

# Bible Lands

Winter 2010/11

Magazine of the Jerusalem and the Middle East Church Association

[www.jmecca.org.uk](http://www.jmecca.org.uk)



Jerusalem



Egypt & North Africa



Iran



Cyprus & the Gulf

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# THE JERUSALEM AND THE MIDDLE EAST CHURCH ASSOCIATION

(JMECA)

**Founded in 1887**

*'To encourage support in prayer, money and personal service for the religious and other charitable work of the Episcopal church in Jerusalem and the Middle East'.*

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*Views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Association; therefore only signed articles will be published.*

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# Emulating Christmas

*A Message from  
Bishop Kenneth Cragg*

**Bishop Kenneth is the leading Anglican scholar on Arab affairs. He is the prolific author of a great number of books from 'The Call of the Minaret' in 1956 to 'The Qur'an and the West', 50 years later. He was Professor of Arabic and Islamics at Hartford Seminary in USA until appointed Asst. Bishop in Jerusalem in 1970. In his Oxford retirement and at the age of 97 he remains in great demand as a translator, expositor and analyst of the Qur'an. We are grateful to him for this Christmas message.**

## BETHLEHEM

When in the 9<sup>th</sup> century the famous "Venerable Bede" (he was never an archdeacon) wrote his great "*Ecclesiastical History of the English people*", which did much to help identify a unitary "England" and link it with Christian faith, he played on the meaning of the little town's name as the house of bread (or meat) – Beit laham). Eight centuries later preaching at Whitehall in the presence of James I, Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Chichester, Ely and then Winchester, took up the same theme, enlarging on the allusions in the Fourth Gospel to 'the bread of life' as 'coming down from heaven'. His sermon drew the significance of the incarnation from the analogy which extends so wondrously in the liturgy of 'bread and wine'. 'Make this your own'. Let the lowliness of the incarnation be the principle of your living: Let the self giving Christ of the Cross be the Master of your heart and all its affections.

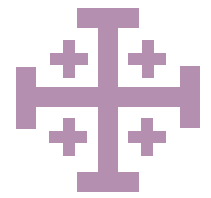
Andrewes was one of the great preachers of his day. From St Giles, Cripplegate, which was to become the Church of John Milton, he became Dean of St. Paul's where John Donne a century later excelled. Andrewes loved his Latinisms and indulged them freely.

His influence became a major factor in the "conversion" of T.S. Eliot to Anglican faith and liturgy from the earlier Unitarianism of his upbringing in Missouri. The 20<sup>th</sup> century poet was deeply affected by Andrewes of whom he wrote as the inspiration of a very deliberate migration to England. The familiar lines in his '*Journey of the Magi*' "a cold coming they had of it..." were lifted from one of Andrewes sermons – "just the worst time of the year for such a long journey, the ways long, the weather sharp." And the homely interrogations: "Would we have waited for a more convenient season?"

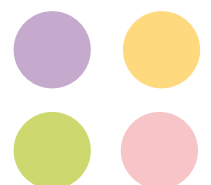
Is not this long story from recent history an exercise in what the Creed calls 'the communion of saints' – the stimulus which comes to us from across the centuries to 'possess our possessions' and 'run the race that is set before us' rejoicing in the rich heritage that is ours 'encompassed by such fellowship'.

"Merry" and "Happy" are the usual adjectives affixed to Christmas greetings. Perhaps we should mend them to include an 'emulating Christmas' – one which lets the celebration of divine humility inform of our zest for life and the passion of the Cross determine our discipleship. There remains the saying of 19<sup>th</sup> century historian J. R. Seeley: "No heart is ours that it not passionate: No virtue is safe that is not enthusiastic" – So let us keep on 'emulating Christmas'

+Kenneth Cragg



Editorial



# Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Bishop in Cyprus and the Gulf, the Rt. Revd. Michael Lewis, is delighted to announce the appointment of the Ven. Dr. John Holdsworth, currently Archdeacon of St Davids and Vicar of Steynton in the Church in Wales, as Archdeacon in Cyprus, Executive Archdeacon for the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf, and Chaplain of St Helena Larnaca.

Dr Holdsworth, who is 61 and married to Sue, has long experience as a parish priest in urban and rural settings in various parts of Wales. He is also a distinguished writer, broadcaster, and theological educator, and was Principal of St Michael's College Llandaff until 2003, when he took up his present combined post of parish priest and archdeacon.

Bishop Michael looks forward to joining the rest of the diocese in welcoming John and Sue and to enjoying John's counsel and wisdom. A date in mid-December is likely for the start of John's new ministry.

\*\*\*

The Bishop is also pleased to announce the appointment of the Reverend Richard Frost, latterly Vicar in the Bideford Team Ministry at Northam and Westward Ho! (Diocese of Exeter), currently Locum Priest in the Chaplaincy of Malaga (Diocese of Gibraltar in Europe), to be Chaplain of St Andrew Kyrenia, Cyprus (Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf).



He and his wife Gill expect to move in January. The date of his licensing in Kyrenia is to be announced in due course.

\*\*\*

The Bishop and the Council of St Paul's Anglican Chaplaincy are pleased to announce the appointment of the Revd. Keith Brimacombe to be Chaplain of Kuwait. He has been priest in the Ottery St Mary team ministry in the Diocese of Exeter in the Church of England and in the chaplaincy of Qatar in Cyprus and the Gulf. Currently he serves as locum chaplain at St Helena Larnaca and will minister similarly at St Andrew Kyrenia until January, after which he will take up his duties in Kuwait.

**Please pray for these priests and the congregations they will serve.**



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**Anglican Diocese of  
Cyprus and the Gulf**

# News from the Gulf

## The Epiphany, Qatar

### The Chaplain, Archdeacon Bill Schwartz writes:

"I have some prayer and praise points for those who pray for us.

We are in a push to finish phase one of the building project.

All being well, we can be in a position to use the building for Christmas services. That means that many additional congregations will have a secure place to worship at the end of this year.

We are delighted and give thanks to God that we have this goal in sight but we are still struggling for the resources to meet this deadline. We had many indications of intent to provide materials (air conditioners, pipe/conduit, ceramic ware, hardware, paint etc.) in lieu of cash funding for the project. We were greatly encouraged and pressed ahead but the materials have not materialized, and neither have we raised the money.

We will shortly be interviewing for the selection of an assistant priest for our congregation, with the hope that he will soon establish a liturgical/Anglican congregation among the Tamil-speaking Indians. It is not easy to recruit a priest to serve under our Anglican bishop who belongs to the Church of S. India hierarchy.

The congregation is in very good heart and continues to be wonderfully supportive and responsive to the presentation of the Gospel, with new people joining us every week. We added a hundred chairs earlier this year and have already filled them. Thankfully, our relationship with the school where we worship continues to be very cooperative.

The interaction with government officials, other church leaders, people in the community who aren't particularly connected to the church at all, also give reason to thank God for grace and favour."



