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10<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Rabbi [REDACTED]

I hope this email finds you in good health. As a fellow member of our local community, I am reaching out to express my deepest support and solidarity in light of the recent invasion of Israel by Hamas terrorists.

We are acutely aware that these acts of violence not only endanger the lives of innocent individuals but also undermine the peace and stability we strive to uphold within our own local community. I am deeply disturbed by the pro-Hamas supporters "rejoicing" in our city centre. Consequently, I have lodged a formal complaint with the Police out of concern for your safety and the enforcement of the law, as well as to demonstrate our appreciation for you as integral and valued members of our community. In times like these, it is of utmost importance that we unite as a community and exhibit unwavering support for Israel and its people.

Last night, I had the honour of attending the Vigil at Hove Town Hall, where I had the chance to hear your insightful remarks and observe the deep emotions surrounding recent events. Afterward, I engaged in discussions with fellow participants, offering condolences and expressing shared concerns for our loved ones and friends who have been directly affected by these events. I have friends, and family of friends in Israel, and currently pilgrims there too for whose safety we are deeply concerned. There are "no words" to describe the shocking atrocities and images we have seen of the indignities and inhumanity inflicted upon so many innocent people.

As you know, the significance of Israel extends beyond its physical boundaries. It stands as a symbol of hope, resilience, and our unwavering commitment to shared values. In a world often marred by darkness, it serves as a beacon of light, demonstrating the power of faith, unity, and the pursuit of peace. The diverse mosaic of cultures, traditions, and beliefs that coexist within Israel's borders serves as a living testament to the potential for harmony and understanding among humanity. As one commentator observed, touching upon the constant threat Israel faces, "We are all living in Israel, if we did but know it" for Israel stands for what could be in a more compassionate world.



Israel, with its rich historical tapestry, serves as a testament to the enduring legacy of our faiths. From the ancient city of Jerusalem, with its holy sites and revered landmarks, to the tranquil shores of the Sea of Galilee, every corner of it exudes a sense of divine presence. Despite our conflicted past, our faiths revere this Holy Land together, for it holds immense significance for us both, and we must defend it. Together.

I want to reassure you that I am here to provide any help or support you may need during these difficult times. Whether it's raising awareness or organizing events, I am committed to standing by your side and offering my assistance in any way possible.

With warmest regards and most faithfully,

The Most Reverend Dr J Lloyd  
Titular Archbishop of Selsey