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**STATEMENT OF ARCHBISHOP CHARLES J. CHAPUT, O.F.M. CAP.  
REGARDING SHOOTINGS IN ORLANDO**

The recent violent acts committed in Orlando are horrific and they fill all of us with an unspeakable sadness. Innocent and precious lives were lost in a senseless and evil way. The family and friends of those who perished now shoulder a heavy burden of grief and suffering.

As Christians, our duty is to pray for those whose lives were ended by the inexcusable cruelty of others and to ask God to pour his comforting grace upon all those who are in mourning.

*+Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.  
Archbishop of Philadelphia*

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