Computer plan

## St. Andrew's, Abu Dhabi

### Rev. Andrew Thompson, was licensed on 19th September. He writes:

"The Licensing Service went well but the day was not without its stresses! My daughter dislocated her knee and needed to go to hospital. The Bishop's secretary arrived from Cyprus was stuck at the airport without a valid visa, which meant an urgent visit to the Immigration Ministry, and then a mad man who insisted that he was Jesus arrived and insisted I should be taking orders from him! He turned out to be an Australian, high on drugs. By the time the licensing service began I was feeling rather frazzled! However, it was a full church and encouragement abounded. Navina joins in sending greetings to all who pray for us."

Andrew's first duty at St. Andrew's, even before he was licensed, was to conduct the memorial service for Rev. Penny George who had been killed in a road crash the week before (obit. p.20) He says: "Penny was a member of the ministry team at Abu Dhabi and I was looking forward to working with her. She was a popular priest and the congregation at St. Andrew's are reeling from her sudden death."

*After one month in post, Andrew sends us a 'snapshot' of his new ministry:* "I have conducted 12 weddings in ten days. I have married Austrians, British, American, Canadian, Thai, Ethiopian, Moldovan, Indonesian, Filipino and Romanians. That tells you something about the multi cultural opportunities which exist in Abu Dhabi. On the other hand, we sheltered a frightened battered maid and while her employers and police were hunting for her we were able to get her to a safe house.... The mosque next to our church turns out to be the main training mosque for the city. One morning I saw a whole load of sheikhs walk into the mosque and I decided to gatecrash their party by walking in and introducing myself as their new neighbour! It turned out to be a training session for the three hundred imams employed by the Ministry of religion for the whole region. Their reaction to me was bewilderment but hey! they know who the new priest is! More positively I met the advisor to the Minister of Religion who is following up on some interfaith relations..... I have had fellowship with the most diverse range of Christian leaders including Egyptian and Ethiopian Coptic priests, Evangelical pastors, Catholic Fathers and Orthodox monks and I have met with the ambassadors to UK, Phillipines, France and Australia. I have received a warm reception from all of them and appreciation of the ministry of St Andrew's church community."

## Christ Church, Aden

The Chaplain, Rev. Nigel Dawkins, and his wife Rev. Catherine describe how the work of the church's clinic relates to Millennium Development Goals 5 (Improve maternal health) and 6 (Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases).

"The Ras Morbat Clinic has two departments, the General Department serves the local community, one of the poorer areas of Aden. It has a small laboratory for rapid, on site testing for malaria and other diseases and a pharmacy providing treatments to patients free of charge. Eye problems in Yemen are common and the Eye Department, staffed by optometrists and ophthalmologists, treats patients from all over the country. In 2009 the clinic became an Implementing partner of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and is engaged to provide eye health care to the large Somali refugee population in Aden".

The great good news this year has been the much celebrated arrival of two doctors:

"We are delighted to announce that two Korean doctors, Jihong and Sunghye, have arrived at Christ Church and are working at the clinic on a permanent basis. Dr Jihong is an experienced ophthalmologist and has already proved to be a great asset in the Eye Department. We have been without a permanent eye surgeon since January and have been dependent on visiting surgeons to perform operations. Jihong's arrival means that regular operations have resumed which is wonderful news for the many people in Yemen who are visually impaired. Jihong is also training the two junior ophthalmologists, Dr Tahani and Dr Randa, who have recently joined the Diploma in Ophthalmology course at the University of Aden. Jihong's wife, Dr Sunghye, is a gynaecologist/obstetrician and is serving the local female population in the General Department. The clinic has not had a gynaecologist for a number of years and word is now spreading that she is here. Both doctors have been received warmly by the clinic staff. "

**More news on our website:**  
<http://www.christchurchaden.org/news.html>



*Drs. Sunghye and Jihong with their children.*

## St. Christopher's Cathedral & Awali, Bahrain

**The Chaplain,  
Rev. Christopher Butt, writes:**

"We have been encouraged by some new families and individuals joining us in recent weeks, some gifted musicians, which is a joy and a further children's group is being launched on Friday mornings as part of the Friday Club. Harvest festival went well at the end of September and we had about eighty adults and children at a World Harvest Supper and Barn Dance, which was fun. Our newly re-launched website is a good source of news. [www.stchcathedral.org.bh](http://www.stchcathedral.org.bh)

## St. Paul's, Kuwait

The Bishop has announced the appointment of the Rev. Keith Brimacombe, to be Chaplain in the place of Rev. Andrew Thompson, who has moved to Dubai.

## The Canterbury Group

The Chaplains Walter Schilling and John Proffitt send greetings and assurance of their prayers. They are busy and active and the various fellowship groups are growing in Ras Tanura, Dharan, Udhailiyah and Abqaiq. After completing their first two years they now have the measure of the task and have worked out plans which are helpful to the largest number of people.

# Diocese of Jerusalem

## Bishop Suheil Says...

Dear Friends,

**With ongoing global crises, we thank you for your support for Christians in this region. As a cross roads of ideas and merchandise over thousands of years, the Middle East is a key region for world peace.**

With Jerusalem as a focal city for Jews, Muslims, and Christians, what happens to religious groups in this region stirs up emotions in all parts of the world, emotions that affect individual safety wherever you live.

At this time, the historic Arab Christian presence is vital to the future stability of the region as we put our faith in action, "loving our neighbours as ourselves" teaching interfaith mutual respect and cooperation, empowering women, providing humanitarian medical care regardless of faith or ability to pay, educating Arabic speaking youth, assisting children and young adults with special needs and challenges, offering scholarships for children and young adults in financial need, creating professional jobs, helping Christians to remain in the region, and enhancing vocational training and job opportunities for a civil society.

At this sensitive time of negotiating peace, our peace and your peace, we invite you to invest in these Christian reconciliation efforts. For, as Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called children of God."



## PILGRIMAGES IN 2011

**'A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land'** 15-24th March

**'Monasteries in Egypt'** 12-21st September

*both with Rev Andrei Petrine.*

*Details from him – Tel: 01992 524421 email: a.petrine@mac.com*

\*\*\*

**'In the Steps of Jesus'** 18-30th May

To meet today's Christians and hear their story – four vacancies.

*Details from Canon Tim Biles – Tel: 01935 816247 email: tim@tjbiles.freeserve.co.uk*

# Education Ministry Develops In Jordan

## The Schneller School in Marka, Jordan

### KING ABDULLAH AFFIRMS SCHNELLER SCHOOL

#### Presentation of a new bus

It was a joy to receive the following message from Dr Ghazi Musharbash, the Headmaster and Director of The Theodore Schneller School for Boys.

