



**Te Huinga o ngā Pihopa
Katorika o Aotearoa**

New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference

15 March 2019

Dear Members of the Muslim community in Aotearoa New Zealand,

We hold you in prayer as we hear the terrible news of violence against Muslims at mosques in Christchurch. We are profoundly aware of the positive relationships we have with Islamic people in this land, and we are particularly horrified that this has happened at a place and time of prayer. We are deeply saddened that people have been killed and injured, and our hearts go out to them, their families and wider community. We wish you to be aware of our solidarity with you in the face of such violence.

Peace, Salaam,

- ✠ *Patrick Dunn, Bishop of Auckland and NZCBC President*
- ✠ *Charles Drennan, Bishop of Palmerston North and NZCBC Secretary*
- ✠ *John Dew, Cardinal Archbishop of Wellington*
- ✠ *Paul Martin, Bishop of Christchurch*
- ✠ *Steve Lowe, Bishop of Hamilton*
- ✠ *Michael Dooley, Bishop of Dunedin*