



January 31, 2017

Imam Samy Metwally
Main Ottawa Mosque
Ottawa, Ontario

Dear Imam Metwally:

As I mentioned you in my phone call yesterday, the news of the deadly attack at a Quebec City mosque on Sunday evening has shocked and saddened me and my fellow Catholic Christians.

To you, to your congregation and to all Muslims in Ottawa, in Quebec City and the rest of Canada, we offer sincere condolences.

Together with Muslims, Catholics revere the faith of Abraham, and together with you, we call in prayer on the one, merciful God. May you be granted divine assistance, consolation and peace in this tragedy.

In response to this attack Pope Francis comforted Quebec's Cardinal Lacroix, who was in Rome in recent days and offered his prayers for the victims, stressing the significance of Christians and Muslims remaining united in prayer.

Know that we Catholics in Ottawa will continue to reach out in solidarity to the Muslim community, united with our Muslim brothers and sisters in prayer for the victims of this heinous action.

May our support and the assurance of our prayers for you at this difficult moment be balm and solace to you and all who have been hurt by this intolerant act.

Yours most sincerely,

Terrence Prendergast, S.J.
Archbishop of Ottawa