*"It is my pleasure to inform you that His Majesty King Abdullah has donated a bus to The Schneller School. This is a result of the letter and visit to the Royal Court on 12 April. The happiness and joy of students and staff is remarkable and accompanied by thankfulness and gratitude to His Majesty."*

The 22 seater bus has full air conditioning and will be a great asset to the school which is mainly for orphaned and disadvantaged boys, some of whom have learning challenges. The school, which is adjacent to a large refugee camp, has boarding facilities for orphaned boys who also have the opportunity of 'apprenticeships' in a variety of workshops offering highly skilled vocational training. There are 160 boys boarding with approx 120 day students. Each house has 20 students with live-in educators who care for their well being. The school has recently started to take girls at the Grade 4 level and work is being done to adapt the facilities for these additions. The school itself is more than 50 yrs old and is in need of much renovation. Dr Ghazi, who is an alumnus of the school from its Bethlehem period pre-1967, has plans to renovate the entire property seeking to make use of its potential and the very spacious grounds in which the school is situated. He is working with business leaders, community members and alumni to breathe new life into the school.

The school budget is supported by a mission foundation in Germany but there continues to be many needs that are not covered by regular donors. Income projects are just beginning to assist with finances and there are many more projects in the pipeline. It's a wonderful thing to visit the refurbished Guest House or the newly dedicated church many miles to the north in Irbid and find the furnishings and fittings, all of highest quality, were made in the



Schneller workshops. There are plans to promote and further improve the Guest House, enhance the vocational programmes of the school and upgrade the facilities. Other plans are to renovate the dormitories and classrooms and to develop an additional 'Handy Man' workshop. The huge grounds, so close to the over-crowded refugee camp, would be a wonderful area to develop with community sports facilities. All these plans are financially demanding on a limited budget which is why Dr. Ghazi is constantly seeking new ways of creating income generating projects and bringing the school nearer to self-sufficiency.

The Schneller School could make a very significant contribution in a very needy area and the King's affirmation is a great encouragement.

#### **Bishop's School Amman, Jordan**

There is also new leadership at the Bishop's School. Mrs. Haifa Najjar, who has long managed the acclaimed Ahliyyah School for Girls, is now also overseeing the re-modelling of the Bishop's School which is undergoing major changes. Teaching practices, student intake and objectives of the school are under review and new methods and strategies are now in place. The ultimate goal is to enable the school to be IB (International Baccalaurate) registered. The English Dept in the Bishop's School has increased to a total of eight staff members offering Drama and English Conversation. This is a major development in the English programme, both in the Lower and Upper Schools. With support from alumni, local business leaders, and community members, the school facilities benefited from overdue renovations this summer. The school, once attended by the late King Hussein, focuses on education for future leaders of Jordanian society which will enhance Jordan's position in the world as a moderate nation with leaders capable and ready to negotiate regional peace.



# A New Church In Jordan

Jerusalem Bishop Suheil Dawani

## A Time of Celebration in Irbid

The people of Irbid, a major city in the north of Jordan, have a new church! It was dedicated on August 5th by Bishop Suheil Dawani in the presence of priests and lay people from the Diocese of Jerusalem, ecumenical and political dignitaries and church representatives. The service was attended by the architect and the project manager whose achievements were being celebrated. Out of respect for all the Abrahamic Muslim brothers and sisters of the region and knowing their regard for the Virgin Mary, the church was consecrated in the name of St Mary, the Virgin.

Fr Samir Esaid is the Pastor of the congregation of St Mary's, coupling it with his duties in the Arab Episcopal School. Both the school and the church are a continuing witness to the local community and will, with this new facility, expand the Christian presence and ministry in the area. Above the Sanctuary is a verse from the Magnificat. "My soul doth magnify the Lord" expressing the desire of every Christian and the focus of worship in this new church.

The building is made of local stone with marble flooring. It has wooden pews, altar and pulpit. An outstanding feature is the wooden cross above the altar which draws the eye into the Sanctuary. The furniture was



made by students and staff of the Theodore Schneller School, an institution of the diocese which provides educational and vocational training for boys who have learning challenges or who have been marginalised or orphaned in the many conflicts of the land. Their workmanship in the church truly reflects the skill and creative design of those who are trained at the School. The Schneller School has a long connection with the churches of Germany and it was good that they were well represented at the ceremony.

The occasion was a wonderful reward for the hard work, the fund-raising and the prayerful support of so many faithful people.

## Women's Conference in Jordan

**"Women are vital to the life of the church and the diocese. All women have a role to play in dialogue, awareness and Christian presence in the difficult situations that are found in the Middle East and the Women's Conference is seeking to encourage this."** *Bishop Suheil*

Led by Shafeeqa Dawani, the wife of the Bishop, the ladies of the diocese gathered in Jordan with Bishop Suheil as one of the main contributors. These occasions are a wonderful opportunity for the women to support each other and to contribute to life in the diocese. The event took place at the Ahliyyah School for Girls in Amman where seventy five ladies spent the day together. The history of Christianity in the Middle East was the morning theme and stressed the need to live alongside people of all faiths in such a troubled land. Bishop Suheil showed how King Abdullah of Jordan encourages his people to co-exist and respect each other's religious beliefs. Group discussions followed sharing ways that help can be given to our young men and women to stay in their



home towns and to live and work in their home countries after receiving their education. In the afternoon Rev. Ibrahim Nairouz, pastor of the church in Nablus, gave a presentation on the life of John the Baptist with special reference to his significance in Jordan. Throughout the day emphasis was shown on the important role of the priest and his wife and also how to help young couples continue to love the church and have a vital role in its life. The importance of education was particularly emphasized and the continuing role of a church which serves the whole community without any social, racial or religious discrimination.

## A Report from Ahli Arab Hospital after the January 2009 Gaza Incursion

**In gratitude to all who gave generously.**

*'Serve One another in Love.'* Galatians 5:1”

*Medical care at Ahli Hospital is provided to unarmed civilians in need, without prejudice to any religion, social class, gender, and political affiliation.*

*The services are delivered in the spirit of love and care. Suhaila Tarazi, the director, further explains the spirit of Ahli staff who “work diligently to alleviate the suffering of people who fall victim to violence, poverty, sicknesses, oppression and helplessness”. She says that “ Because of our mission and values, the hospital enjoys the trust of Christian and Muslim communities.”*

### **Suhaila Tarazi, Director of the Ahli Arab Hospital reports:**



As a result of the January 2009 'Cast Lead' operation in Gaza:

- 1480 people were killed and over 5000 were injured – 40% were women and children.
- 21000 homes were fully or partially destroyed.
- 50,000 people became homeless.
- Water networks, schools, hospitals, government buildings, private offices and industrial workshops were damaged.
- The total cost of destruction at \$139 million according to UN figures.
- 140,000 Gazans are unemployed, bringing the unemployment level to 42%
- 70% of families live on less than \$1 a day.
- 90% of people in Gaza suffer power cuts of eight to twelve hours a day.
- Medicine, clean water, fuel, electricity and raw materials are in short supply and received erratically.
- 25-30% of the population of the Gaza Strip does not receive running water in their homes.

- 15 of Gaza's 27 hospitals and 43 of its 110 primary health facilities were damaged or destroyed during the “Cast Lead” operation.
- Most medical equipment is unreliable and the embargo makes it impossible to obtain certain spare parts for repair.
- The UN agencies provide food aid to nearly 1.1 million Gazans.
- 30-40 million litres of untreated sewage goes into the Mediterranean Sea every day posing risks to health and the environment.

