



DCS/RC/G1/300/41

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The Secretary  
Apostolat Militaire International

26<sup>th</sup> August, 2013

**A BRIEF ON LATE REV FR (MAJ) CHARLES PATRICK ASSAI**

With total submission to God, we wish to inform you of the sudden death of Rev Fr (Maj) Charles Patrick Assai whose sad event occurred on **8<sup>th</sup> August, 2013** at Mars Speciality Hospital India after a protracted illness.

Fr Charles was born on the 5 Sept 1969 to the family of late Mr Patrick Assai and Mrs Christiana Assai. He had his Primary and Secondary education from 1981 - 1987 and Seminary Training both of Philosophy and Theology from 1987 – 1995 respectively.

Fr Charles was ordained a Deacon on the 9th December, 1995 and subsequently a Priest on the 6th July, 1996 by Archbishop PY Jatau. After his priestly ordination he was posted to St John's Catholic Church Kateri as an Assistant Parish Priest and later became the Parish Priest. In 1999, he was seconded to the Military Chaplaincy and did his cadet training in the Nigerian Defence Academy as a member of Direct Regular Commission 10. He was commissioned a Lieutenant on the 4th March, 2000 and was promoted a Captain on the 3rd September, 2003. He became a Major on 3rd September, 2008. Fr Charles furthered his education at University of Lagos where he obtained a Master's Degree in Education from 2009 – 2011. Within this period also he attended the Junior Staff Course at Armed Forces Command and Staff College (AFCSC), Jaji Kaduna State from July – December 2010.

His Priestly Ministry as a Chaplain took him to different Units and Formations in the Nigerian Military, and he willingly accepted his pastoral assignments wherever his posting took him. Fr Charles served as a member of NIBATT 9 in the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) in 2006. Other formations and Units where he served include: 34 Bde Owerri, 2 Bde Port Harcourt, 33 Bde Bauchi, 21 Bde Maiduguri, 68 NARHY Lagos and HQ DCS (RC) Lagos where he served as the Chief of Staff(COS) until his death. He was a participant at the 2012 Apostolat Militaire International General Assembly held in Belgium.

Fr Charles was a dedicated servant of God who loved the Priesthood and the people he was called to serve. As an Army Officer, he was a gentleman to the core and faithful to a fault in his dedication to duty.

May he rest in perfect peace, Amen.

**CC IROEGBU**

Col (Very Rev Fr)

Director