

## *For the Community of Chabad, Poway, California A Prayer for an end to Violence*

**Call to Prayer:** Taken from the words of Cardinal DiNardo, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops



“This assault, which occurred on the last day of Passover, is the second shooting in a U.S. synagogue within six months. Our country should be better than this; our world should be beyond such acts of hatred and anti-Semitism. This attack joins an all too long list of attacks against innocent people, people of all faiths, who only want to gather and to pray. It is a contradiction, a perverting of their teachings to believe that Christianity, Judaism, or Islam would condone such violence. Unfortunately, both in the past and today, too many preach such hatred in the name of God. This cannot be abided; it must end.

Our prayers today are for the victims of this shooting, and for the Jewish community of Poway, California, placing our trust and our hope in ‘the Lord [who] is close to the brokenhearted and saves those whose spirit is crushed’” (Ps 34:19). Pause for Reflection. Light a candle

**Reading:**

Throughout history God has manifested love and care for those who have suffered from violence, hatred, and oppression. We commend those affected by the shooting at Chabad of Poway Synagogue to the healing mercy of a gracious God who binds up all our wounds and enfolds us in gentle care.

O Loving God, we see the images of death in Poway, Sri Lanka, Mumbai, Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Congo, Nigeria, Sudan and South Sudan, Ukraine, Israel and Palestine, Central African Republic, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, etc.... In light of these terrible acts of violence we say:

**Response:** *We, the School Sisters of Notre Dame, direct our entire lives toward that oneness for which Jesus Christ was sent.*

*Pause*

**Reading:** Just in the month of April 2019, we have heard the weapons and seen the blood of mass shootings and gang violence in 25 cities, towns and villages in the United States—places like Poway, Los Angeles, Jackson, Hugo, Wichita, Corpus Christi, Westmorland, Louisville, Stockton, Vallejo, Germantown, Moreno Valley, Philadelphia, Memphis, Baltimore, Kansas City, Phoenix and more.

**Response:** *Response: We, the School Sisters of Notre Dame, direct our entire lives toward that oneness for which Jesus Christ was sent.*

*Pause*

