News 23 November 2026 | English article

19 Worshippers Including Children Rushed to Hospital After Carbon Monoxide Poisoning at Church Service in Germany Today

A true story of faith under pressure. Read the first half below, then continue online.

KEY SPIRITUAL TAKEAWAY

"Nineteen worshippers, including two children, were rushed to hospital with suspected carbon monoxide poisoning after several people collapsed during a Sunday service on 22 November 2026 at a castle chapel in Bad Grönenbach, Bavaria, Germany"

(Transliterated from the original Hindi.)

They had gathered only to pray. When prayer itself becomes the target, faith is proved not by words but by staying.

The Story - Part One

Nineteen worshippers, including two children, were rushed to hospital with suspected carbon monoxide poisoning after several people collapsed during a Sunday service on 22 November 2026 at a castle chapel in Bad Grönenbach, Bavaria, Germany. Four of the worshippers were in serious condition, and more than 50 of the 56 people at the service were affected. Firefighters who entered the chapel found a very high concentration of the odourless gas inside.

It was an ordinary Sunday morning in a small Bavarian town, the kind of service where familes sit in the same pews week after week and know each other's names. Then people began to feel unwell. Some complained they could not breathe properly. Others felt sick to their stomachs. Within minutes, the quiet of worship had turned into a race against an invisible danger nobody in the room could see or smell.

The alarm was raised at about 10:50 a.M., After congregants began complaining of breathing difficulties and nausea. More than 120 emergency personnel responded, including a rescue helicopter, and the injured were taken to nearby hospitals for treatment. The scale of the response showed how seriously the first crews took what they found: a chapel full of people, and a gas that gives no warning.

The service was hosted by the Priestly Fraternity of St Peter, a traditional Catholic priestly society, and it was held in the chapel of a castle in Bad Grönenbach, in the Allgäu region of Bavaria. The setting is historic and beautiful, the sort of stone chapel that has hosted prayer for generations. On this Sunday, though, its thick old walls and closed doors may have helped the gas build up unnoticed while the congregation prayed.

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning At Bad Grönenbach Church: What Police Believe Happened

Police believe the cause was a recently bought heater that had been switched on at about 6 a.M. By a 70-year-old church official, hours before the service began. The heater is thought to have malfunctioned because its automatic safety shut-off failed, allowing carbon monoxide to fill the chapel while the congregation gathered. Investigators are still establishing the exact sequence, but the heater is at the centre of their inquiries.

The Turning Point - What Happens Next

The story reaches a life-changing moment that changes everything -- and what seemed like the end is only the middle. Two reports disagree on the numbers, and one question is left unanswered: will the CCTV footage ever come out? Read the full story to find out what happens next.

PERSONAL REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When gathering to pray carries a real cost, what keeps a community coming together anyway -- and what would keep you coming?

2. The pastor's sister shielded him with her own body and fainted under the blows. What does costly, self-giving love look like in your own family or church?

3. When justice is delayed and a complaint is withdrawn under threat, how do believers hold on to truth without giving in to fear -- or to hatred?

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