



# The Anglican Diocese of Gippsland

The Rt Revd Dr Richard Treloar  
Bishop of Gippsland

*Ad Clerum*

15 March 2019

## **Attacks on mosques in New Zealand**

Dear colleagues,

We have all been shocked by the brutal attacks on two mosques in Christchurch today.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims of these horrific acts, and with their families.

We grieve with our trans-Tasman neighbours at the loss of innocent life, and the associated terror and trauma in a country that celebrates diversity and exemplifies a culture of inclusion and respect for all people.

Our hearts go out to our brothers and sisters in the great Abrahamic tradition of Islam, with whom we stand in solidarity as people of faith, of peace, and of good will.

Please pray for those who seek to bring relief to the injured, comfort to the bereaved, and order to the chaos of this terrible event and its aftermath.

And let us continue to work in our communities, our churches, our schools, to enhance religious literacy and to disarm the fear of difference and the 'othering' that can manifest in such violence.

Thank you for your ministry to those in your care who will be looking for counsel in the wake of this tragedy.

Yours in the Crucified One,

+RTU