



15 December 2025

Ad Clerum re Statement of solidarity in the wake of the Bondi Beach mass shooting

Dear sisters and brothers

Early this morning I issued this press statement, which I draw to your attention:

I write following last night's horrific mass shooting at Bondi Beach, which was directed at Jewish community members gathered to celebrate the first evening of Chanukah, the Festival of Lights.

I join with other faith leaders in grieving for those killed and injured in what NSW Police Commissioner Mal Lanyon has declared "a terrorist incident" because of the event's timing, the type of weapons used and the improvised explosive devices found.

I unequivocally condemn this antisemitic attack, and all antisemitism, which is a sin against our neighbour and an assault on human dignity. Such violence must be condemned wherever and whenever it occurs.

To the Jewish community in Sydney, Queensland and around Australia, I want to say clearly that you are not alone — I weep with you. Your safety matters — every person has the right to gather, practise their faith and celebrate their culture in peace and freedom.

I pray for all community members who mourn, for the wounded and those caring for them, and for those traumatised.

I pray for the police and paramedics, particularly for the seriously injured police officers, and the hospital workers who have served under incredible strain.

My prayers are also with those community members who courageously intervened before the police arrived, especially passerby Ahmed al Ahmed who was reportedly shot by a gunman from a nearby bridge in the process of disarming another gunman. In a media conference last night, NSW Premier Chris Minns said: "That man is a genuine hero, and I've got no doubt that there are many, many people alive tonight as a result of his bravery."

What we are witnessing and hearing in the news reports is shocking, distressing and heartbreaking, so please hold your family, friends and faith community close.

During this traumatic time, I join with other faith leaders and call for all Australians to respond with compassion; for the media to show sensitivity; and, for all elected representatives to promote unity.

The NSW Police Force has activated the “[Register Find Reunite](#)” capability to assist in the registration of those who have been impacted. It is a service, administered by the Australian Red Cross, that enables people to register to let people know they are safe; find people who may be affected by an emergency and know they are safe; and, reunite through a matching process.

If you need crisis support, you can call Lifeline on 13 11 14 or text 0477 13 11 14 or call Kids Helpline on 1800 55 1800 (for young people aged up to 25) or Beyond Blue on 1300 22 4636. [Embrace Multicultural Mental Health](#) supports people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

With the assurance of my prayers

Yours in Christ

A handwritten signature in black ink, preceded by a small cross symbol. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Jeremy Greaves'.

The Most Reverend Jeremy Greaves KCSJ
Archbishop of Brisbane