

DEEPEST CONDOLENCES AND SYMPATIES WITH THE VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE AND THEIR BEGRIEVE FAMILIES

The whole nation was shocked and deeply sadden by the appalling news of the bomb blast on last Sunday, 13th November, 2022 at Istanbul's Istiklal Avenue that left at least six people dead and 81 injured. On behalf of all the Bishops of Turkey and the Christian Community our deepest condolences and sympathies with the begrieve families at the loss of precious lives and we pray for the speedy recovery of the injured.

Our nation is a peace loving nation, with a long tradition of people of various cultures and religions living together in peace and harmony. Our beloved country provides generous hospitality, serene environment and warm welcome to people from all over the world. Violence and aggression of any sort is incompatible with fiber and spirit of our nationhood and tradition. We must make all efforts to retain the noble values of respect, dignity and wellbeing of all our brothers and sisters and make concerted efforts for the peace and prosperity of our beloved country. We are all endowed by Allah the spirit of tranquility and the responsibility to take care of the beautiful earth given to us, let us keep it safe from all harm. May Allah transform the hearts of all who are gone astray and are cause of pain and suffering for others, may they live and work for peace. All people are called today to bring restoration and wholeness in all aspect of life so that as Holy Bible says, “they will live secure, for from them He (God) will extend his power to the ends of the land. He (God) himself will be their peace” (Micah 5:4). Thus Peace is an attitude, a way of being, a mentality a desire to live a just life. Something, which springs from one’s heart and captures everything around. Let us ask Allah to fill our hearts with Peace so that we will truly become instrument of His peace for the each other and for the world. God bless and always keep our Country in Peace!

Archbishop Martin Kmetc Conv

President

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