

# *Proclamation*

## **DECLARING APRIL 13-20, 2026 AS NATIONAL DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE**

**WHEREAS**, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945. Jews were the primary victims - six million Jews were murdered; Roma, people with disabilities, and Poles were also targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons. Millions more, including gay men, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, and political dissidents, also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny; and

**WHEREAS**, the history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments; and

**WHEREAS**, we the people of the City of Westlake, FL remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny; and

**WHEREAS**, we the people of the City of Westlake, FL should actively rededicate ourselves to the principles of individual freedom in a just society; and

**WHEREAS**, the Days of Remembrance have been set aside for the people of the City of Westlake, FL to remember the victims of the Holocaust as well as to reflect on the need for respect of all peoples; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to an Act of Congress (Public Law 96-388, October 7, 1980), the United States Holocaust Memorial Council designates the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust to be Monday, April 13, through Monday, April 20, 2026, including the Day of Remembrance known as Yom HaShoah, April 14, 2026.

**NOW, THEREFORE, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF WESTLAKE, I, JOHNPAUL O'CONNOR, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WESTLAKE, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE WEEK OF MONDAY, APRIL 13, THROUGH MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2026, AS:**

### ***DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE***

in memory of the victims of the Holocaust and in honor of the survivors as well as the rescuers and liberators, and further proclaim that we, as citizens of the City of Westlake, FL should work to promote human dignity and confront hate whenever and wherever it occurs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Westlake, Florida to be affixed this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
JohnPaul O'Connor, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Odet Izquierdo, Acting City Clerk

