

Statement On Crime

Archdiocesan Communications Commission, Port of Spain, January 15, 2005. The following statement on the rapidly deteriorating crime situation in the nation was adopted at the Second Session of the Synod of the Catholic Church on the morning of January 15, 2005.

The Catholic population stands in solidarity with those who are suffering as a result of the senseless disregard for human life and its effects upon family life.

Peace can only be achieved when it is established in the heart of each one of us. Each of us has a role to play in rejecting the culture of death that pervades our land and in building a culture of life.

As the elected representatives of the people our leaders have a responsibility to take the necessary steps to secure the safety and security of every citizen. They must be prepared to take effective measures in the interest of the general population and not let sectarian concerns impede this process.

The Catholic community is prepared to support any legitimate step by the government to deal with what has become an untenable situation. The constitution of our country acknowledges God. We urge all people to become united under God and to pray and work for peace.

(end)