



NEWSLETTER

The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem

July 2012

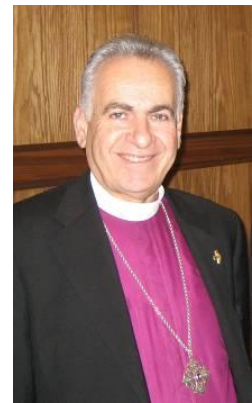
Peace to you in the name of the Lord

Greetings from Bishop Suheil Dawani

Dear Friends,

Summer has arrived in the Land of the Holy One and we are welcoming visitors and pilgrims from around the world. Within the Diocese we are running Summer Camps and enjoying time with family.

I was honored to be presented at the Episcopal General Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, where I spoke to the House of Bishops about our Christian brothers and sisters in the Land of the Holy One, and our continued ministry here. I also met with the Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori and some of our friends from the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. Their ongoing support to us is greatly appreciated.



We have said good-bye to a dear friend, Haleem Bashlawi, our former Chief Accountant, as he has taken up an executive position in Haifa and gone on to pursue new endeavours. We welcome Ramzi Hallac, who is our new Chief Accountant at the Diocese.

I also welcome The Revd Canon John Organ and his wife Irene, to the St. George's Close. Canon John is my Bishop's Chaplain and Residential Canon. I look forward to working with him as together we build up the partnership between the Diocese of Jerusalem and the Anglican Church in Canada.

May your summer continue to be restful and full of blessings.

Salaam,

+ *Suheil Dawani*

Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem

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Editor: The Rt Revd Bishop Suheil S. Dawani

Canon Kereopa visits from New Zealand



The Revd Canon Robert Kereopa, CEO of the Anglican Missions Board of New Zealand, visited Bishop Suheil on June 29th. Canon Robert has been in Jordan visiting our schools and churches. He then attended the 'Palestine of Jesus' course at St. George's College in Jerusalem. Bishop Suheil said it was a pleasure to see Canon Robert again, the last time being when the Bishop was in New Zealand a number of years ago.

Farewell Luncheon for Haleem Bashlawi

Bishop Suheil, and the staff of the Diocesan offices, gathered for a farewell luncheon for Mr. Haleem Bashlawi, Chief Accountant of the Diocese of Jerusalem. Mr. Bashlawi has been with the Diocese for over 5 years and has been crucial in working with the Bishop to enhance transparency and set up correct financial policy and procedures throughout the Diocese.



The staff had a lovely lunch at St. George's Guest House, concluding with a congratulatory cake as Haleem moves on to a new executive position in Haifa.

Harvest of Graduations continue - St. John's Episcopal School, Haifa



Bishop Suheil Dawani and The Very Revd Hosam Naoum attended St. John's Episcopal School, Haifa, as it celebrated its 75th graduation of their 8th graders, on June 29th. The ceremony took place at Kriger Hall located on top of Rass Elias in Haifa. Parents and government officials were in attendance at the ceremony.

Mr. Aziz Douam, the School's principal, welcomed the attendees and the students who processed into the hall accompanied by music. The Revd Canon Hatem Shehadeh gave the blessing and Bishop Suheil congratulated the students and wished them a fruitful future, full of success. The Bishop also thanked the parents and the School administration for their hard work.

Certificates were distributed to the students, and gifts were given to two 8th grade teachers as a sign of gratitude for their effort. The ceremonies concluded with a song from the school choir and video clips of the students during the different stages of their life at St. John's School.

Women's meeting in Zababdeh

A Women's Gathering Day was held at St. Mathew's Church in Zababdeh on Saturday June 30th. Women from Christ Church in Nazareth and from St. Paul's Church in Shefa'mer, over 70 participants, met at St. Mathew's. The Revd Na'el Abu Rahmoun, The Revd Imad Daibes, and The Revd Fuad Dagher participated in the meeting and led the service where participants sang joyful hymns. After the service lunch was served. In the afternoon, visits were made to the Penman Clinic in Zababdeh, the Catholic Church, and then to the Church of the Ten Lepers in Burqeen (the fourth oldest Church in the area).



Rev. Na'el gave each participant a wooden peace pigeon. A donation was given from the Nazareth and Shafa'mer parishes as a sharing in the activities of St. Mathew's Church in Zababdeh. Everybody enjoyed the fruitful day and are looking forward to meeting again soon.

Confirmations in Zababdeh



Bishop Suheil held a confirmation service for 12 children at St. Matthew's Anglican Church, in Zababdeh on Sunday, July 1. Celebrating with Bishop Suheil was the Revd Na'el Abu Rahmoun. The children have been preparing for this day for a period of two months, and also participated in a full day retreat at the Church of the Ten Lepers in Burqeen.

Over two hundred people came to the service, where the children participated by reading the message, saying intercessory prayers, and singing. The service included the anointing of each confirmant with holy oil, and the laying on of hands by the Bishop.

