

Prayers, St Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney for those affected by the shooting at Bondi Beach, 14/12/25



For the bereaved and injured

Heavenly Father, God of all comfort, deal graciously with those who grieve in this time of deep sadness. We pray especially for family and friends of those who have been shot. Grant them strength and peace in the days ahead. We pray with a spirit of compassion and grace for the Jewish and broader Bondi community, as they come to terms with their grief and shock. We ask you, Gracious Lord, to heal and restore all those who are still recovering in hospital. Be with them and their families as they travel the road to recovery. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

For the first responders

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was acquainted with grief and carried our sorrows: Thank you for those who, courageously following in his steps, willingly entered into the trauma of recent events on our behalf – civilians responders, the police, ambulance officers and other emergency medical personnel. We pray also for the police responsible for investigating the circumstances around these crimes. In your tender mercy, grant diligence and protection in their tasks, and rest to their bodies, healing to their minds, and peace to their hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

For the community around Bondi Beach

Our dear Heavenly Father, hear our prayers for the men, women and children, who live and work in or near Bondi Beach and the surrounding areas. We present the needs of residents, shopkeepers, restaurateurs, staff, customers, and visitors to the area. You know them. You know every hair on their heads. We call on you to protect and heal. Allow a healthy process as people respond to these harrowing acts of violence. Thank you, Lord, for the courage and kindness of the people who helped each other on Sunday. May that spirit of kindness continue through your empowering, Lord. As people face anxiety, trauma, and grief, provide comfort, resilience, peace, and safety. Grant wisdom to community leaders and help us know you are a good, gracious God. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

For the wider community of Sydney

God most high, we ask you to strengthen the efforts of leaders of different religions in our city as they reject violence and hatred and seek to encourage respect and tolerance for others. We ask your mercy on the Jewish community in this dark time. As sadness shrouds their celebration of Hanukkah, we ask that they will find light in the promises of their prophets – and ours.

And at this time, grant the Spirit's help for all who claim the name of Christ, who prayed for those who persecuted him and taught us to do the same. Help us work for peace, love enemies, do good to any who hate us, bless those who curse us, and pray for those who ill-treat us; for the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

For the coming of God's kingdom

Sovereign God, who will one day wipe every tear from our eyes, we pray for your kingdom to come, bringing the full and final defeat of all evil, and the reign of everlasting peace. Until that day, restrain all who inflict violence; who threaten the unsuspecting, trusting and vulnerable; whose hatred, fear, delusion, or quest for power inspire all manner of horrific acts. Shield, deliver and provide for all victims and survivors in their need. And bless those who work for justice, help and healing. Great shepherd, many of us are anxious; lovingly shoulder our burdens and cares. Please turn our hearts to your Son that we may rest in him. And speed the day when good and justice reign, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.