### **The Anglican Ahli Arab Hospital response.**

The Director tells us:

“Gaza people continue to experience severe hardships, deprivation, and ongoing exposure to violence, these factors are creating increases in mental disorders, severe mental distress, and diverse social/psychosocial problems in large segments of the population. The World Health Organization estimates that between 20,000 and 50,000 people will have long-term illness following the offensive of January '09. Enormous efforts are needed to help support Gazans to cope with their experiences and rebuild their lives. Health for 1.5 million people in Gaza has also dramatically deteriorated. Health facilities are experiencing frequent shortages of medications, drugs, disposables and fuel. According to Gaza Central Government Store 115 drugs items out of the 480 on the essential drug list and 119 disposable out of 700 essential disposable items are at zero level. It is estimated that 40 percent of patients with a chronic illness could not regularly have their treatments due to shortages of drugs; this has a long-term impact on their health.

In summary, the problems facing the Palestinians in Gaza are even more serious today and it will have long-term adverse effects on the physical and mental health of the population. Within the context of the current deterioration and sensitive situation in Gaza, Ahli continues to respond to the critical health needs of the population”





## Ahli Activities and use of donations during 2009

Despite the violence and crises in the Gaza Strip, Ahli Hospital was able to continue serving the ill-poor, the war-injured and war-affected Palestinian women, men and children. The services provided include medical care in the out and inpatient departments in general surgical and medical services. Diagnostic, rehabilitation services, prevention and capacity building are also provided. The services are rendered in Christian spirit of love for one and other and offered to all ill in equal basis regardless of their religion, gender, colour, social class or political affiliation.

The majority of the citizens in Gaza depend on outreach programs for medical care. The hospital expanded its regular medical program and ran free medical clinics in impoverished communities and refugee camps. The ongoing overall aim of the mobile medical clinics is to:

- Improve the health status of the deprived and the injured.
- Secure better access to healthcare for communities in Gaza.
- Identify and evaluate the participants for nutritional vulnerability.
- Assure gender equality and accessibility to health care.
- Enhance cooperation and collaboration with the community leaders and relevant grassroots organizations.
- Through the Ahli social unit and community-based organizations, Identify marginalized communities and vulnerable patients.
- Procurement department arranged for the availability of the medicine and consumable and made it available for the doctors at the outpatient clinics.



- Ahli medical teams were formed according to the needs consisting of consultants in general surgery, orthopedics, diabetics, heart problems, pediatrics, a social worker, laboratory and x-ray technicians, nurses, drivers, accountant, medical record staff, drivers and logistic staff members.
- The hospital also enriched the mission by contracting part time pediatrician consultant to take care of ill children.
- Local buses were contracted by Ahli to transport patients from and to the hospital.
- Health education sessions were provided to the clinic attendants by Ahli medical team.
- Nutrition vulnerability was identified. Commodities and food baskets were distributed to the neediest patients.

**The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem thanks you for your donation to help the innocent victims suffering the consequences of the Gaza conflict.**

Any further gifts may be sent to the administrator of JMECA – see page 2 – made out to JMECA with a covering note 'for Gaza Hospital'. All gifts will be acknowledged.

# Archbishop of York Visits Diocese of Egypt

The Archbishop has visited the Diocese of Egypt as the guest of the Presiding Bishop of the Province of the Middle East, the Most Revd. Dr. Mouneer Anis. The principal purpose was to attend the Graduation Ceremony at Alexandria School of Theology (AST) but the Archbishop also met many leaders in public life and visited some of the Institutions of the diocese.

## AST Graduation

Those receiving awards in the presence of the Archbishop were:

### Diploma in Anglican Studies

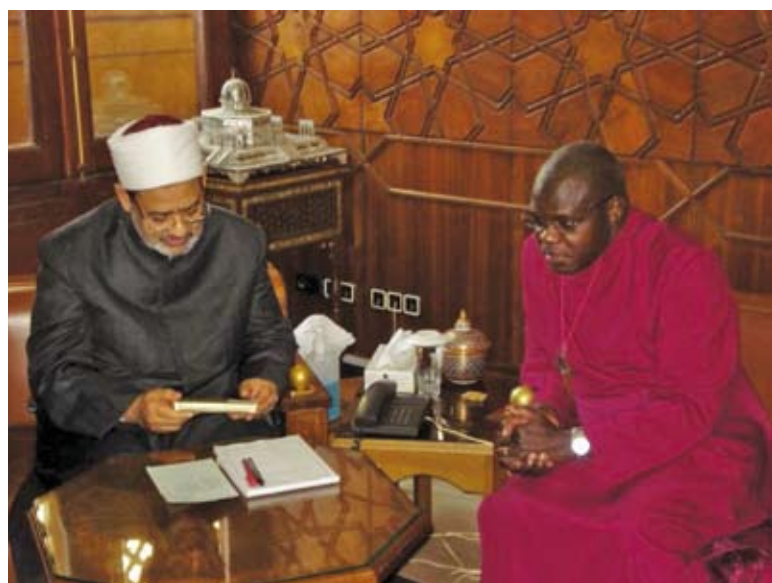
Deacon Fayez Nady.

### Diploma in Theology

Atta Wahba, Tawfeek Zareef.

### Bachelor of Theology

Albert Nageh, Ashek Manoh, Emil Azer, Deacon Ehab Ayoub, Benjamin Ali, Rev. Dr. Bahig Ramzy, Boules Ayad, Rev. Peter James, Timas Othman, Joy Safwat, Gehan Sabry, Salah Hussein, Elder Ezzat Aziz, Deacon Dr. Emad Nabil, Kariman Ibrahim, Lungar Thug, Mariette Emile, Mariam Gerges, Mounir Abd-Allah, Nadia Aziz, Nashat Samir.



*The Archbishop with the Grand Imam, Professor Dr. Ahmed el Tayib, who is the grand sheik of Cairo's famous Al. Ahzar University and mosque and a strong supporter of Inter-Faith initiatives.*

*The Archbishop of York paying a courtesy call, with Bishop Mouneer, on the head of the Coptic Orthodox church, Pope Shenouda III, who has been Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria, the see of St. Mark, since 1971.*





Celebrating the graduation were (L-R):

