



MECCA CENTER NEWSLETTER

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Interfaith Solidarity Prayer brings communities together

The Mecca Center held an Interfaith Solidarity Prayer on Tuesday, March 19 for our Brothers and Sisters in Christchurch, New Zealand who were victims of terrorist attacks at two masjid (mosques).

The service began with community members offering Maghrib (sunset) prayers. Sheikh Hassan Aly, Imam and Religious Director for the Mecca Center, welcomed and thanked guests for attending the service and began by reciting verses from the Quran (Chapter 2, 153-157), which urges believers to practice patience during great times of calamity.

In memory and prayer, individuals representing many faith and civic organizations followed by reading the names of the victims in Christchurch. The speakers included Mecca Center community members Rana Awwad, Omar Sibai, and Dea Ajdini, Dr. Christi Billups – Professor at Lewis University, Pastor Rhonda Kral from Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Downers Grove, Priest Father Toni Josevski from the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Pastor Bromleigh McCleneghan of the Union Church of Hinsdale, Rabbi Ricky Kamil from Congregation Etz Chaim in Lombard, Carol Cartwright from the Hinsdale United Methodist Church, Dr. Scott Alexander from the Catholic Theological Union, Dr. Asra Ali from the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA), Dr. Lanny Wilson of the Redeemer Lutheran Church, Savannah Rucker – a senior student of Psychology at Lewis University. Dr. Zaher Sahloul – former Chair of the Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago (CIOGC), and Susan Krawczyk from HCS Family Services.

The service concluded with Sheikh Hassan Aly sharing the Muslim community's gratitude and appreciation to our neighbors, partners, and supporters for standing in solidarity with the Muslim community during this difficult time. He went on to share that acts of solidarity such as these are the best way to counter hatred and promote the common good, as "no one can tear apart the fabric of our great nation."

Photo: InFocus Multimedia



THE MECCA CENTER

PRAYER SCHEDULE

April 2019 Prayer Times | Rajab 1440 - Shaban 1440

April	Rajab	Day	Fajr	Sunrise	Dhuhr	Asr	Maghrib	Isha
01	25	Mon	05:16 AM	06:34 AM	12:56 PM	05:26 PM	07:18 PM	08:36 PM
02	26	Tue	05:14 AM	06:33 AM	12:56 PM	05:26 PM	07:19 PM	08:38 PM
03	27	Wed	05:12 AM	06:31 AM	12:56 PM	05:27 PM	07:20 PM	08:39 PM
04	28	Thu	05:10 AM	06:29 AM	12:55 PM	05:28 PM	07:21 PM	08:40 PM
05	29	Fri	05:08 AM	06:28 AM	12:55 PM	05:29 PM	07:22 PM	08:41 PM
April	Shaban	Day						
06	1	Sat	05:07 AM	06:26 AM	12:55 PM	05:29 PM	07:23 PM	08:43 PM
07	2	Sun	05:05 AM	06:24 AM	12:54 PM	05:30 PM	07:24 PM	08:44 PM
08	3	Mon	05:03 AM	06:23 AM	12:54 PM	05:31 PM	07:25 PM	08:45 PM
09	4	Tue	05:01 AM	06:21 AM	12:54 PM	05:32 PM	07:26 PM	08:47 PM
10	5	Wed	04:59 AM	06:20 AM	12:54 PM	05:32 PM	07:27 PM	08:48 PM
11	6	Thu	04:57 AM	06:18 AM	12:53 PM	05:33 PM	07:29 PM	08:49 PM
12	7	Fri	04:55 AM	06:16 AM	12:53 PM	05:34 PM	07:30 PM	08:51 PM
13	8	Sat	04:53 AM	06:15 AM	12:53 PM	05:34 PM	07:31 PM	08:52 PM
14	9	Sun	04:52 AM	06:13 AM	12:53 PM	05:35 PM	07:32 PM	08:54 PM
15	10	Mon	04:50 AM	06:12 AM	12:52 PM	05:36 PM	07:33 PM	08:55 PM
16	11	Tue	04:48 AM	06:10 AM	12:52 PM	05:36 PM	07:34 PM	08:56 PM
17	12	Wed	04:46 AM	06:08 AM	12:52 PM	05:37 PM	07:35 PM	08:58 PM
18	13	Thu	04:44 AM	06:07 AM	12:52 PM	05:38 PM	07:36 PM	08:59 PM
19	14	Fri	04:42 AM	06:05 AM	12:51 PM	05:38 PM	07:37 PM	09:01 PM
20	15	Sat	04:40 AM	06:04 AM	12:51 PM	05:39 PM	07:38 PM	09:02 PM
21	16	Sun	04:39 AM	06:02 AM	12:51 PM	05:40 PM	07:39 PM	09:03 PM
22	17	Mon	04:37 AM	06:01 AM	12:51 PM	05:40 PM	07:41 PM	09:05 PM
23	18	Tue	04:35 AM	05:59 AM	12:51 PM	05:41 PM	07:42 PM	09:06 PM
24	19	Wed	04:33 AM	05:58 AM	12:50 PM	05:42 PM	07:43 PM	09:08 PM
25	20	Thu	04:31 AM	05:56 AM	12:50 PM	05:42 PM	07:44 PM	09:09 PM
26	21	Fri	04:30 AM	05:55 AM	12:50 PM	05:43 PM	07:45 PM	09:11 PM
27	22	Sat	04:28 AM	05:54 AM	12:50 PM	05:44 PM	07:46 PM	09:12 PM
28	23	Sun	04:26 AM	05:52 AM	12:50 PM	05:44 PM	07:47 PM	09:13 PM
29	24	Mon	04:24 AM	05:51 AM	12:50 PM	05:45 PM	07:48 PM	09:15 PM
30	25	Tue	04:23 AM	05:49 AM	12:49 PM	05:45 PM	07:49 PM	09:16 PM

Iqama Times

Fajr

30 minutes after Adhan

Dhuhr

1:15 PM

Asr

April 1-7: 5:30 PM
April 8-30: 5:45 PM

Maghrib

2 Rak'as after Adhan

Isha

5 minutes after Adhan

Jumma

Friday prayer
always at 1:00 PM

Important Announcement: Strengthening our faith in times of tragedy

Asalamu Alaikum, Dear Community Members,

The Mecca Center condemns the horrific massacre in which 50 people were killed at two masjid (mosques) in the New Zealand city of Christchurch.

Islam teaches us that houses of worship should be safe havens and sanctuaries. We hold the victims, their families, and entire New Zealand Muslim community in our thoughts and prayers. We stand in solidarity with all people who seek to practice their faith in peace. May God protect us against all evil.

The Mecca Center is taking additional measures to ensure the safety and security of our community. We are increasing security guards as well as locking doors during congregational prayers and school sessions for our children. We have also reached out to local police who will be increasing their patrol of the area. We ask community members to remain vigilant and report any suspicious behavior or items to local police.

As Muslims, we are taught to respond to tragedies by increasing our faith in our Almighty Creator, Allah (swt). No hatred or fear mongering will deter us from practicing our faith in peace.

Photo: AP Photo/Mark Baker



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