

Prayer Response to a Critical Incident or Traumatic Event

(A large white or black cloth is laid out in the centre of the gathering space with stones laid out in a geometrical pattern. A large white candle is lit and placed in the centre)

We Gather

(A gong, drum or bell is rung three times to call people to prayer)

Today we gather to express our heartfelt sorrow and condolences to Our prayers and thoughts are with them and their families in this terrible tragedy. May they find protection and comfort within their family and friends and in God and may they recover and heal quickly with the least amount of discomfort and pain.

Loving God, Father and Mother of us all – be with them now.

We Listen (Matthew 11:28-30)

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks Be to God

We Respond

Students/Teachers/Parents are invited to come and take a stone and hold in reverently in their hands for a minute of silence.

Reader:

We remember those whose lives have been taken or changed in

God of mercy hold each of them gently in the palm of your hands.

In your mercy restore your creation and heal our land. Protect those who fight fires and those who care for them. Guide and bless all your people as we stand in solidarity during this time.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Students/Teachers/Parents are invited to return their stone to the prayer space.

We Go

The Gong, drum or bell is ring continuously at a slow beat as people silently leave the gathering space.