**The Rev. Drew Schmotzer** (Chaplain to Bishop Mouneer & former AST Teacher),

**The Very Rev. Dr. Peter Moore** (former Dean/ President of Trinity School for Ministry)

**The Rev. Emad Azmy** (Principal of the Alexandria School of Theology)

**Anba Mina**, Coptic Orthodox Bishop of Old Cairo, representing the Coptic Orthodox Church

**Anba Biscenti**, Coptic Orthodox Bishop of Helwan, representing Pope Shenouda III

**The Most Rev. & Rt. Hon. Dr. John Sentamu** (Archbishop of York & Primate of England)

**The Most Rev. Dr. Mouneer Hanna Anis** (Primate of Jerusalem & the Middle East)

**The Rt. Rev. Dr. Ghais Abdel Malik** (former Anglican Bishop of Diocese Egypt)

**The Most Rev. Michael Fitzgerald** (Roman Catholic Archbishop & Papal Nuncio to Egypt)

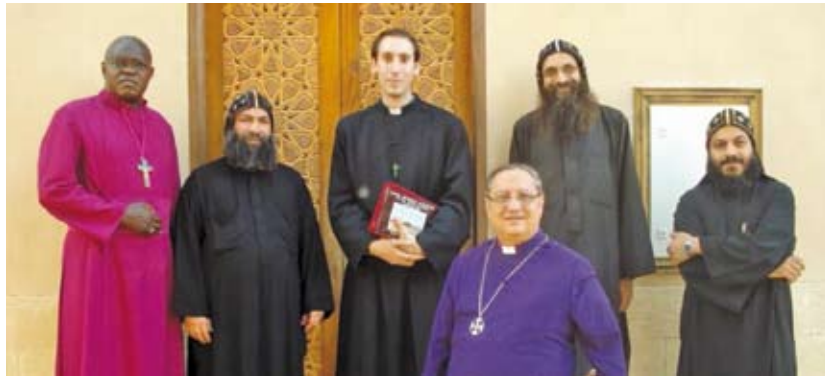
**Mr. Ramez Atallah** (Director of the Bible Society in Egypt)

**The Rev. Hany Shenouda** (Priest-in-charge of Suez and Menouf)



The Archbishop and Bishop Mouneer with the Grand Mufti of Egypt, Dr. Ali Goma, who led the 138 Islamic scholars who wrote to Pope Benedict inviting discussion on the common ground held by Christians and Moslems.

The Archbishop with three Coptic monks, Bishop Mouneer and his chaplain, at the 4th century monastery of St Bishoy, deep in the Wadi Natrun of the Eastern desert.



## Archbishop John Sentamu

John Sentamu was born in 1949, the sixth of thirteen children to Rev. John & Ruth Walakira, in a village near Kampala in Uganda. He studied Law at Makerere University and practiced at the High Court of Uganda until 1974.

He suffered under the dictatorship of Idi Amin because of his juridical independence and was imprisoned for 90 days where he was “kicked around like a football and beaten terribly.”

In 1996 he became the Bishop of Stepney and in 2002 he was appointed the Bishop of Birmingham.

Two years later he was appointed the president of Youth for Christ, and the next year president of the YMCA.

It could be that the suffering in the Idi Amin years has left him with a special concern for the victims of injustice. He seizes every opportunity to identify with their cause. In August 2006 he camped in a tent in York Minster and fasted in solidarity with those impacted by the Middle East conflicts.

In 2005, at the age of 56, he was translated to be the 97th. Archbishop of York.

# The Diocese of Egypt with North Africa and the Horn of Africa

**Diocesan Bishop:**

**The Most Rev. Dr. Mouneer H. Anis**  
 bishopmouneer@gmail.com

**Area Bishop (Horn of Africa):**

**The Rt. Rev. Andrew J. Proud**  
 bishopinethiopia@gmail.com

**Area Bishop (North Africa):**

**The Rt. Rev. Dr. Bill A. Musk**  
 billamusk@googlemail.com

**Bishop Mouneer Anis writes:**

## We believe in one... church.

Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

There is nothing that can thrill the heart of a bishop more than seeing unity among the churches in the diocese. Unity is difficult to achieve! This is why Paul wrote in Ephesians 4:3

*“make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit.”*

It is especially difficult in today’s world where the individualistic spirit is the main characteristic of our age. I am always reminding myself, and my colleagues, that we are one body as Anglicans. We are not Congregationalists who behave independently of each other, but we are interdependent.

*The bishop goes on to rejoice in a generous spirit of unity and togetherness in the diocese:*

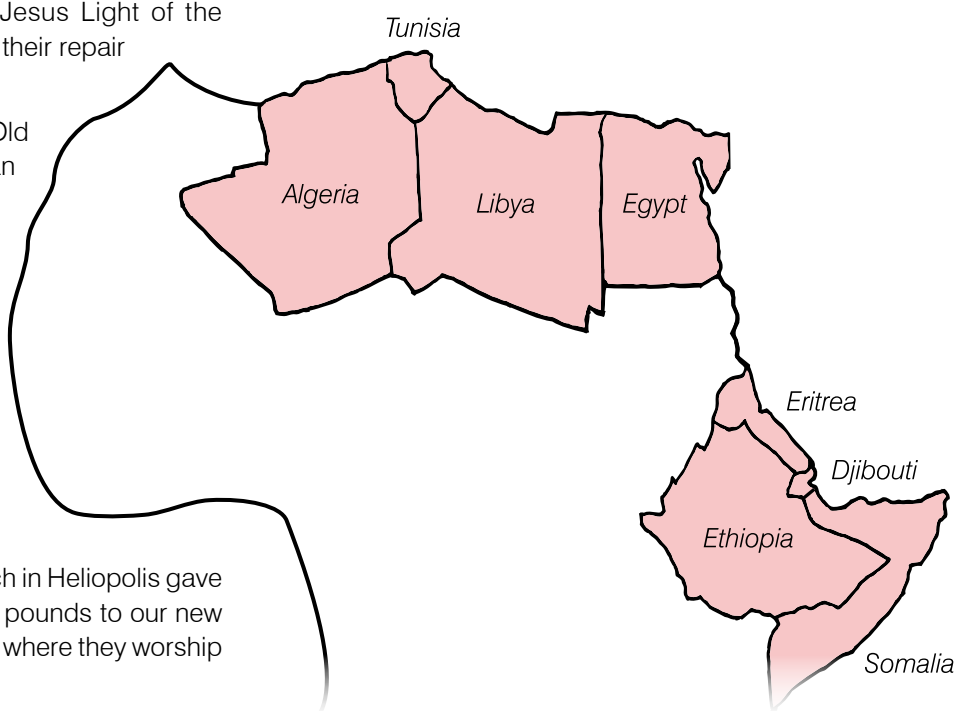
- I was thrilled to hear that the Deaf Unit has donated 50,000 Egyptian pounds to Jesus Light of the World Church in Old Cairo for their repair project.
- The Church for the Deaf in Old Cairo donated 1,000 Egyptian pounds to the Church in Ras el Soda, Alexandria, for their ministry needs for children.
- The Arabic Speaking Congregation at All Saints Cathedral decided to support the Summer Camp of poor families served by the Social Centres and gave 1,500 Egyptian pounds.
- St. Michael & All Angel’s Church in Heliopolis gave approximately 4,000 Egyptian pounds to our new church plant in Ezbit en Nakhel, where they worship in a garage.

- The Episcopal School in Menouf decided to support the Nursery in Sadat City with a grant of 10,000 Egyptian Pounds.
- St. John the Baptist Church in Maadi, through its Charity Catalogue and mostly expatriate congregation, raised \$12,000 for Refuge Egypt and other community services.
- The doctors from Harpur Memorial Hospital in Menouf decided to go to the clinic at our community service centre in Ras el Soda (a suburb of Alexandria) to examine patients free of charge.

