

# **UKRAINE: Unknown individuals attempt to set church in Ukraine's Nikolayev Region on fire**

Interfax Religion (12.02.2019) – <https://bit.ly/2TTd7nj> – Kiev: Unidentified persons threw a bottle bomb in the building of the church of St. Elijah the Martyr in the village of Zelenyi Bor, Ukraine's Nikolayev Region on Sunday night, no one has been injured, the information and education department of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church said.

“It emerged that a window was smashed in the church and a bottle bomb was thrown in. It's a miracle that the fire did not engulf the entire church, the fire went out. Windows were broken and smashed in the church, a curtain burned down and two carpet strips on the floor were damaged, the walls are covered in soot, icons and cloths on the icons were blackened with ash,” the Ukrainian Orthodox Church said.

Before setting the church on fire, the wrongdoers cut off electricity thus turning off the alarm and video surveillance in it, it said. They also attempted to pull out the wooden cross installed in front of the church.

The police and firefighters came to the incident scene.

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**FRANCE: Arson in the church of Revel**



Arson in the Notre-Dame-des-Grâces church in Revel in June 2018. (©VDML)

HRWF (28.01.2019) – On 7 June 2018, a fire was set in the church of Revel; fortunately, it was quickly contained. The arsonist was sentenced to one year in prison by a court in Toulouse on 21 January.

A bearded man in his 50s was seen exiting the church a few

minutes after the fire began. The suspect was questioned by police but released for lack of evidence. After an investigation lasting several months, the police gathered sufficient proof. He was arrested in Marseille (where he had moved) and received a split sentence of one-year in prison with half being a suspended sentence.

The name and motive of the arsonist has not been released.

Source: Actu (<https://bit.ly/2B2teYo>)

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