The morning was concluded with celebratory refreshments for all.



Bishop Suheil attends the National Episcopal General Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana



Bishop Suheil with Presiding Bishop Katharine, Bishop Mary Glasspool from the Diocese of Los Angeles, Deborah Dresser and Anne Lynn of the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem.

Bishop Suheil attended the National Episcopal General Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, from July 4-7th. Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori presented Bishop Suheil at the House of Bishops, where Bishop Suheil spoke on the situation in Gaza and the ministry in the Diocese of Jerusalem. Bishop Suheil also gave a presentation at a luncheon meeting on Friday.

Attending the General Convention with Bishop Suheil were The Very Revd Dr. Graham Smith, Dean of St. George's College, and The Revd Canon Bob Edmunds, Middle East Partnership Officer for the Episcopal National Church, and ex-Chaplain to the Bishop.

On Thursday evening, a reception was hosted by Presiding Bishop Katharine and Bishop Jon Bruno, (represented by Bishop Mary Glasspool from the Diocese of Los Angeles), and the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, in honour of the Diocese of Jerusalem.

Anglican Overseas Aid visits Jerusalem

Bishop Suheil met with the CEO of Anglican Overseas Aid (formerly Anglicord), Misha Coleman on Tuesday, July 10th. Ms. Coleman was in Jerusalem to visit with us and discuss the ongoing projects that AOA supports in the Diocese of Jerusalem.

Ms. Coleman also visited AL Ahli Hospital in Gaza where AOA funds the campaign known as 'Women Die Waiting' which supports the early diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer.



Bishop Suheil, Ms. Coleman, the Director of Al Ahli Hospital, Suhaila Tarazi, and the Diocesan Medical Advisor, Dr. Hisham Nassar enjoyed a lunch together in the St. George's Guest House.

For more information on the 'Women Die Waiting' campaign, please go to:

<http://www.anglicord.org.au/index.php?page=middle-east-breast-cancer-in-gaza>

Bishop welcomes Archbishop Antonio Franco



Bishop Suheil welcomed His Excellency, Archbishop Antonio Franco, Nuncio and Apostolic Delegate, to St. George's Cathedral on July 11. His Excellency came to pay a courtesy visit to bid farewell as he leaves Jerusalem. Bishop Suheil wished Archbishop Antonio all the best for the future and gifts were exchanged. Bishop Suheil hopes that His Excellency will one day return to Jerusalem.

Bishop Suheil and the Very Revd Hosam Naoum attended the luncheon held in honour of Archbishop Antonio at the Latin Patriarchate. A previous farewell function had taken place at Notre Dame in Jerusalem, with all the Heads of Churches in attendance.

A Visit from the Chaplain of Columbia University

Bishop Suheil welcomed Jewelnel Davis, University Chaplain for Columbia University, on July 25th.

Ms. Davis has been here visiting various institutions and holy places in the Land of the Holy One. Ms. Davis was accompanied by Noora Akawi, the Urban Development Officer for Columbia University in Jordan. The Revd Canon John Organ, Bishop's Chaplain, and Deborah Neal, Bishop's Secretary, joined Ms. Davis and Ms. Akawi for lunch at St. George's Guest House.



A Visit from Haleem Bashlawi



Bishop Suheil met with Haleem Bashlawi and Ramzi Hallac, the new Chief Accountant for the Diocese of Jerusalem in the Diocesan Offices on Friday, July 27. Joining them in their meeting was the Diocesan Property Manager, Amin Abu Hanna.

Installation of The Revd Canon John Organ, Bishop Suheil's New Chaplain



Sunday, July 29th, was a day of celebration as Bishop Suheil gave the mandate to The Very Revd Hosam Naoum, Dean of St. George's Cathedral, to formally install the Revd Major John Organ as Residential Canon of St. George's Cathedral and Bishop's Chaplain. Canon Organ and his wife, Irene, are here from Ottawa, Canada and the Canadian Anglican Church.

Canon Organ has recently left his post as a Chaplain with the Canadian Forces. Irene Organ is looking forward to volunteering in St. George's School and working with the teachers and students there.



Bishop Suheil is looking forward to having Fr. John and Irene among us and working together. May God richly bless their ministry in Jerusalem.

More stories and information are available at: www.j-diocese.org Email enquiries to: info@j-diocese.org

Donations may be sent to: The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, PO Box 19122, Jerusalem, 91191



The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, a diocese of the worldwide Anglican Communion, extends over five countries, including Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Palestine and Israel, within the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. There are 27 parishes that minister to the needs of their communities, centered on the Cathedral Church of St. George the Martyr in Jerusalem. The church supports 33 institutions, which include hospitals, clinics, kindergartens and schools, vocational training programs, as well as institutions for the deaf, the disabled and the elderly, reaching out to interfaith neighbors in mutual respect and cooperation.