



BISHOP OF HAMILTON

November 2, 2018

Rabbi Hillel Lavery-Yisraeli  
Beth Jacob Synagogue  
375 Aberdeen Avenue  
Hamilton, ON L8P 2N4  
Email: [r.hillel@bethjacobsynagogue.ca](mailto:r.hillel@bethjacobsynagogue.ca)

Dear Rabbi Lavery-Yisraeli,

On behalf of the Roman Catholic community in the Diocese of Hamilton, I extend to you and to the entire Jewish community in Hamilton our sincerest sympathy on the horrific and unspeakable violence that occurred at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, last Saturday. The death of eleven members of the congregation, and the wounding of many others, has shocked us.

In his address from St. Peter's Square, Vatican City, Pope Francis said that "*we are all wounded by this inhuman act of violence.*"

Such violence is clear evidence that anti-Semitism continues to rear its ugly head in our own time. The trauma caused by this shooting reminds us that we must always remain alert to such hatred and horror and constantly be prepared to extinguish it.

Please know of the thoughts and prayers of the Catholic community for the victims of this tragedy, and for the entire Jewish community who mourn such loss.

May their memory lead to an ever deeper peace and understanding in the human family.

Sincerely in the Most High,

(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, OMI  
Bishop of Hamilton

Enclosures  
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