

February 18, 2011

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

It is with great sadness that I have received a message from Archbishop Ghaleb Badr of the Roman Catholic Church in Algiers, informing me of the tragic death of Father Marek Rybinski of La Manouba, Tunisia. He was found dead and decapitated this afternoon. A mass was conducted for him this evening at the Roman Catholic Church in Tunis.

Bishop Bill Musk, the Area Bishop for North Africa, attended this mass and gave condolences on behalf of the Anglican community. Bishop Bill said that Father Marek "was a lovely priest and much loved in the school community where he served."

We pray for the Roman Catholic Church in Tunisia and for Archbishop Maroun Laham, that the Lord would give them peace and comfort at this difficult and sad time.

We hold on to the promise of Christ who said that the "gates of hell will not prevail."

May the Lord protect his church.

Yours in Christ,

+Mouneer

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The Most Rev. Dr. Mouneer Hanna Anis
Bishop of the Episcopal / Anglican Diocese of Egypt
with North Africa and the Horn of Africa
President Bishop of the Episcopal / Anglican
Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East