The Chestnut Hill College community is deeply saddened and horrified by today's tragic shooting at Annunciation Catholic School in Minneapolis, which claimed the lives of two young children and injured many others. Our hearts go out to the families who have lost loved ones, to those who are recovering from injuries, and to the entire Annunciation school community during this unimaginable time of grief.

We condemn this act of violence in the strongest possible terms. No child should ever fear for their safety while at school or attending religious services. No family should have to endure the pain of losing a child to such senseless violence.

As a Catholic institution of higher learning, we stand in solidarity with our fellow Catholic school community in Minneapolis. The senseless violence that occurred during a worship service is particularly heartbreaking, as schools and places of worship should be sanctuaries of safety, learning, and spiritual growth.

Our campus community joins together in prayer for the victims, their families, the survivors, and all those affected by this tragedy. We also pray for the first responders and medical personnel who responded with courage and compassion.

In the coming days, we encourage our campus community to support one another and to reach out to Campus Ministry and Counseling Services if anyone needs support processing this tragic news.

We will keep the Annunciation Catholic School community in our thoughts and prayers as they begin the long journey of healing.

Brian McCloskey, D.M., MBA President

Chestnut Hill College

