



Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations

(Website: ccjr.us)

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin Center for Theology & Ministry
Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, Illinois

Edward B. Brueggeman Center for Dialogue
Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio

Catholic-Jewish Dialogue Committee
Stonehill College, Easton, Massachusetts

Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies
Saint Leo University, St. Leo, Florida

Center for Christian-Jewish Learning
Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

Centre for Catholic-Jewish-Muslim Learning
Kings University College, London, Ontario, Canada

Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education
Saint Elizabeth University, Morristown, New Jersey

Christian Jewish Relation and Encounter
Sisters of Zion, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Driscoll Professorship in Jewish-Catholic Studies
Iona College, New Rochelle, New York

Gratz College - Jewish Christian Studies Program
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Hayyim Kieval Institute for Jewish-Christian Studies
Siena College, Loudonville, New York

Holocaust, Genocide, and Interfaith Education Center
Manhattan College, New York City, New York

Institute for Islamic • Christian • Jewish Studies
Baltimore, Maryland

Institute for Jewish-Catholic Relations
Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Institute of Judaeo-Christian Studies
Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey

Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning
Saint John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota

Jay Phillips Center for Interreligious Studies
University of St. Thomas - St. Paul, Minnesota

Jewish-Catholic Theological Exchange
Providence College, Providence, RI

Judaic and Catholic Studies Centers
Fairfield University, Fairfield, Connecticut

Kraft-Hiatt Program for Jewish-Christian Understanding
College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts

Kripke Center for the Study of Religion & Society
Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska

Lux Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies
Sacred Heart Seminary & School of Theology in Franklin, Wisconsin

Miller Center for Interreligious Learning and Leadership
Hebrew College, Newton Centre, Massachusetts

Milstein Center for Interreligious Dialogue
Jewish Theological Seminary, New York City, New York

Mobile Christian-Jewish Dialogue
Spring Hill College, Mobile, Alabama

National Catholic Center for Holocaust Education
Seton Hill University, Greensburg, Pennsylvania

Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding
New York City, New York

A Call for Solidarity with Our Jewish Colleagues and Neighbors

A Jewish man beaten by a mob of protesters in Times Square. A man yelling antisemitic slurs at a rabbi outside a synagogue telling the rabbi, “Jews should die”—and then leaving a bag of human feces in front of the building. A synagogue preschool getting a voicemail from a caller threatening to be “the next synagogue shooter.”

These are only three of the incidents that occurred in the United States in a single month: May 2021. In 2020, the number of antisemitic incidents in our country was the highest since the Anti-Defamation League began keeping records forty years ago. Unfortunately, there is no sign this year that the numbers will decrease.

It should not need saying: there is never any political or social justification for targeting individuals and communities because of who they are. Attacks on Jewish individuals, schools, synagogues, and other community centers—like attacks on anyone in our country—make us all vulnerable. They are alarming signs of deeper polarization, hatred, and violence. They erode the foundations of trust and basic decency, undermining our ability as a society to address the many challenges that confront us.

The Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations (an association of centers and institutes in North America devoted to enhancing mutual understanding between Jews and Christians) stands together with our Jewish colleagues and neighbors at a time when Jewish Americans are feeling especially vulnerable. We call on all people of goodwill—as individual citizens and as communities, whatever our faith tradition—to do the same. Antisemitism can never be tolerated. We must speak out and work against it and all forms of hatred and violence whenever we encounter them.

Approved on May 28, 2021