



# SACC: EASTERN CAPE

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The News Editor

## **SACC CONDOLENCES TO THE PORT ST JOHNS VILLAGE FAMILY WHOSE YOUNG MOTHER MURDERING CHILDREN**

The South African Council of Churches in the Eastern conveys heartfelt condolences to the Port St. Johns village family whose mother poisoned her three children to death.

Young desperate mothers killing their children is becoming the new normal because the same incident recently happened in Tholeni village, Butterworth. One life lost is too many, adding now to the trend of mass murders is concerning in the EC.

It seems poverty resulting in families in despair is the source of these young mothers deciding to take their lives and that of their beloved ones. The current threat by national treasury on possible end of SASSA SRD grants unless government cuts spending or increase taxes is unfortunate. The SRD grant is an expectation by the poor as an income and has become their lifeline. We are not aware as SACC who is the government talking within the civil society about socio-economic crisis in the country.

The Church is asking itself why these incidents happens early hours of the morning? Why the mother said she was going to worship in another area. Neighbours acknowledge that the young mother "was a Church goer" who was quiet and well behaved. Indeed, this social disjuncture is a concern to the Church.

The SACC:EC calls upon traditional leaders to forge meaningful partnership with the SACC:EC to curb these social ill which is a disgrace to the society.

The SACC in Port St. Johns is offering spiritual support to the family because it is the role of the Church to offer traumatic counselling and pastoral care during time of bereavement.

We specifically call upon all Christians to publicly pray for hope to families who have absolutely lost hope to be assisted by government or family members.

The SACC:EC calls upon the media to accept these Church sponsored articles so that many may hear the voice of the Church to the People of God. The Port St. Johns woman in question died with her hope and mind in the Church.

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**Authorised and issues** by Prof. Lulama Ntshingwa, SACC:EC President 082 498 3221 dated 12 September 2023.

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