



Building Relationships with the Parishes and Institutions of the Diocese of Jerusalem

Personal, Parish, and Faith Enrichment

Have you or your parish been inspired by a speaker or a presentation about the work of the Diocese of Jerusalem in the Holy Land? Do you want to explore ways to address the needs of those struggling to sustain their families while maintaining the Christian presence in the region? Do you want to connect with a parish or an institution in an on-going way? You may want to consider choosing a parish, school, hospital or rehabilitation center to assist with financial support. AFEDJ and the Diocese of Jerusalem are eager to help you enrich your life with a connection to an important ministry in the birth place of Christianity. Contact info@j-diocese.org or www.afedj.org for more information on the region and the institutions.



Regardless of where you begin, all can learn and grow from the following suggestions.

Come to experience

Visit the Holy Land



We encourage you to visit the Diocese. Stay at the Pilgrim Guest House and garden in the Cathedral Close in East Jerusalem. Enjoy Anglican Palestinian hospitality just a 10 minute walk from the Old City. The Diocese maintains other guesthouses in Nazareth and Amman. The Guest House is happy to work with you or your chosen guide to facilitate visits to today's diocesan institutions and parishes in addition to your tour of historic holy sites.

Website: <http://www.j-diocese.org>

Email: Jeries Arbeed at stgeorges.gh@j-diocese.org

Study in Jerusalem

Visit the St. George's College website for options to study the Bible in the context of its own geography. Choose from the specially designed programs offered in English for laity and clergy, additional

education, seminarians, pilgrims, and youth. **Most courses include accommodations and travel throughout the Holy Land.**

Website: <http://www.sgcjerusalem.org/>

Email: registrar@stgeorges.org.il



Visit and get to know today's institutions, parishes and families

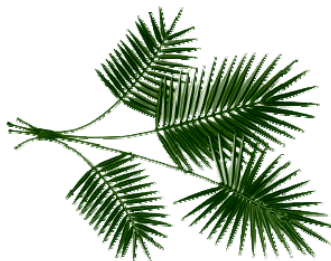
Experience how the Living Stones, the direct descendants of Christians of the first Pentecost, live in the Holy Land today. See how Christians carry the message of Christ forward in the historic land he walked. Contact St. George's Guest House to arrange housing and diocesan tours which can be customized to include holy sites.

Email: Nichola Akel at stgeorges.gh@j-diocese.org

Developing a relationship with the Diocese of Jerusalem

The Diocese of Jerusalem honors its unique role in the Anglican Communion as the host Church in the Land of the Holy One, the region of Christ's ministry and the birthplace of Christianity. We welcome all to visit, to be strengthened in faith, enriched by local faith in action, and to support the local Christians in maintaining the Christian presence in this region.

Given that the strongest bonds of mutual enrichment are created through personal relationships, we encourage all Christians to begin to know the Living Stones, Christians whose families have been here since the first Pentecost, by visiting in person. Meanwhile, we hope you will visit online at www.j-diocese.org to learn about our Faith in Action in this challenging region.



Given the ongoing need for staff time to maintain the ministries of the diocese, casual contacts such as 'pen pals' are not manageable, unless established after a visit by mutual agreement with an English speaking teacher or priest in a church or school.

It's true that "where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." So we ask that our Christian brothers and sisters assist with the financial hardships resulting from years of political conflict in this region. Unlike some areas of the world, skilled professionals are locally available for staff positions. Unfortunately, resources are often lacking. The Diocese manages over thirty institutions of education and healthcare with limited staffing and funding. Your faithful support and financial assistance help sustain those ministries.

Exploring a Supporting Relationship

Fund a Program

Be a coordinator or join a committee, which can be as few as one dedicated person, to match the interests of a parish or other group with a program of the Diocese of Jerusalem. Hold fundraising and information-sharing events. Choose a parish, school, rehabilitation center, or medical program to support in Gaza, the West Bank, Israel, Jordan, Syria, or Lebanon. Contribute to operating costs, a nurse's salary, or the Scholarship Fund for students. We all benefit by supporting the ministries of the Diocese of Jerusalem, joining as the One Body and Anglican Communion family in helping Christians maintain an active presence in the birthplace of Christianity.



Parish programs – Due to emigration of Christians in search of a manageable income and life for their families, many of our parishes struggle to pay basic expenses while trying to provide ecumenical programs for all Christians in their villages. As Christians are a small minority in this region, it is vital that all Christians support each other in faith. You can help by holding an annual fundraiser in your parish to support ecumenical, youth, and women's programs in the Diocese of Jerusalem as a way of thanking local Christians for maintaining the roots of our faith in the Land of the Holy One.

Scholarships – As mentioned above, it is very important to maintain a Christian presence in the land where Jesus was born. Contribute to peace in this region by investing in the next generation of peace makers, regardless of faith, through scholarships to our diocesan schools. Our students are immersed in an atmosphere of mutual respect, cooperation, reconciliation, and peace. Most of our schools have Christian and Muslim teachers and students, bringing people together where teachers live the civil society that children are taught. Every school needs scholarship help. Explore our schools online at www.j-diocese.org under 'Ministries'.



Medical programs - Gather women together to raise funds for women's health care in Gaza and the West Bank. Ask business groups to raise funds for our new cardiac care center. Gather the families to support neonatal care for the most vulnerable. Encourage doctors and nurses to provide updated medical equipment to professionals working under harsh conditions. Target the interests in your parish or community to support a medical staff position or program. With St. Luke's Hospital in the city of Nablus, the Penman Clinic in rural Zebabdeh, and the new clinic opening in the growing town of Ramallah (all in the West Bank) and the Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza, there are many medical programs in need of your support. There are also rehabilitation centers for the hearing and vision impaired and the physically and mentally handicapped in Jerusalem, Jordan, and Lebanon.

To learn more about the parishes and institutions of the Diocese of Jerusalem, please visit the Diocesan website www.j-diocese.org, then email info@j-diocese.org with any questions you may have. The American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem www.afedj.org is ready to help with suggestions for institutions to choose for an ongoing relationship. Please contact Anne Lynn at aklynn@afedj.org or 203-655-3575 for resources, suggestions for communications or fundraising, materials or presentations. We're grateful for your commitment to this important work and are eager to make meaningful connections.