AFEDJ
American Friends of the
Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem
Building Hope in the Holy Land

November 2026

Dear Friend,

Looking across the full reach of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem at year's end, from the hills of Lebanon to the bustling streets of Ramallah, from the historic neighborhoods of Amman to the desperate shores of Gaza, one enduring truth emerges: where human hands reach out in love, despair loses its hold. The war in Gaza, the conflict involving Israel and Iran, and wider regional tensions have placed enormous pressure on the Holy Land, and the consequences extend far beyond the fighting itself. Displacement, lost livelihoods, and rising costs reach into homes throughout our Diocese, leaving more households struggling to access basic necessities. As these pressures mount, more neighbors turn to our diocesan hospitals, schools, and centers for children with disabilities for essential healing, education, and outreach programs, even as these institutions contend with increasing demand and mounting operating costs.

We cannot shield every family from adversity, but we can stand beside them so they do not have to navigate these circumstances alone. Our hospitals continue to care for patients, even those who cannot pay for their treatment. Our schools provide children with the possibility to learn and prepare for their futures. Our centers for children with disabilities help young ones and their families develop skills, confidence, and greater independence. These institutions serve people across lines of faith, background, and circumstance, responding to hardship wherever it arises. In doing so, they put into action the belief that every person was created in the image of God and deserves to be treated with compassion, honor, and respect. This effort cannot be carried forward on conviction alone. It requires the resources to keep doors open, staff treating patients, classrooms ready for children, and essential assistance available for the people who depend on our services.

This is why your generosity to the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem (AFEDJ) means so much to us.

AFEDJ's year-end campaign, Every Corner of the Diocese, collectively recognizes the critical role our schools, hospitals, and rehabilitation centers play in communities across Gaza, the West Bank, Jerusalem, Jordan, and Lebanon.



Learn more at our website www.afedj.org

Though each community faces its own challenges, the importance of access to compassionate aid, education, and hope is shared. Your gifts provide the resources our institutions need to maintain daily operations, care for families whose lives have been profoundly disrupted, preserve access to services when other sources of stability have fallen away. Because of your commitment to AFEDJ, our institutions can remain present in their communities, delivering essential care and education today and into the future. **As the year draws to a close, I invite you to make a compassionate gift to AFEDJ and stand with the people of our Diocese at a time when your generosity is especially consequential.** We cannot wait for circumstances to improve before addressing the realities confronting our communities today.



Your generosity helps families navigate profound uncertainty while giving children the stability to pursue their education, develop confidence, and envision a future filled with possibility. Please give today. In doing so, you affirm that every life matters, every child deserves to flourish, and no one will be left behind. In my ministry, I am continually reminded that loving our neighbors is a calling we live out through our actions, the burdens we choose to share, and the respect we extend to every person. For me, this calling is rooted in the example of Jesus Christ, who taught us to love our neighbors as ourselves. People of different faiths and backgrounds may express this responsibility in different ways, but we share a common obligation to uphold one another's dignity. **Your partnership with AFEDJ ensures that households facing displacement and uncertainty, children whose destinies hang in the balance, and populations under immense strain can continue to find the support they urgently need.** As we look toward a new year, I pray that God will strengthen our resolve to serve, deepen our compassion for our neighbors, and guide us in the work of peace. May we remain steadfast in building a world where all people are valued and given the opportunity to live with dignity and grace. **Thank you for standing with us in this calling and for helping carry its promise across every corner of the Diocese.**

With prayers for peace and deep gratitude,



The Most Reverend Hosam E. Naoum
The Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem

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