



TCDSB Messaging Regarding Shooting at Quebec Mosque

Good morning:

The thoughts and prayers of the Toronto Catholic District School Board are with the victims of the shootings at the Centre Culturel Islamique de Quebec in Ste. Foy Quebec, and their families and friends.

We stand in solidarity with the Muslim community in Quebec, here in Toronto and around the world, who believe in the sanctity of life and the freedom to worship in safety and peace. Although we are all profoundly saddened by this act of violence against our brothers and sisters, we should recall Pope Francis's recent Message for the 50th World Day of Peace which proclaims: "Nothing is impossible if we turn to God in prayer. Everyone can be an artisan of peace."

As a caring Catholic community, we invite you to remember not only these most recent victims of violence at the Centre Culturel Islamique de Quebec, but all those who have been touched by these types of horrific acts, which have become much too common. Let us pledge to be instruments of the Lord's peace.

To assist your classes, families and friends in observing this call to reflection, please use [Peace Prayers and Affirmations](#) provided by the TCDSB Catholic Teachers Centre.

Student achievement and well-being is also our first priority. We recognize that these events may cause fear and anxiety among some of our students. Our school administrative leaders and our social work team will ensure that those adversely affected receive the support and guidance they need.

God Bless.

Angela Gauthier

Director of Education

Angela Kennedy

Chair of the Board