha, Eastern Nigeria, Wednesday, April 1, 2026:**

**The International Society for Civil Liberties and Rule of Law (Intersociety)** has sadly observed and deeply worried that the present Governors of Eastern Nigeria (Anambra, Edo, Delta, Enugu, Imo, Abia, Rivers, Ebonyi, Bayelsa, Akwa Ibom and Cross River States) especially those in Igbo Land are politically disappearing Christianity slowly and steadily and making practice of the sacred Faith very difficult. These, they harmfully do through intensification and escalation of religiously unfriendly policies and actions and showcasing of master-slave body languages. The most saddening part is that these Governors, particularly those in Igbo Land are not alone, but aided by episcopal leaders of the frontline churches especially the Catholic, the Anglican and the Pentecostal by way of conspiracy of silence and materialistic Christianity. This is more so when out of the five South-East Governors, four are Catholics including those of Anambra, Enugu, Ebonyi and Imo; and one Seventh Day Adventist or that of Abia.

In spite of the fact that Christianity constitutes more than 95% of the Faith Population in those Eastern States (except in Edo State) and having been deeply rooted in the Region since 1857 (Anglican led CMS in Onitsha) and 1885 (Catholic led RCM in Onitsha), a destructive political dimension to the decline in Christianity has overtly and covertly been put in place especially since June 2015 and fortified by external accelerators, aiders and abettors; to the extent that the mainstream rival religion and its practices are politically and influentially given more attention, solidarity, supports, recognition and protection than to the practice, protection, support and expansion of Christianity. It may most likely be correct to say that Christianity in Eastern Nigeria is living on its past glory and is presently infested by a scourge of building earthly episcopal paradises and transactional evangelism

For the record, the Eastern Nigeria is largely home to Anglicanism, Catholicism, Baptist and Pentecostalism, to the extent that Anglicanism through the Onitsha Anglican Expedition of 1857 led by Rev J.C. Taylor, an Igbo Sierra Leonean of liberated Igbo slave parents and Rev (later Bishop) Samuel Ajai Crowder, the first African Anglican Bishop; followed by Catholicism through the Onitsha RCM Expedition of 1885, pioneered by Reverend Father Lutz and others. Today in Anambra State and Igbo Land, the oldest Anglican Diocese is the Niger Province (Diocese on the Niger) of the Anglican Communion, established in 1864 while the oldest Catholic Cathedral in Igbo Land is the Onitsha Holy Trinity Cathedral (Cathedral Basilica of the Most Holy Trinity), established between 1930 and 1935.

Presently, Anambra State headquarters the Seat of Anglicanism in Eastern Nigeria with the All Saints Anglican Cathedral in Onitsha, established in 1949 and dedicated in 1992 as their episcopal engine room, with nine Dioceses (Diocese on the Niger and Dioceses of Niger West, Mbammili, Ogbaru, Nnewi, Amichi, Ihiala, Awka and Ekwulobia). Onitsha, Anambra State also headquarters the Seat of Catholicism in Eastern Nigeria through the Cathedral Basilica of the Most Holy Trinity, Onitsha which is also the Seat of the Onitsha Metropolitan Archdiocese, created on April 18, 1950 and placed in charge of Nine Dioceses including Onitsha Archdiocese and Dioceses of Abakiliki, Awgu, Aguleri, Nsukka, Awka, Ekwulobia, Nnewi and Enugu.

The Onitsha Archdiocese or Ecclesiastical Province later on March 26, 1994 gave birth to the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Owerri which was placed in charge of six Dioceses including the Archdiocese of Owerri and Dioceses of Aba, Ahiara, Umuahia, Orlu and Okigwe. That is to further say that there are 60 Catholic Dioceses in Nigeria including 59 full-fledged Dioceses and a Suffragan or Eparchy (the Our Lady of the Annunciation at Ibadan) created since 28 February 2018; with estimated population of 25m-30m.

These historically traces are to bring to the fore how deeply rooted, widely embraced and acculturated Christianity especially Catholicism, Anglicanism and others are rooted in Eastern Nigeria particularly in Igbo Land in the past 170 years. It is therefore surprising and saddening watching what is unfolding in matters of protection and preservation of Christian Religious Worship-whereby most of those “Christian Governors” have become **“Christians in the day, but destructively something else at night or in the hours of the most Christian Need”**; one of which is continuation of public school classes in Anambra State into Sacred or Holy Week ahead of the Good Friday Public Holiday and the Easter celebration-marking the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. This is even when most of the private schools across Anambra State have closed since last week Friday of March 27, 2026.

The Government of Professor Charles Soludo, an acclaimed Catholic and possibly a Papal Knighthood aspirant, ought not to have continued the public school classes in the State into the Holy Week and ought to have closed State Public Schooling on Friday, March 27, 2026, so as to allow school children go back to their parents and guardians and be morally or spiritually prepared to observe and participate in the Holy Week loaded with moral and spiritual atonement activities including vigils, crusades, mass services, and teachings of love, repentance and forgiveness. Apart from disallowing Christian school children from such moral and spiritual atonement opportunities, members of the teaching segment of the State Civil Service are also denied such sacred opportunities including participation in the all-important Catholic Christ Mass celebrated on Tuesday, March 31, 2026 and Holy Thursday church activities and related others performed by other Christian denominations.

**Signed:**

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