



The Middle East Council of Churches

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The Most Rev. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury,

I write to extend the deep condolences of the Middle East Council of Churches to our brothers and sisters in England. The attack in Manchester has shocked and pained us, and we send our steadfast prayers of solidarity to the British people.

I am reminded of a passage from Isaiah: "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will uphold you with my victorious right hand." (Is 41: 10)

We have also felt the pain of grief and the collective distress which follow such misguided and unhuman acts of violence. We too have turned our heads to the sky and asked why? And likewise, we have clung to our faith in times of crisis, remembering that God is always with us and will grant us strength even as we endure the greatest hardships.

As you work through this tragedy, know that we too are with you. We hear your call for peace and lend our voices to it.

May God grant you His eternal grace and healing.

Fr. Michel Jalakh

Secretary General