



DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA

Communications Department

Letter to the Editor, Venice Gondolier

June 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Recent reports of anti-Semitic incidents within the northern part of the Diocese of Venice are disheartening, and disturbing. This is especially concerning since there was a similar incident in the area only a few months ago.

I ask all to join me in condemning these hateful acts. Pope Francis spoke recently about this “escalation of evil” in the world, but, he said, there is an antidote. “The antidote to this escalation of evil is remembrance of the past . . . of its wars . . . of countless other atrocities.” Let us remember.

The Diocese of Venice has tremendous empathy for the history of the Jewish people and has always valued and indeed cherished its longstanding relationship with the Jewish Community. An emphasis has been placed on deepening our shared roots, the teaching of tolerance in our schools and parishes, and fostering interreligious friendships. Anti-Semitism is simply unacceptable. It must not be tolerated. Let us work together to prevent hate in all its forms, in our words, in our deeds, and in our prayers.
Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Frank J. Dewane
Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida

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