



# NSW Ecumenical Council Inc.

Very Rev'd Anastasios Bozikis  
President

David Rose  
General secretary

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**Member Churches:**

Anglican Church (Dioceses of Grafton, Newcastle, Riverina, Sydney)

Antiochian Orthodox Church

Armenian Apostolic Church

Assyrian Church of the East

Bruderhof Australia

Church of South India

Congregational Federation of NSW

Coptic Orthodox Church

Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahdo Church

German Lutheran Church

Greek Orthodox Church

Indian Orthodox Church

Lutheran Church of Australia (NSW District)

Macedonian Orthodox Church

Mar Thoma Church

Religious Society of Friends

Roman Catholic Church (Dioceses of Bathurst, Parramatta, and Wagga Wagga)

Syrian Orthodox Church

The Salvation Army

Ukrainian Catholic Church

Uniting Church (NSW/ACT Synod)

Associated with the National Council of Churches in Australia

## NSW Ecumenical Council calls for Peace and Calm

The NSW Ecumenical Council, representing 21 different Christian Churches, is calling for peace and calm in the aftermath of the horrific stabbing incidents in Sydney, that have left the city anxious and on edge.

Over the weekend, prayers have been offered for those who were killed at Bondi Junction and for those recovering in hospital. Church goers are praying for those who are mourning the loss of loved ones that they may be consoled.

We thank God for the courage of the police, first responders and those who assisted at the scene. We also encourage governments state and federal to continue to enhance our mental health systems so that those with significant mental health problems can receive assistance.

Now, we remember Bishop Mar Mari Emmanuel, and the priest and parishioners who were injured. We pray for their recovery.

We are deeply saddened by the violence inflicted on the police officers who were doing their duty in upholding peace. Violence has no place in our communities, in churches or anywhere else. We pray for the calm that Bishop Emmanuel has asked for in his community.

People are distressed by these traumatic events. Our churches and all places of worship are sanctuaries where people need to feel safe, places to pray and to find peace.

The Council urges priests and pastors to highlight Jesus' message of peace and non-violence in their sermons, to call for respect and the building up of harmony and friendship among different faith communities.

Contact: David Rose, General Secretary, Tel 041 2899826