

BISHOP CHIKPA WILFRED ANAGBE, CMF



Msgr Anagbe was born in Aondona, Benue, on 2nd April 1965. He attended the seminary from the age of 15. He graduated with a B.Phil certificate from the Pontifical Urbaniana University in Rome. He also obtained a Master's Degree in Theology from Duquesne University in Pittsburg, USA, and his PhD in Church History in Spain. He was ordained a Catholic priest on August 6, 1994 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Cathedral Makurdi. He is a Claretian missionary and has carried out many administrative duties for the Order, including responsibilities for its farms. Msgr. Wilfred Anagbe was appointed bishop of Makurdi by Pope Francis on the 4th Oct, 2014, on the Feast day of St Francis of Assisi.

The Makurdi diocese is home to numerous displaced people who are living in Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps. Makurdi's IDP camps are the site of daily attacks perpetrated by militant Islamist extremists of the Fulani ethnic group. In the Benue state alone, with a population of nearly 6 million, 99% of them are Christian (80% are Catholic), and 1/3 of the population, over 2.25 million people are now displaced and living in IDP camps. Attending to this population, living in dehumanizing conditions all while enduring daily massacres has become Bishop Anagbe's work.

During his life, he has been a teacher, a pastor, a farmer, an administrator, a retreat preacher, a consultant and a chaplain to the military. He has established solid relations with Nigerian diaspora in the US and Europe. He speaks four languages fluently: Tiv, English, Igbo and Spanish.