All of these donations mean a lot, especially as the diocese, the churches and the institutions are going through a very intense financial crisis and their needs are great. I am so happy to see this spirit of giving and sharing among our churches and institutions.

I thank God for this spirit that practically and truly expresses what we say in the Creed, “We believe in one... church.”

May the Lord bless you!



# “EPISCOCARE”

**“Our mission is to build up the church of Christ through sound teaching of scripture, worship and dedicated holistic service to our communities. We are devoted to dialogue and co-operation with the other Christian denominations and the other faiths among which we live.”**

*Bishop Mouneer*

## Ras El-Soda Development Centre

As part of the ministry of the diocesan development organization “*Episcocare*,” various development centres have been opened in some of Egypt’s poorest areas. One of these centres is in Ras El-Soda, an area which incorporates 10 villages, about 8km south of Alexandria. The centre was opened in 2008 after a field study carried out by the church discovered that health and the interior and exterior environments in this area were very poor; houses were unhygienic and badly built and the streets were very dirty and poorly maintained.

The project’s first grant came from The Women’s Association who gave 5000 Egyptian pounds for the repair of roofs in the homes of its inhabitants. Often the houses had no roofs at all. Through many subsequent projects *Episcocare* is slowly improving the environment of the area.

This year has seen another success. The Women’s Association gave another 5000 Egyptian pounds for the rebuilding of people’s bathrooms after a report was sent to them on the poor hygiene of toilets in many of the homes in Ras El-Soda. Over the months of April and May this year, five bathrooms have been constructed in peoples’ homes to replace old toilets in which were little more than a hole in the ground. When the project was first announced in the community nobody came forward but after home visits and a seminar was held on hygiene and cleanliness by Madam Salwa, the manager of the Ras El-Soda Development Centre with a local doctor, people were very enthusiastic about improving the internal health and hygiene of their homes. They discovered it would help prevent the spread of disease and improve their quality of life so a long waiting list quickly developed.

The work is not entirely given for free. Participants are asked to raise a contribution towards the cost of the work in order to ensure they are serious about the project. Though some need a little further help with the costs, communities worked together to raise funds and five bathrooms have already been completed.

We are delighted with the work so far and ask that you pray for more funding so we can continue God’s work in this area of great need. We are currently in the process of applying for another grant to improve the environment of our nursery in Ras El-Soda where chairs and other supplies are needed to provide a better service to the children of the area.

*Charlotte Kirton*



# The 'Other' BibleLands!

In each issue of Bible Lands we try to highlight the work of one of the charities supporting the Christians of the Middle East, in this issue we look at our namesake...

## Healing and hope in the Middle East

Many church-goers in the UK will have heard of the 'other' BibleLands (one word), the Christian development charity focused on the Middle East, from its famous Bethlehem Carol Sheet or its long-standing Christmas catalogue, packed with festive goodies. The charity is occasionally confused with JMECA given the name of this magazine. But surprisingly few people know what BibleLands actually does; even fewer know that it is the biggest UK Christian charity focused solely on the Holy Land and neighbouring countries. Its mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable and disadvantaged people in the Middle East by working in partnership with local Christians, focusing on education, healthcare and community development.



## A long and distinguished history

Founded in 1854 as the Turkish Missions Aid Society, the charity's origins are firmly rooted in Victorian evangelical fervour. Its original purpose was to support the work of American missionaries serving the Armenian population in Turkey during the Crimean War. Many leading philanthropists were involved at the outset, including Lord Shaftesbury who was the charity's first President. Later, the name changed to The BibleLands Society and its focus switched to supporting Christian social ministry throughout the Middle East, with a particular focus on children and disabled people.

## Supporting Christian social ministry

Today BibleLands is a 'broad church' ecumenical charity which spends over £2 million a year on supporting Christian projects in the Middle East. It currently seeks to implement its mission to help vulnerable and disadvantaged people in two ways:

- By providing grants to autonomous Christian-led organisations working in Israel, the occupied Palestinian territory, Lebanon and Egypt.
- By providing financial and other support to the Helen Keller Centre, a school for visually-impaired children in East Jerusalem which is wholly-owned by the Charity.

As a grant-maker BibleLands works with around 50 Christian partners in the Middle East. These are from the full range of Christian denominations represented in the region, including Anglican, Catholic, Lutheran, Greek Orthodox and Coptic Orthodox. BibleLands supports hospitals and clinics, special needs schools and other services for disabled people, mainstream schools, refugee projects, vocational training centres and rural development projects.

## A joint ministry with JMECA

With an overlapping ministry in the dioceses of Jerusalem and Egypt and North Africa, BibleLands and JMECA have often found themselves working together to support particular projects. One of these is the new Harpur Community Health Centre being built by the Diocese of Egypt in Sadat City, an industrial satellite town some 50 miles north-west of Cairo. BibleLands and JMECA are the two biggest funders of this project, which will provide primary healthcare for a community of over 40,000 people.

BibleLands has also been a long-standing supporter of other social initiatives of the Anglican church in the Middle East. In Egypt these include the Harpur Memorial Hospital in Menouf, the Deaf Unit and Refuge Egypt centre in Cairo, and various community development centres. In the Holy Land BibleLands partners with the Princess Basma Centre for Disabled Children in Jerusalem and St Luke's Hospital in Nablus.

## Planning for growth

Despite its long history and impressive heritage, BibleLands is not resting on its laurels. A new chief executive, Jeremy Moodey, was appointed at the end of 2009 and he has helped the charity re-focus its strategy and begin plans for future growth. Given the scale of the need in the Middle East, and the energy and faith of local Christians as they seek to respond to that need, there is much to do to connect Christians in the UK with this vital social ministry.

**To find out more about BibleLands, visit our website at [www.biblelands.org.uk](http://www.biblelands.org.uk) or email us on [info@biblelands.org.uk](mailto:info@biblelands.org.uk) or write to: BibleLands, PO Box 50, High Wycombe, HP15 7QU.**





# Paths to Peace

In the second of our series recognising the work of Peacemakers we feature The Foundation for Middle East Peace and Rabbis for Human Rights in Israel.

*Rabbi Arik Ascherman*

The Foundation for Middle East Peace hosts debates, studies and workshops and Rabbi Arik Ascherman, a self-identified cultural Zionist and leader of Rabbis for Human Rights in Israel, was a recent guest. He discussed Human Rights and Zionism in Israel. Representatives from Americans for Peace Now, Churches for Middle East Peace, and the Middle East Institute joined the discussion. His organization, (Rabbis for Human Rights) works for Jewish and non-Jewish Israelis, but their best known work is for Palestinians' rights. Rabbis for Human Rights attempts to win back lands from settlers, as well as preventing home demolitions. Ascherman, who has frequently been arrested, is now banned from the East Jerusalem neighbourhood of Sheikh Jarrah as a result of his protesting.

