



THE DIETRICH BONHOEFFER INSTITUTE

BREAKING NEWS ADVISORY

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Parkland High School Shooting Victims to be Remembered at U.S. Capitol
Evangelical Faith Leaders to Urge Passage of Universal Background Check Law H.R.8.

Washington, D.C., February 13, 2019: Long-time evangelical church leader and president of The Dietrich Bonhoeffer Institute, the Reverend Dr. Rob Schenck, and national pro-life activist and director of the Christian Defense Coalition, Rev. Patrick J. Mahoney, will lead a service of sacred remembrance for the victims and survivors of last year's Valentine's Day mass shooting at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

**Service of Sacred Remembrance for the Victims of the Valentine's Day
Mass Shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Parkland, FL**

Thursday, February 14, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

**Lower Western Terrace of U.S. Capitol Building, Washington, DC
(facing the Mall and Washington Monument)**

Clergy members will remember those killed by displaying each name on a poster-board; observe a moment of silence for each, and lay 17 roses on the steps of the U.S. Capitol, asking lawmakers to pass H.R.8., Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2019.

Quotes:

The Reverend Dr. Rob Schenck of the Dietrich Bonhoeffer Institute:

"It is sad but profound that the Parkland tragedy is marked on each Valentine's Day until time immemorial. One of the greatest acts of love is to remember those who are precious to us. Love is expressed in an even greater way by those who laid down their lives for others on that day and either died or were grievously injured as a result. And then there is the loving act of doing something to prevent this from happening again—passing reasonable gun laws like universal background checks and red flag laws. St. Valentine's own martyrdom for others reminds us that love is both a feeling and an action. Let us remember Parkland on this Valentine's Day."

The Reverend Patrick J. Mahoney of the Christian Defense Coalition:

"On the year memorial of the tragic school shooting in Parkland, Florida our hearts break for the families and friends who lost loved ones on that dreadful day. We also stand shoulder to shoulder in support and prayer with those students who survived that still deal, on a daily basis, with loss, grief and fear. Sadly, our hearts continued to break as the loss of lives spread to places like the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and the Borderline Bar in Thousand Oaks, California this past year. As we remember the students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School today, let us as a people now determine in our hearts to be a loud and prophetic voice for ending gun violence. We must continue to march, educate, lobby our political leaders, speak out, pray and organize until the horror of gun violence ends up on the scrapheap of American history like slavery and segregation."