



# Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations

(Website: [ccjr.us](http://ccjr.us))

**Cardinal Joseph Bernardin Center for Theology & Ministry**  
Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, Illinois

**Edward B. Brueggeman Center for Dialogue**  
Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio

**Catholic-Jewish Dialogue Committee**  
Stonehill College, Easton, Massachusetts

**Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies**  
Saint Leo University, St. Leo, Florida

**Center for Christian-Jewish Learning**  
Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

**Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian-Muslim Relations**  
Merrimack College, North Andover, Massachusetts

**Center for the Study of Values & Violence after Auschwitz**  
Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida

**Centre for Catholic-Jewish-Muslim Learning**  
Kings University College, London, Ontario, Canada

**Christian Jewish Relation and Encounter**  
Sisters of Zion, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

**Driscoll Professorship in Jewish-Catholic Studies**  
Iona College, New Rochelle, New York

**Gratz College - Jewish Christian Studies Program**  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Hayyim Kieval Institute for Jewish-Christian Studies**  
Siena College, Loudonville, New York

**Institute for Islamic • Christian • Jewish Studies**  
Baltimore, Maryland

**Institute for Jewish-Catholic Relations**  
Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding**  
Muhlenberg College, Allentown, Pennsylvania

**Institute of Judeo-Christian Studies**  
Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey

**Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning**  
Saint John's University – Collegeville, Minnesota

**Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning**  
University of St. Thomas - St. Paul, Minnesota

**Jewish-Catholic Theological Exchange**  
Providence College, Providence, RI

**Judaic and Catholic Studies Centers**  
Fairfield University, Fairfield, Connecticut

**Kraft-Hiatt Program for Jewish-Christian Understanding**  
College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts

**Kripke Center for the Study of Religion & Society**  
Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska

**Lux Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies**  
Sacred Heart Seminary & School of Theology in Franklin,  
Wisconsin

**Manhattan College Holocaust Resource Center**  
Manhattan College, New York City, New York

**Miller Center for Interreligious Learning and Leadership**  
Hebrew College, Newton Centre, Massachusetts

**Milstein Center for Interreligious Dialogue**  
Jewish Theological Seminary, New York City, New York

**Mobile Christian-Jewish Dialogue**  
Spring Hill College, Mobile, Alabama

**National Catholic Center for Holocaust Education**  
Seton Hill University, Greensburg, Pennsylvania

## A MESSAGE OF FAITH AND HOPE

Once again in our country we are in a moment of turmoil, violence and division. We feel overwhelming pain at the murder of George Floyd and so many African-Americans before him. We are deeply aware of the long history of white supremacy and violence against communities of color.

We write this as an association of Christians and Jews at centers and institutes in the United States and Canada who are dedicated to teaching and promoting mutual understanding between our communities. This work emerged out of the ashes of the Holocaust and in response to the long history of antisemitic violence that was all too often perpetrated and justified by Christians. We stand on the shoulders of individuals of faith and conscience, like Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, whose commitment to social justice and reconciliation encompassed all communities. Heschel understood such engagement as Tikkun Olam—the repair of the world.

Jews and Christians are equally dedicated to social justice, to making our world one of compassion and kindness for all people. We must continually nurture these values if we are to heal the communities where we live and work. Before such healing can begin however we must acknowledge the legitimate anger of those who have been the targets for centuries of violence and injustice, and work however we can to address the sources of hatred and violence. In this sober moment we commit to doing this necessary work within our respective institutions, with our students and our communities.

*Approved on June 4, 2020*