



As-Salaamu-Alaikum, Peace be upon You

On behalf of the Board and Staff at Islamic Center of Irvine, we express our deep condolences to the families of the victims of the terrorist massacre during Friday prayers at the two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand. We ask God Almighty to grant Paradise to the souls of the martyrs, to heal the wounded, to ease the heartache of their families and the entire Christchurch community.

Please consider supporting the families of the victims through this Muslim-run campaign:
<http://www.launchgood.com/christchurch>

We strongly believe that nothing will affect us unless it was decreed for us by God, and we also abide by Prophetic advice of the importance of taking all measures to protect ourselves.

We are working closely with Irvine Police Department and our security service providers to ensure we can provide a secure environment for you and your families. We will be scheduling a Violent Intruder Training for our staff, volunteers and general community, before Ramadan. It will be the 3rd such training we have held in the past couple of years. We will also be organizing more volunteers to serve as security monitors and community greeters during our open hours. Please look for announcements on this and ways to get involved.

We also plan to expand our armed security coverage during the weekdays and evenings, and upgrade our security technologies and training, and will need your support to raise the additional funds for this to be a sustained effort for the whole year.

Please use the link below to support the cost of additional security for all of 2019.
<http://www.launchgood.com/icoisecurity>

We also are creating a list of community services on mental health for our young people who have been exposed to the violent images and videos from this massacre. For now, please see the links below for advice and support in discussing these events in your homes and with your loved ones.

1. [Reference Sheet for times of crisis](#)
2. [Trauma & Grief: Resources for Coping in the American Muslim Community](#)

We thank those who have already reached out to their Muslim friends and neighbors in solidarity, as we saw many times during and after our Friday prayers in Irvine. It is a testament to our shared humanity and shared outrage at the growing scourge of hate speech, racial supremacy and xenophobia. We are inviting all faith communities to the event below to join in solidarity and perseverance to overcome hatred :

Remembrance and Healing Memorial, ICOI Patio/MPR, Sunday, March 17th, 5:30pm-7pm

With trust in God and taking necessary precautions, we are committed to keeping ICOI open for all scheduled services and ask you to not give in to fear and to always take pride in our shared identity as American Muslims in this beautiful and blessed country that belongs to all of us, and work with each other and our neighbors in spreading peace, compassion and justice.

Sincerely,
ICOI Board and Staff