On reconciling Zionism with his struggle for human rights, Ascherman described Zionism as a liberation movement for the Jewish people to end their oppression, and noted the many strands of Zionism; some he called "racist" and "disgusting," while others proclaim justice. While admitting there are "many types of discrimination and racism" within Israel, he challenges critics to find a democracy without these issues.

Ascherman considers the Palestinian right of return an international right. Just as the Jews prayed for the right of return for thousands of years, he cannot deny Palestinians this hope. However, he believes, these two rights of return contradict each other. He knows a Palestinian majority would destroy Israel's Jewish character, 'and so it will not happen'. He calls for the parties to make compromises, and says



that as a human rights activist he understands that "there are limits to human rights." Accordingly, the Palestinians have to make a tough choice between peace and claiming their undoubted rights. When asked what compromises Jews have made in the conflict, Rabbi Ascherman argued that Israel has given up land rights since accepting the U.N. partition plan of 1947, in which a Jewish state was carved out of Arab Palestine, allowing the minority

Jewish population the greater share of the land. Others made the point that since the partition Israel had seized even more land than it was allotted by the U.N. General Assembly.

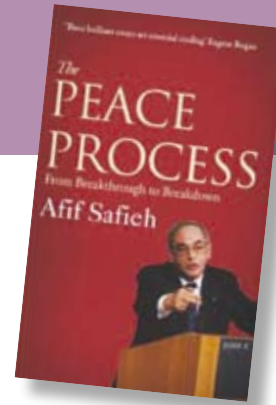
It is to the credit of The Foundation for Middle East Peace that these meetings take place in a reconciling spirit.

The Foundation for Middle East Peace was created in 1979 by Merle Thorpe, Jr., a Washington-based lawyer and philanthropist. Thorpe, one of the earliest Americans to recognize that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict was at the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, became deeply involved in searching for a solution. He created FMEP to promote a solution that would bring peace for Israelis and justice for Palestinians.

The Foundation advances this goal through education and advocacy, publication of books and pamphlets about the conflict, a speakers' programme to introduce Israeli, Palestinian, and other experts to U.S. audiences, public speaking by officers of the Foundation, and a small grant programme to support groups that contribute to peace between Israel and Palestine.

In 1992, recognising the growing threat of Israeli settlements to peace, the Foundation introduced the bimonthly Report on Israeli Settlements in the Occupied Territories, edited by Geoffrey Aronson. The Report contains detailed, authoritative analysis, data and maps on settlements and related issues.

The Foundation has also conducted major research studies: Palestinian Refugees, Arab Host Countries, and the Right of Return, under a contract with the European Union. *Evaluating the Prospects and Implications of Settlement Evacuation in the West Bank and Gaza*, have also been published under a contract with the International Development Research Centre, a Canadian organization.



## THE PEACE PROCESS: From Breakthrough to Breakdown

Afif Safieh

Afif Safieh is uniquely qualified to tell the inside story of the Palestinian view of their struggle for a viable independent state. He was born in Jerusalem in 1950 and has held a variety of diplomatic posts for more than thirty years. He served alongside Yasser Arafat in exile and became the Fatah Commissioner for International Relations. From the Beirut office he was in charge of Palestinian relations with the United Nations and with the European Union. Later he served as Head of Mission in London, Washington and Moscow, as well as the Holy See and The Netherlands. During his service in The Netherlands from 1987 to 1990, he was involved in the Stockholm negotiations which led to the first official and direct American-Palestinian dialogue.

In this book he gathers together the articles, lectures and interviews which reveal the development of the Palestinian thinking and diplomacy in the last three decades. During this time he met and worked with all the principal political leaders, Jimmy Carter and George Bush, John Major and Tony Blair, the Israeli leaders and Pope John Paul II. His writings have brought a warm response from many critics. Avi Shlaim describes the book as 'intellectually powerful' and the writer as 'articulate and eloquent'. Lord David Steele is relieved to find someone who can negotiate on the unresolved Middle East conflicts and retain 'sparkling good humour' and Judge Eugene Cotran welcomes his deep knowledge of history and the 'dignity and humanity of his search for a just peace for all Palestinians'.

Available from Saqi Bookshop 0207 229 8543. Hardback £16.99.

## HASSAN BARNABA DEHQANI-TAFTI

**John Clark, Chairman of the Friends of the Diocese of Iran writes:**

This is a most welcome selection of excerpts from the writings of and tributes to one of the outstanding pioneer bishops of the Anglican Communion in the twentieth century. Bishop Hassan Dehqani-Tafti (1920-2008) was the first Iranian Bishop in Iran (1961-1990) and the first President Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East (1976-1986). He led the indigenisation of the Episcopal Church in Iran and the wider region. He endured the martyrdom of his son and the pain of enforced exile following the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran.

This book recalls his many gifts. He was a wise pastor, teacher and evangelist, a guardian and confessor of the faith. He wrote or translated more than thirty books. He was a poet, hymn-writer and artist, a much loved husband, father and grandfather. This collection is a fitting complement to Bishop Hassan's own autobiography 'The Unfolding Design of My World'. By including tributes to him and recounting some of the joys and struggles that he faced it provides a fuller picture of him as a public Christian leader, as a family man and as a person of profound and developing Christian faith. Lovingly prepared by his wife Margaret it will be deeply appreciated by the many whose lives were touched by Bishop Hassan. It is also a gift and encouragement to the wider Church from the writings and memories of a much loved bishop.

Available from Sohrab Books Manor House Somerford Keynes Glos. GL7 6DL  
email: [themanor@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:themanor@globalnet.co.uk)

**Friends of the Diocese of Iran.**

The Spring Meeting will be held on 14th May and the Conference will be 26-28 August 2011.

**The Revd. Bassi Mirzania's Ministry – Anglican Ministry to Persians in Britain**

This ministry needs independent funding, which is handled by CMS. Those who wish to support should send cheques made out to CMS to Barbara Shaw (Hon. Treasurer of AMPB) at 1 Woodgrange Close, Thorpe Bay, Southend on Sea SS1 3EA.

# Obituaries

## **Ernest Henry Noble MBE 1924 – 2010**

**Bishop Clive Handford remembers a faithful servant of God and the church.**

Ernest Noble was one of the quiet stalwarts who have characterised all that is best in the Church. Many of us will have met him in the Middle East where he and Laura were inseparable in their commitment to the Church and in their enrichment of the communities in which they found themselves.

Ernest came to what would be the greater part of his life's work, at any rate in terms of time, by a somewhat unlikely route. As for many of his generation, the Second World War was a turning point. Having left school at 16 for the world of publishing, the War found him commissioned in the Royal Navy. After demobilisation, he read Modern Languages at Cardiff University and then for a time was an Education Officer in the Royal Air Force. But by then, thanks to an unscheduled naval visit to Devonport, he had met Laura who was to be his wife and constant companion, sharing his faith and interest in life.

The decision to learn Arabic at the Middle East Centre for Arab Studies, then at Shemlan in Lebanon, paved the way for a career in the Diplomatic Service, the greater part of it in the Middle East. It was there that many of us came to know Ernest and to be grateful for his presence among us. Successive postings took him to Tunisia, Morocco, South Yemen, Bahrain and Abu Dhabi.

