

Victim Readings and Candle-Lighting Ceremony

It is customary at Holocaust memorial events to light six candles in memory of six million Jews who perished in the Shoah. In Ireland, we also light candles in memory of all of the other victims of Nazi atrocities.

People with disabilities and disabling conditions: In memory of people with disabilities and disabling conditions who were murdered, forcibly sterilised, and starved to death by doctors and other willing helpers.

Reader: David O'Brien, Down Syndrome advocacy group

Candle-lighters: Martin Rowan and Paul Alford, Inclusion Ireland

Ethnic minorities, Poles and other Slavic peoples: In memory of Poles, Slavs and ethnic minorities who were murdered, displaced and forcibly 'Aryanised' by the Nazis.

Reader: Barnaba Dorda, Chair of Forum Polonia

Candle-lighters: Thabi Madide, writer and Amina Moustafa, Sport Against Racism Ireland and 'Hijabs and Hat-Tricks' football coach

Roma/Sinti: In memory of the Roma people of Europe who were rounded up, murdered, displaced and forcibly sterilised by the Nazis. Reader: Bianca Paun, Roma Community

Candle-lighters: Alexandru Petrovici and Damaris Paun, Roma Community

Homosexuals: In memory of the homosexual men and women who were persecuted and murdered during the Holocaust because of their sexual orientation.

Reader: Max Krzyzanowski, Grand Marshal Dublin Pride, 2016

Candle-lighters: Dr Gráinne Healy, Co-Director of Yes Equality Campaign, and Caroline Keane, Chairperson, National LGBT Federation

Political victims: In memory of the political victims of the Holocaust: Communists, socialists, trade unionists, and other opponents of the Nazi regime who were persecuted and murdered by the Nazis.

Reader: Kim Bielenberg, whose grandfather, Peter, was among those involved in the plot to assassinate Hitler in July 1944

Candle-lighters: Frances Moss, Department of Education and Skills, and Sheila Nunan, General Secretary, Irish National Teachers' Organisation

Christian victims: In memory of the Christian victims of all denominations who were persecuted and murdered by the Nazis.

Reader: Very Revd Maria Jansson, Dean and Rector of Christ Church Cathedral Waterford

Candle-lighters: Elaine O'Sullivan, Chairperson, School Chaplains Association, and Fr Liam Lacey, St Fintan's Parish Sutton

Jewish victims:

Six candles are dedicated to the memory of 6 million Jewish people, including 1.5 million children, who were annihilated in the Holocaust. Jews were murdered in concentration camps, labour camps and death camps. Jews perished in the ghettos. Jews died of starvation and disease. Jews were shot in the forests and in their villages. And Jews were murdered in the streets and in their homes.

Those lighting candles in memory of the Jewish victims of the Holocaust are children or grandchildren of Holocaust survivors, second and third generation. All of them lost countless members of their families in the Holocaust.

Candle-lighters:

- Jonathan Phillips, whose father, Geoffrey, escaped Germany on the *Kindertransports* but whose parents, David and Recha Philipp, and other family members, perished in the Holocaust.
- Eleanor O'Higgins, whose maternal grandparents, Avrum Yitzchok and Etke Rivkah Ozdoba, her aunt Soori, uncle, cousins and other family members, perished in the Holocaust.
- Yoram Tokar, whose great uncle and aunt David and Jeanette Gelassen, also Paul and Sara Talma and other family members perished in the Holocaust.
- Nurit Schulman, whose grandparents Abraham and Emma Humberg, uncles, aunts and other family members perished in the Holocaust.
- Joe Katz, whose mother, Frida, survived Auschwitz but whose family members perished in the Holocaust.
- Sharlette Caplin, whose father, Raphael Urbach, survived Buchenwald and Theresienstadt but whose other family members perished in the Holocaust.

We will always remember.