

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS Office of Communications and Planning

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 5, 2019 Media Contact: Maria Lemakis 314.792.7635 marialemakis@archstl.org

Archbishop Robert J. Carlson Offers Prayers, Support for Victims of Terror in El Paso, Texas and Dayton, Ohio

"Join me in praying for healing during these difficult and painful times"

ST. LOUIS – In the wake of the mass shootings in El Paso, Texas and Dayton, Ohio, the Most Reverend Robert J. Carlson, Archbishop of St. Louis, joins his brother bishops in offering his prayers and support for victims, families and all who have been impacted by these terrible crimes:

"The loss of life, pain and fear brought about by these senseless and horrific acts of gun violence in our communities and society, once again, call us to confront and condemn all forms of hate—and violence associated with it.

Together, we must continue to raise our voices and advocate for responsible local and national policies, legislation and culture change. We must ensure that our efforts are driven by the best interest and safety of our citizens and systematically address the root causes of violence in our communities. As shepherd of this archdiocese, I ask Catholics and people of good will to join me in praying for healing during these difficult and painful times in our human family. In faith and solidarity, we know and trust that our prayers and actions on behalf of the common good will yield positive societal transformation."

> - Most Reverend Robert J. Carlson Archbishop of St Louis

Please direct questions to <u>Maria Lemakis</u>, Multimedia Manager or to <u>Peter Frangie</u>, Executive Director of Strategic Communications and Planning.

#CatholicSTL archstl.org