

SACBC STATEMENT ON THE BOMBING OF ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH AT PHOKENG (22/11/91)

Almost 18 months ago the southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference expressed its horror at the bombing of St Joseph's Church and other buildings at Phokeng in the Diocese of Rustenburg.

At 2.00 a.m. this morning the same thing happened. The House of God at Phokeng, the beautiful church dedicated to St Joseph was extensively damaged in a bombing, which the police describe, as professionally executed.

We condemn in the strongest terms possible this appalling act of barbarity, which is all the more reprehensible in the light of the declared policy of Bishop Dowling and the church of Rustenburg to promote reconciliation by among other things making the facilities at the mission available for meetings called by people of all shades of political opinion.

We express our sympathy to the Bishop and faithful of Rustenburg for the desecration of their church and assure them of our support, so that such cowardly acts will never deter the Church from its work for justice and peace now or in the future.

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