



7 November 2017

His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo
Archbishop of Galveston-Houston
President, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Your Eminence,

It was with great sorrow and shock that I learned of the unconscionable act of violence that occurred Sunday last in the First Baptist Church, Sutherland Springs, Texas, leaving at least 26 dead and numerous wounded. Mass murders are always horrific violations of the sanctity of life and of the laws of the One who is the author of life. Yet, when committed against a group of people gathered in the name of Christ, such actions stand out even more starkly to us as Christians and shepherds of Christ's flock.

Please be assured of the intercession of the Bishops of Canada for the souls of the departed, their families, and all those responding to this tragedy. We stand united with you and with all people of good will who oppose such violence, as we work to build the Kingdom of Christ marked by "truth and life, holiness and grace, justice, love and peace" (from the Preface for the Solemnity of Christ the King).

Fraternally yours in Christ,

+Lionel Gendron, P.S.S.
Bishop of Saint-Jean-Longueuil and
President of the Canadian Conference
of Catholic Bishops

CC: The Most Reverend Gustavo Garcia-Siller
Archbishop of San Antonio