



The Diocese of Rupert's Land

The Right Reverend Geoffrey Woodcroft
Bishop of Rupert's Land

March 15, 2019

A letter to all disciples of the Diocese of Rupert's Land

Dear Disciples,

I write to you today deeply grieving for those who were murdered at two Mosques this morning in Christchurch, New Zealand.

Those murdered and those critically injured, and all who love and care for them, shall have the prayers of the Body of Christ continuously before God. We pray that God will strengthen those who have suffered greatly at the hands of those who acted with violence, hatred, extremism and terrorism toward the human family, God's children.

We shall not allow fear and hatred to hold the world hostage.

We shall physically and spiritually stand with our human family, in all faiths and walks of life, especially those who have become targets of hatred and violent acts.

We choose to act now, to build and rebuild healthy relationships with all people, loving our neighbour as ourselves.

We choose to live-out our baptism into the Body of Christ by accepting our call not only to respect the dignity of every human being, but to live that out by courageously walking with all who are persecuted.

Now, more than ever, may we strive for the Peaceable Kingdom. Let us pray for those who lost life and those who love them. Let us walk outside our comfort zone to always greet new human family members. And, let us proactively work to build health and wellness into all the world; let us, with courage, call-out the fear that drives people to extremism and terrorism.

Let us join in love to pray this day through, to listen to one another for God's voice and call, and to imagine how we can join God in breaking the fear that causes such hatred and violence in this world.

Yours in faith,

The Rt. Rev. Geoff Woodcroft
Bishop of Rupert's Land

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