

Gathering in Guelph on Friday to honour Quebec shooting victims

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The Muslim Society of Guelph is inviting members of the community to attend a prayer gathering to honour the men who were killed at a Quebec City mosque on Sunday.

The gathering will be at 3 p.m. at the 286 Water Street building on Friday. In a Facebook event page, organizers say the event will begin promptly at 3:05 p.m.

"This service is an opportunity for people to gather in solidarity and shared grief," the description on Facebook says. "The sermon will be dedicated to promoting peace and harmony in the Guelph community."

On Monday evening, around 700 people came to the Muslim Society of Guelph for a vigil intended to honour the six men who were killed in the Jan. 29 shooting at the Centre Culturel Islamique de Quebec. Watch a video of Monday's gathering here .

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On Thursday, hundreds of people gathered at the Maurice-Richard Arena in Montreal to pay their respects to Abdelkrim Hassane, Khaled Belkacemi and Aboubaker Thabti.

The caskets for the three men were draped in wreaths and the flags of their homelands.

Thabti, 44, was a pharmacist of Tunisian origin who had three children; Belkacemi, a 60-year-old father of two, was from Algeria and was a professor at Universite Laval; and Hassane, 41, was from Algeria. He was a father of three and worked in information technology for the provincial government.

At the Montreal service there was also to be prayers for the three other victims of the shooting — Azzeddine Soufiane, Mamadou Tanou Barry and Ibrahima Barry. Another ceremony is also expected in Quebec City on Friday.

Alexandre Bissonnette, 27, was arrested Sunday night following the massacre in which 19 people were also wounded, including two who were still in critical condition on Tuesday.

On Monday, Bissonnette was charged with six counts of first-degree murder and five of attempted murder using a restricted firearm.

With files from The Canadian Press



At a large vigil on Jan. 30 at the Muslim Society of Guelph, evening prayer was held. This is the same prayer that took place on Sunday at a Quebec City mosque when six people were killed by a shooter.