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Tishri 5770

My dear friends in the Jewish community,

Allow me this moment to offer my sincere wishes for a happy New Year, "L' shana tova!", and to again share how deeply grateful I am for the warm relationship between the local Jewish community and the Archdiocese of Boston.

It was a great blessing that earlier this year, in the midst of the controversy and pain caused by Archbishop Williamson's Holocaust denial, we were able to come together for a deeply moving re-dedication of the Yom HaShoah menorah, a gift of Lenny and Charlotte Florence to the Archdiocese of Boston. The presence of so many members of our communities, with our honored guest, Cardinal Walter Kasper, was a sign of our resolve to continue to build bridges of understanding. In addition, I am personally grateful to have had the special honor of being present with many of you at the Holocaust Remembrance Day, held at Faneuil Hall this spring.

During his visit in Jerusalem with President Shimon Peres in May, Pope Benedict said, "To the religious leaders present this afternoon, I wish to say that the particular contribution of religions to the quest for peace lies primarily in the wholehearted, united search for God... (who) acts in our world for our good, and that a society's future is marked with hope when it resonates in harmony with his divine order. . . that draws hearts together and ensures unity." As you begin a new year, please be assured that I hold it a priority of my ministry as Archbishop of Boston to continue to build our relationship, and to work together, along with the members of all faith communities, for a better world.

With the help of God and one another, let us go forward to build a world that upholds the tradition of good works, justice and peace.

With the assurance of my prayers for you and all your loved ones, I remain

Sincerely

Archbishop of Boston