









## **PRAYERS**

### **A Prayer for Holocaust Memorial Day by the Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis, The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, and Senior Imam Qari Asim**

Read by Revd Canon Dr David Holgate

*Loving G-d, we come to you with heavy hearts, remembering the six million Jewish souls murdered during the Holocaust.*

*In the horrors of that history, when so many groups were targeted because of their identity, and in genocides which followed, we recognise destructive prejudices that drive people apart.*

*Forgive us when we give space to fear, negativity and hatred of others, simply because they are different from us.*

*In the light of G-d, we see everyone as equally precious manifestations of the Divine, and can know the courage to face the darkness.*

*Through our prayers and actions, help us to stand together with those who are suffering, so that light may banish all darkness, love will prevail over hate and good will triumph over evil.*

*Amen*

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### **El Male Rachamim**

Sung by Cantor Charles Chait

*O G-d, Who art full of compassion, who dwellest on high, grant perfect rest in Thy Divine Presence to all the souls of our holy and pure brethren whose blood was spilt by the murderers in Auschwitz, Belzec, Bergen Belsen, Dachau, Majdanek, Sobibor, Treblinka and other extermination camps in Europe; who were killed, strangled, burned and buried alive for the sanctification for Thy Name. For whose souls we now pray. May their resting place be in the Garden of Eden, may the Master of Mercy shelter them in the shadow of His wings for eternity; and may he bind their souls in the Bond of Live.*

*HASHEM is their heritage, and may they repose in peace in their resting places.*

*Now let us say: Amen*

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## **CANDLE LIGHTING**

Gisela Feldman

Rabbi Daniel Walker, Heaton Park Hebrew Congregation

Lynne Morris, Unison

Mark Isaac Adlestone OBE DL, Jewish Representative Council

Sarah Cross, Greater Manchester's Disabled People's Panel

Carl Austin-Behan OBE DL, Greater Manchester's LGBTQ+ Adviser

Reverend Canon Jean Hurlston, Greater Manchester's Women and Girls Panel

to each light a candle in commemoration of the Holocaust.

Followed by a minute's silence.



## **The statement of commitment for Holocaust Memorial Day**

Holocaust Memorial Day was established on 27 January 2000, when representatives from 46 countries around the world met in Stockholm to discuss Holocaust education, remembrance and research. At the end of this meeting, all attendees signed a declaration committing to preserving the memory of those who were murdered in the Holocaust.

### **The statement of commitment is read by**

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester

Elizabeth Cameron, Greater Manchester's Race Equality Panel

Marissa Cohen, King David High School

Nidhi Sinha, Manchester Cathedral's Challenging Hate Forum

Dr Erinma Bell, We Stand Together

Ayesha Ambreen, Falinge Park High School

Fran Horwich, Association of Jewish Refugees

*We recognise that the Holocaust shook the foundations of modern civilisation. Its unprecedented character and horror will always hold universal meaning.*

*We believe the Holocaust must have a permanent place in our nation's and community's collective memory. We honour the survivors still with us, and reaffirm our shared goals of mutual understanding and justice.*

*We must make sure that future generations understand the causes of the Holocaust and reflect upon its consequences.*

*We vow to remember the victims of Nazi persecution and of all genocides.*

*We value the sacrifices of those who have risked their lives to protect or rescue victims, as a touchstone of the human capacity for good in the face of evil.*

*We recognise that humanity is still scarred by the belief that race, religion, disability or sexuality make some people's lives worth less than others'. Genocide, anti-semitism, racism, xenophobia and discrimination still continue. We have a shared responsibility to fight these evils.*

*We pledge to strengthen our efforts to promote education and research about the Holocaust and other genocides. We will do our utmost to make sure that the lessons of such events are fully learnt.*

*We will continue to encourage Holocaust remembrance by organising an activity to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day. We condemn the evils of prejudice, discrimination and racism. We value a free, respectful, and democratic society.*

## **CLOSE OF CEREMONY**

### **Never Shall I Forget by Elie Wiesel**

Read by Sir Warren Smith KCVO KStJ JP, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester

*Never shall I forget that night, the first night in camp, that turned my life into one long night seven times sealed.*

*Never shall I forget that smoke.*

*Never shall I forget the small faces of the children whose bodies I saw transformed into smoke under a silent sky.*

*Never shall I forget those flames that consumed my faith for ever.*

*Never shall I forget the nocturnal silence that deprived me for all eternity of the desire to live.*

*Never shall I forget those moments that murdered my God and my soul and turned my dreams to ashes.*

*Never shall I forget those things, even were I condemned to live as long as God Himself.*

*Never.*





With special thanks to  
The Association of the  
Jewish Refugees