

We are deeply saddened and shocked by the appalling and horrifying incident of 17 August, 2023 at Jaranwala, Pakistan. Where an unchecked mob attacked the churches, desecrated Sacred Scriptures and Religious articles, robbed and burned the homes of Christians. We feel the pain of the frighten people whose lives reflect peace and make each day humble contribution towards the prosperity of their beloved homeland. It is further painful that on the name of religion such lawlessness and criminal acts be allowed, whereas religion stands for the dignity and respect of every human person. We cannot but express our profound solidarity to the Bishops conference of Pakistan which represents the Catholic Church and their faithful. Please extend our heartfelt sympathies tor the victims of this horrific incident.

May the Lord Give all the faithful the strength and perseverance in love for every human creature, as Christ teaches us.

Please convey to all the faithful our bond of united in prayers. By the intercession of Blessed Virgin Mary may crucified Lord, who is risen from the dead be hope and light for the Church in Pakistan.

Sincerely yours in Christ.



+ *Martin Kmetec*
+ Martin Kmetec OFMConv

Archbishop of Izmir

Conference of the Catholic bishops of Turkey

H. E. Archbishop Joseph Arshad

Tameezuddin Church Rd.,

