



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford

The Rt Revd Peter Hill, Area Bishop of Barking
Barking Lodge, Verulam Avenue, Walthamstow, London E17 8ES
t: 020 8509 7377 b.barking@chelmsford.anglican.org

To all clergy in the Barking Episcopal Area.

A letter to be read in all parishes churches on Trinity Sunday 11 June 2017 in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks at London Bridge.

After Saturday evening's horrific and senseless terrorist attack at London Bridge we continue to pray for those whose lives been devastated by injury and grief and we thank God for the bravery and skill of our police and medical services in the most demanding of circumstances.

I am very aware that after further security services raids and arrests in our area of East London this past week the times remain very unsettling and fearful for many in our churches and communities. Please pray for the communities we serve, especially in Barking, East Ham and Ilford, where such raids have taken place, and reach out to other faith and community leaders to stand strong and together against these evil acts and any subsequent hate crimes or threats. I shall be doing so myself.

This is not a time to withdraw in fear or anxiety but to engage with the love and hope, reaching out to all whom we are called to serve together across East London and Essex. We of course need to do so with care and vigilance, helping overcome fear and suspicion.

Today is Trinity Sunday, which reminds us that our God lives and acts in loving community and unity. We need to do the same, praying for grace to do so.

With my continuing prayers and good wishes,

+ Peter Barking

Rt Revd Peter Hill
Bishop of Barking



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

www.chelmsford.anglican.org