



THE LATIN PATRIARCHATE
OF JERUSALEM

PROJECT ROPOSAL

PASTORAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS

DIOCESE



GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
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Through the pastoral activities' programs across the Diocese of the Holy Land in Palestine, Israel, and Jordan, the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem ensures that the Catholic Church can reach all parishioners and Christian people especially the marginalized and vulnerable ones and provide them with pastoral and spiritual care. The LPJ tries to create a healthy and supportive environment for the Christian community to engage in the Church through summer camps, youth activities, young families' meetings, scouts and many others. It provides the Christian people and the young generations with the opportunity to enjoy the different activities and learn from it which will promote the moral consistency and ethical integrity of their Christian values.

YOUTH CHAPLAINCY ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

The Youth Chaplaincy serves about 8000 Christian children and youth ages range between 7-35 years old belonging to different parishes, schools and churches (Latin, Greek Catholic) in Palestine, Israel and Jordan and divided into 58 active Christian youth groups. The basis of this Chaplaincy is missionary and adopted John 10:10 "I have come so that they may have life, and have it more abundantly" as its verse from the bible; believing that Jesus is life and invites us to live life to its fullest supported by our Christian faith and values.



Don Bosco Feast - JEC in Jordan 2021

The Youth Ministry is an umbrella that unites all Christian children, and youth groups' in the parishes in Palestine, Israel and Jordan. It is where Christian faith and values of the youth and children will be nourished and thus become transformative in their lives and their community. It is a bridge to encourage the youth's active involvement within community-based services, social, political, economic sectors in their societies.

SUMMER CAMP ACTIVITIES

The Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem has 55 parishes in Israel, Palestine, Jordan and Cyprus. The majority of the parishes conduct summer camps every year. The parishes at the LPJ have long strived to offer fun and safe summer programs for the children and youth living in the local areas. Around

6,000+ children and youth from the different parish areas participate in the yearly summer camps that are led by pastors and Church leaders. The one-month summer camp programs provide the children and youth with the opportunity to experience and discover new or emerging interests and to focus on special skills and interests that may be set aside or even neglected during the academic year. The summer programs allow them to get engaged in various intra-curricular activities like drama, arts, religion, music, voluntary work, community and social services.



SCOUTS ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

Catholic scouts in Palestine, Israel and Jordan go as early as the start of the 20th century. Evolving around the church, the scout groups are an organic outgrowth of its pastoral and social work. Scouting is a civic movement that is built on Christian values of mutual respect and affiliation with others but is also a very strong springboard for the formation of social leadership. Scout activities contribute to the making of the local society and especially the mobilization and involvement of children and youth. The Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem supports the scouts' activities financially every year since it is aware of its importance and is familiar that the scout groups need of equipment, tools and opportunities, a manner that entails adequate infrastructure and programs that are designed to enhance Christian values, morals and youth leadership.



Terra Sancta Scout in Christmas, Bethlehem 2020

PARISHES SUNDAY SCHOOLS ACTIVITIES



Confirmation, Palestine 2020

Sunday School educational programs provide the children and youth with the opportunity to experience and discover new or emerging interests and to focus on special skills and Christian religious interests that may be set aside or even neglected during the academic year in the schools. The Sunday programs allow them to get engaged in various extra and intra curricular activities like drama, arts, religion, music, voluntary work, bible and Christian education, social services, and religious site visits and trips.

Sunday Schools have proved to be one of the best ways for the parishes to continue their pastoral mission, as well as the catechism programs, offering both youth and children a haven where they can have a chance to grow within the parish campus and become productive members of their communities.



ANNUAL LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS ACTIVITIES

During the season of Advent and Lent in preparation for Christmas and Easter celebrations, all the parishes of the Latin Patriarchate (Palestine, Israel and Jordan) participate in the different activities, celebrations, retreats and meetings that are conducted in their parishes. Every year, the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem supports the parishes financially to help make these celebrations possible. Those activities are directed mainly to create a spiritual ambience for the Holidays and to support the unfortunate families who require financial support and pastoral care.



Christmas in Bethlehem 2020

Furthermore, one of the major annual liturgical celebrations of the Latin Patriarchate is the celebration of "Our Lady of Palestine" in the sanctuary at Der Rafat, where the Catholic population of the Holy Land solemnly honors the Queen of Palestine on the last Sunday of October of every year.



During the Procession of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Haifa, Galilee 2020

For the patronal feast of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, Christians of the entire region assemble every year at the sanctuary, coming from the Upper Galilee, from Jaffa and Jericho, Jerusalem and Bethlehem, and pilgrims from all over the world. The solemn feast includes a mass celebrated by the Apostolic Administrator of the Latin Patriarchate and is concluded with a beautiful, long procession around the sanctuary that bore witness to a true religious and popular holiday.

