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Roman Catholic Church

Salvation Army

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Chicago Center for Cultural Connections

Community Renewal Society



February 7, 2013

Dear Religious Leader:

As religious leaders we are concerned by the extraordinary gun violence that has permeated our communities, our schools and even our houses of worship.

On Friday, February 15, 2013 through Sunday, February 17, 2013, the Council of Religious Leaders of Metropolitan Chicago calls on all faith communities as they gather for worship to join in prayer for the victims of gun violence and their families.

We are asking all religious institutions to offer special prayers during their worship on that weekend to remember the many lives lost due to senseless acts of violence and to remember their families whose pain never ends.

The profound grief and suffering caused by gun violence is a most terrifying condition. The effects of gun violence rip through our moral fabric and take away that which makes us human. We hope that out of our prayers a common vision may come and empower each of our congregations to become active peacemakers to restore hope and peace in our communities.

On behalf of the Council of Religious Leaders,

Rev. Paul H. Rutgers

Co-Executive Directors

Rev. Stanley L. Davis, Jr.

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The Council of Religious Leaders of Metropolitan Chicago (CRLMC), a non-profit organization, is comprised of the head religious leadership of practically every major religious tradition in the broader Chicago area, representing nearly six million people. Through its work, the CRLMC speaks with a unified moral voice on issues of the day; creates a climate of better interfaith understanding and cooperation; and participates in programs which advance its work.