

(U) ISIS media has recently called for attacks on Christian and Jewish communities, including in the Homeland, and will likely intensify calls for attacks during Ramadan and possibly through Easter and Passover. [The Times of Israel](#), [ADL](#), [MEMRI](#)

- (U) In January 2024, Al Furqan Media Foundation, an official IS media, released a speech titled “And Kill Them Wherever You Find Them,” in which IS spokesman Abu Hudhaifah Al encouraged supporters to attack Christian and Jewish communities in the US and Europe, and “religious targets like synagogues and churches before others” and suggested Western cities to attack, including “Washington”. [MEMRI](#)
- (U) Later in January, pro-ISIS media released a poster with Arabic text from the speech, an image of a gunman, the St. Peter’s Basilica in Vatican City, the Israeli Prime Minister, and the Israeli Defense Minister. The poster states, “destroy the hearts of the Jews, Christians, and their allies” and “turn their gatherings and celebrations into bloody massacres”. The picture is shown below. [On Poster Depicting St. Peter's Basilica, IS-aligned Unit Cites Spokesman's Call to Action for Lone Wolves](#)
- (U) On 28 January, ISIS claimed responsibility for an attack on a Catholic Church during a mass service in Istanbul, Turkey that killed one person and injured another. [CNN](#)
- (U) The December 2023 issue of Voice of Khurasan, an unofficial pro-IS magazine, featured an article titled, “The Nation Deserving Holocaust the Most.” It promotes antisemitic “globalist” conspiracies, calls Jews a “cancerous threat for the existence of humanity” and provides an antisemitic and demonizing overview of the formation of the state of Israel. [MEMRI](#)
- (U) In October 2023 ISIS’s official weekly magazine, Al Naba, published an article titled “Practical Steps to Fight the Jews,” which urges readers to target Jewish communities, including neighborhoods, and “Jewish and Crusader” embassies. [MEMRI](#)
- (U) Recent Incidents:
- (U) On 28 January, The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for an attack on Santa Maria Catholic Church in Istanbul during Sunday Mass, resulting in one fatality. The church's lawyer has called for increased security in the area following the attack. [AP News](#)
- (U) On 3 December, ISIS supporters attacked a Catholic mass service in the southern Philippines resulted in at least three deaths and seven injuries. Police are investigating whether the explosion was caused by an improvised explosive device or a grenade. Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. condemned the bombing, blaming “foreign terrorists,” as police and the military strengthened security. [NBC News](#)
- (U) On 25 November 2023, in Burlington, Vermont, three 20-year-old college students of Palestinian descent were attacked, causing serious injuries. The students were speaking in Arabic and wearing Palestinian keffiyeh scarves, when the subject approached and shot them. [The Washington Post](#)
- (U) On 5 November 2023, in Ventura County, California, a 69-year-old Jewish man succumbed to blunt force trauma after an altercation with a pro-Palestinian protester during a demonstration involving opposing groups. The protester was subsequently arrested and charged with involuntary manslaughter and battery causing serious bodily injury. [Newsweek](#)
- (U) On 19 October 2023, a Jordanian national residing in Texas while awaiting asylum processing was arrested for allegedly training with weapons in preparation for a potential attack on a Jewish event. The FBI reported that the individual researched bomb-making techniques and expressed support for killing Jews online. [Ventura County District Attorney](#)

## Recent Alleged Plots to Catholic Churches

(U) In December 2023, ISIS linked members allegedly plotted to attack a German Cathedral in late December. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/german-police-arrest-three-more-over-alleged-cologne-cathedral-attack-plot-2023-12-31/>

## 2019 ISIS-Inspired Easter Day Attack in Sri Lanka

(U) In 2019, ISIS-inspired terrorists attacked three churches and three hotels on Easter Day in Sri Lanka killing at least 260 people and injuring hundreds. <https://www.cnn.com/interactive/2019/04/world/sri-lanka-attacks/>



(U) Pro-ISIS Tala'ia al Ansar Media Foundation released this poster which is described above and includes an image portraying St. Peter's Basilica and excerpts from the "And Kill Them Wherever You Find Them" speech.