RETREAT GROUPS

Every year, traditionally, the priests, deacons, young priests and clergy persons from Palestine, Jordan and Israel meet twice to thrice a year for spiritual retreats in different places every time. Retreats are the time to recharge, rediscover oneself, reunite with others, spend time in personal and collective prayers and celebrate Masses. Many times, the retreats include religious site visits to the Holy places across the diocese like Jerusalem, Nazareth, Kufr Nahum, Naour and more. The retreats are an opportunity to meditate on the clergy's personal lives, their professional lives as clergy, and their relationships with God as they impact one another and a way for refreshment to continue their mission and spiritual and social support to the parishioners and the families across the Diocese.



Latin Patriarchal Seminarians participate in spiritual retreat in Artas - Oct. 2020

PRISON MINISTRY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

The LPJ through its annual program support the Christian prisoners by visiting them and giving them to support them spiritually and financially, and to help them administratively. They are provided clothes, bibles, gifts on Christmas and Easter, mobile pre-paid cards to contact their families, and even pocket money. In some cases, inmates are provided with tickets to be able to fly back home. Moreover, the families of some prisoners were contacted and supported spiritually and financially.

MIGRANTS SUPPORT



St. James Vicariate for Hebrew Speaking - celebrating confirmation 2020

Over the years the Christian migrants living and working across the Diocese of the Holy Land in Israel and Jordan were disproportionately represented. Most of them were living individually in houses and factories practicing their Christian faith alone or in small groups. Later on, with the help of the Latin Vicariate of Jordan in Amman and the Hebrew Speaking Vicariate in Israel, they were able to create small community groups where they gather during annual festivals and Christian holidays like Easter, Christmas, New Year, Month of Mary-May Devotions, National events and some other occasions. By meeting together, they experience unity, love and kinship.

The main objectives of the migrant chaplaincies are to create opportunities and spaces where the migrants can share their talents, goodness, faiths and culture in a vibrant atmosphere; to act as the reference place for social, pastoral and cultural needs and provide the requested services like celebrating Holy Masses and Christian holidays together; to provide the community of migrants with priests that speak their language and know their culture and distribute prayer and liturgy books written in their language; to serve as a link between the Church and the migrants and to ensure that they are able to participate in the different activities and festivals; and provide pastoral care to migrants in prisons and hospitals and offer them social and Christian support.



Pastoral Work for the Migrants in Jordan

THE LITURGICAL OFFICE OF THE LATIN PATRIARCHATE

The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy of the Second Vatican Council exhorts the Conferences of Bishops at the beginning of this year 2020 to form Liturgical Commissions in order to promote a pastoral liturgical action in the Church. The sacred Council has decreed that:

44. It is desirable that the competent territorial ecclesiastical authority mentioned in Art. 22, 2, set up a liturgical commission, to be assisted by experts in liturgical science, sacred music, art, and pastoral practice. So far as possible the commission should be aided by some kind of Institute for Pastoral Liturgy, consisting of persons who are eminent in these matters, and including laymen as circumstances suggest. Under the direction of the above mentioned territorial ecclesiastical authority, the commission is to regulate pastoral liturgical action throughout the territory and to promote studies and necessary experiments whenever there is a question of adaptations to be proposed to the Apostolic See.

The Liturgical Office of the Latin Patriarchate has three main complementary scope of responsibilities described as: Educational Services, Publishing Services, and Consulting Services. The Liturgical commission was nominated by the Apostolic Administrator of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem in January 2020 to include 15 members of bishops, priests, deacons and laypeople representing the various regions of the Diocese of the Holy Land, ecclesiastical realities, liturgical specialties and competencies present.



The Liturgical Commission working for the Liturgical Office of the LPJ is delegated and has the responsibility of observing the good practice of the liturgical offices throughout the Diocese of the Latin Patriarchate (parishes, institutions, congregations, schools, etc.); preparing new manuals (books and bulletins in electronic and paper forms) needed for the liturgical offices and rites; revising and reproducing all the necessary liturgical books; formation of persons capable to assisting the parish priests in organizing the liturgical life in their parish; the supervision of restoration in any church or chapels and special shrines as well as the building of new churches,

cemeteries or any other buildings related to worship (for this reason two members of this Commission are architects) and assuring permanent liturgical formation for laity, priests and religious men and women.

The activities of the office for 2021 will mainly focus on purchasing office equipment and translating and printing pastoral books from the Roman Missal to the book of the Liturgy of the Hours and the Evangeliary. The liturgical office of the Diocese has undertaken this work with the collaboration of Fr. Aziz Halaweh and Brother Bahjat Qarqash, a Franciscan from Damascus.

THE CATECHETICAL OFFICE OF THE LATIN PATRIARCHATE

Under the management of the General Administration of the Latin Patriarchate schools in Palestine, the Catechetical Office was established in 1994 to provide educational, pedagogical, doctrinal, and spiritual help in the area of catechesis for the Christian Education teachers (hereafter referred to as "CE teachers"; mainly those who contribute to the mission of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem in Palestine. The office not only caters to the institutes run by the Latin Patriarchate but to all Christian schools in the region, ensuring that the largest number of CE teachers, students, and schools receive the greatest benefit. The office was developed in Jerusalem to be at the heart of the Church as well as to enable all constituents to receive adequate support in terms of resource development, training, and networking. The office is managed by a director who works under the auspices of the local bishop, in coordination with the Committee for Catechesis.





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