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'How many children have to die?'

by Dennis Coday

NCR Today

Chastity Turner, 9, was bathing the family dog on her grandmother's porch at the end of June. It was the beginning of summer in Chicago. Her life ended that day. She was gunned down by a stray bullet from a gang shooting.

Turner was the 40th Chicago schoolchild shot and killed by gunfire this year.

"How many children have to die before we say, we've got to do something?" asks Fr. Michael Pflieger, a gun activist and pastor of St. Sabina parish in Chicago. (Two teen boys were shot Friday July 17 evening near St. Sabina, one has been released from the hospital while the other remains in stable condition.)

"Everybody waits until it's your child," Pflieger said.

For more background:

- With More Children at Peril, a Call to Unarm
- Priest Makes Impassioned Calls for Action Following Church Shootings

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