



American Friends of the
Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem
Building Presence – Building Peace

End of March, 2010 Special Issue

25 Old King's Highway No., Suite 13, Darien, CT 06820



St. George's Lower School, East Jerusalem.

East Jerusalem under a microscope

a Special letter from the President

Greetings!

The urgent news from East Jerusalem about land ownership and buildings brings into clear focus the role of the Episcopal Church in the Middle East. Major institutions of the church are in East Jerusalem.

The Cathedral, Diocesan offices, its guest house, St George's College, St George's K-12 school for boys (girls newly admitted in kindergarten and first grade) and The Princess Basma Center for Disabled Children all have long and respected histories in East Jerusalem. This is an Anglican/Christian presence that we must support.

At St. George's School, 800 Muslim and Christian boys are being educated in a rigorous curriculum so they can graduate and lead productive lives. Just around the corner, other boys are throwing rocks and getting arrested.

Education offers an alternative to this frustration. Diocesan schools includes respect for differences and tolerance as an integral part of the curriculum - so critical in this environment.

I've seen the older boys at St. George's during recess where the playground is the size of a postage stamp. They need playgrounds to work off their energy and practice team

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www.sqcjerusalem.org

Phoebe Griswold, President of the Board of AFEDJ

sports. They don't have that opportunity, yet the waiting list remains long because families understand the importance of the academics and the values taught here.

Nearby the [Princess Basma Center for Disabled Children](#) treats children of all faiths who have been damaged by birth or war. The Center works with the whole family sending a child home with parents who can care for their special physical or mental needs. Some children even come from Gaza, when then can get out. It's a regional referral center and a critical asset to every disabled child in the Diocese.

With all eyes in the world on East Jerusalem, even though we are far from this Holy City, we can support the Christian presence and the work of the Episcopal Diocese through the AFEDJ. We are already there healing, teaching and praying.

By strengthening the institutions which teach and heal, we strengthen families and communities. [We provide hope at a time when there may be a chance.](#)

What is your part? It is to support this work by [sending a donation now](#) and encouraging your congregation to do the same. Let's not see the Christian population fall below the present 1.5% because we did not recognize our responsibility to our very own Christian family.

With love and hope,
Phoebe Griswold, President of the Board
AFEDJ



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ask Anne Lynn at aklynn@afedj.org

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The AFEDJ is a nonprofit, non-political 501c3 which helps sustain the humanitarian institutions of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem -- schools, hospitals and institutes for the disabled. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Diocesan institutions foster mutual respect and tolerance in a land torn by turmoil and poverty. Learn more about the work of the AFEDJ or the Diocese of Jerusalem. Visit www.afedj.org to learn about or contribute to any of the important work done in the region.