



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON

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**PRESS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Statement from Bishop Robert E. Guglielmone Regarding the  
Deadly Shooting at Emanuel AME Church**

“I am deeply saddened by the mass murder that occurred at Emanuel AME Church. The inside of any church is a sanctuary. When a person enters, he or she has the right to worship, pray and learn in a safe and secure environment. For anyone to murder nine individuals is upsetting, but to kill them inside of a church during a Bible study class is devastating to any faith community.

“On behalf of the Catholic faithful in South Carolina, I offer my deepest sympathies to the families of the victims and to the members of Emanuel AME Church. I pray that everyone affected by this horror will feel the comforting presence of our Lord surrounding them during this difficult time.”

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