Sacramento Bishop Jaime Soto Releases Statement Concerning Orlando Terrorist Attack and Hate Crime

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SACRAMENTO – The following statement was released by the Most Rev. Jaime Soto, Roman Catholic Bishop of Sacramento, concerning the terrorist attack and hate crime that took place today in Orlando, FL:

"Rage has ravaged Orlando. The ugly horror of hate casts a chilling shadow from coast to coast. It was perpetrated hours before many in this nation would rise to honor the Lord's Day. The sweetness of the Sabbath was saddened by the loss of life and the bitter taste of fear. Still, the command to keep holy that day can soothe and save us as we now wrestle with the worries and the wounds left in the wake of such brutality.

"Sunday by tradition brings people together to pray, to sing, to be nourished with God's word and the bounty of His table. These are the tools with which we can cultivate the peace and craft a common fellowship.

"We keep holy that day so that the Lord may keep us holy and wholesome. To these deep springs of His mercy we must come and not let another tragic event tempt us to drink of despair, revenge or hateful disdain.

"The Lord's Day reminds us of why we were created and for what purpose he has created us. So, now let us give ourselves to that task binding wounds, building bridges, and shining the brave light of hope that casts out all fear.

"May Jesus, the Lord of tender mercy, hear our prayers for peace and give us the resolve to be His peacemakers."

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