

transformer was not protected from children.

The family also called on President Muhammadu Buhari and the governor

would be amputated. He was moved to the village on July 7, to his home State, Ondo where he was rushed to Prummer Medical

surgery out of N500, 000.00.

"Our family will sue Eko Electricity Company Limited for negligence.

## ACCIDENT: Hit-and-run Driver Kills Catholic Priest In Nasarawa

SILAS EZEUGWU, Abuja

Catholic faithful in Holy Emmanuel Parish, New Karu, in Karu local government area of Nasarawa State have lost their parish priest, Very Rev Fr David Baka, after a hit-and-run driver rammed into him on Saturday.

Fr Baka's car, Hilux mini-van, was said to have somersaulted three times after it was hit from behind by a driver, who promptly drove away, around Tudu Wada, not far from Goshen city, the worship centre of Living Faith Church on the Abuja-Keffi highway.

A parishioner, Mr Sunday Abinya, told LEADERSHIP yesterday that the priest was returning from Lafia, the Nasarawa State capital, when the sad incident occurred.

According to him, Fr Baka had gone to procure

materials for the internally displaced persons that he was assisting when he met his end.

"The priest was a good man. He applied to some group and got financial assistance worth up to N4 million internally displaced villagers who had fled their communities because of the communal crises among Nasarawa communities. He went to Agyaragu (a farming community a few kilometres from Lafia) to buy food and housing materials on Saturday and then called on the bishop of the diocese in Lafia. It was on his way back, not far from his parish house, that he was involved in an accident."

LEADERSHIP learnt that the priest had phoned his assistants from Keffi, a few minutes before the accident. "He called a visiting priest - because his assistant had lost his father and was making arrangements for his burial and had not been

much around - to tell him he was already close to home and they should expect him, and the visiting priest informed him that his assistant was around. When they did not see him after 15 minutes, they called his line only for a stranger's voice to answer and tell them that Fr Baka had been involved in a serious crash. They two priests drove to the point but he was barely conscious, and they rushed him to hospital but, on getting there, he was pronounced dead on arrival," Mr Abinya said.

According to him, the deceased priest was very passionate about providing succour to displaced families in his domain, and was doing all he could to provide them food and shelter, for which cause he was pursuing on the day he died.

Effort to get police reaction on the incident was not successful by the time of filing this report.