Returning to Devon on retirement, Ernest and Laura made their home in Buckland Monachorum. Just as he had been a faithful and active member of the Church wherever he had been in the Middle East, so now he was in St Andrew's Buckland, serving there too as a Reader.

Ernest was a person on whom one could rely, always constructive and helpful while never forcing himself upon people. Innately courteous, he was in a real sense a gentleman. His family meant a great deal to him. He was a much loved and loving husband, father and grandfather. Despite the physical illness of his last years he continued to live life to the full.

We give thanks to God for Ernest, and express our deep sympathy to Laura and all the family. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

## **Revd Penny George 1955 – 2010**

**From the diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf**

Bishop Michael greatly regrets to announce the death of the Revd Penny George, who had the Bishop's Permission to Officiate in the diocese and was, during this last year, a loved and valued assistant priest at St Andrew Abu Dhabi.

Penny (formerly the Revd Penny Compton) had a teaching post there. Previously in her ordained ministry she had been curate of St Barnabas Northolt Park in the Diocese of London and team vicar in Hucknell Torkard in the Diocese of Southwell.

She took part in Diocesan Synod in Cyprus in February 2010 and will be missed both in Abu Dhabi and by those who met her at Synod, as well as in Britain.

Penny died on Monday 16 August in a road accident on the M40 while returning from Wales. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.



# Middle East Centre Archive

## – Jerusalem and East Mission Collection

### **The Middle East Centre Archive at St Antony's College, Oxford**

was founded in 1961 and specialises in preserving and making available to research the papers and photographs of individuals or organisations whose main area of operation has been the Middle East. Since 1975 the Middle East Centre Archive has been the custodian of the historic records of the Jerusalem and East Mission, now known as the Jerusalem and Middle East Church Association.

The Jerusalem and Middle East Church Association has a long and fascinating history. The Diocese of Jerusalem was founded in 1841 and was originally a joint English and Prussian venture. The bishops were to be nominated alternately by the English and Prussian sovereigns, to be consecrated by Anglican bishops and to have spiritual jurisdiction over Anglican and Lutheran Christians in Palestine. However in 1881, after the failure to obtain Episcopal orders for the Lutherans, the bishopric fell into abeyance for nearly six years. It was finally reconstituted on a purely Anglican basis in 1887 and the Venerable Archdeacon Blyth was consecrated Bishop in Jerusalem with jurisdiction over Syria, Egypt, Asia Minor, Cyprus, the region around the Red Sea, and, later, the Sudan and Iran. The Jerusalem Bishopric Fund, later the Jerusalem and East Mission Fund was set up by Bishop Blyth for the maintenance and development of the work of the diocese and this supportive work is continued by the Jerusalem and Middle East Church Association.

The Jerusalem and East Mission Collection, at 256 boxes, is the Middle East Centre Archive's largest Collection and one of its most well used. The records reflect the varied work of the Anglican Church in the Middle East including the running of schools and hospitals, looking after refugees, advocacy for the oppressed, missions work and relations with other churches. The Collection contains a complete set of this magazine, *Bible Lands*, which was first published in July 1899.

Over the last 35 years much work has been done to preserve and promote access to the Jerusalem and East Mission Collection. During 2009 to 2010 the Archive has digitised over 500 magic lantern slides and glass plate negatives in the Collection. This serves both preservation and access by cutting down on the need to handle fragile originals by printing easy-to-browse contact sheets. The magic lantern slides and glass negatives include many photographs of the Holy Land from the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Century as well as religious art, hymn sheets and photographs showing the work of the Mission. Some of these slides would have been used in talks about the Holy Land and in promoting the work of the diocese to potential supporters. To see a selection of images from the Collection please visit our online photo gallery at <http://www.sant.ox.ac.uk/mec/mecaphotos-j-and-em.html>

If you have lived or served in the Middle East please do consider adding your papers and photographs to the Middle East Centre Archive, St Antony's College, Oxford OX2 6JF (Email [debbie.usher@sant.ox.ac.uk](mailto:debbie.usher@sant.ox.ac.uk)).

*Debbie Usher, archivist*



# Praying round the Province



The Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East, home to the three Abrahamic faiths, centre of the world's political conflicts, asks for your prayers.

We offer this monthly cycle:

**1st** The Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East and The Most Revd. Dr. Mouneer Anis, Presiding Bishop

## **THE DIOCESE OF JERUSALEM AND THE MIDDLE EAST**

**2nd** The Bishop, Rt. Revd Suheil Dawani and his wife, Shafeeqa. For wisdom and courage as he leads the church in five troubled countries. The Cathedral staff led by Canon Bob Edmunds and the Rev Zahi Nasser chaplain to the Arab congregation.

**3rd** The clergy serving the parishes in Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon and the congregations who keep the faith and sustain the churches in troubled times.

**4th** The hospitals, and centres that tend the sick: St. Luke's Nablus, Alhi Arab hospital Gaza, Penman Clinic Zebabdeh.

**5th** The schools that prepare the next generation: St. George's Jerusalem, the International School Jerusalem, Arab Episcopal School Ramallah, Vocational Training Centre Ramallah, Christ's School Nazareth, St. John's School Haifa, The Ahliyyah School for Girls, the Bishop's Kindergarten and the Bishop's School for Boys Amman, The Theodore Schneller Vocational Training Institute Amman, St. Saviour's School Zerqa, St. John Baptist School for Integration of the Blind Irbid, St. George's School Lod.

**6th** The centres that give hope to the hurt: in Princess Basma Centre for Disabled Children Jerusalem, Holy Land Institute for the Deaf Salt, The Jofeh Community Rehabilitation Centre Jordan Valley, The Father Andeweg Institute for the Deaf Beirut, St. Luke's Centre for the Mentally Disabled Beirut, the Home for the Elderly Amman, The Episcopal Home for Children Ramallah.

**7th** The work of the guest houses: St. George's Jerusalem, St. Margaret's Nazareth, Schneller Institute and Amman that they may be centres of hospitality and refreshment for all guests.

**8th** The Kids 4Peace work, the Peace and Reconciliation Movement, Sabeel and the people from all sides who seek peace and pursue it

**9th** The leaders of the nations: King Abdullah II of Jordan, Mahmoud Abbas of Palestine, Dr. Bashar Assad of Syria, Fouad Siniora of Lebanon and Binyamin Netanyahu of Israel.

*For the healing of the nations, Lord we pray with one accord,  
For a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords  
To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.*

## **THE DIOCESE OF IRAN**

**10th** The Bishop, Rt. Revd. Azad Marshall and his wife Lesley, and for his pastoral visits to Iran.

**11th** Revd. Canon Nosratullah Sharifian and Mr. Baba Mohammadi in Ishafan, Revd. Christopher Edgar in Tehran, Mr. Ashrafi in Shiraz, and their faithful people.

**12th** The wisdom and strength of those who worship in Ishafan, Tehran and Shiraz that they may contribute well to Iranian society and live full and free lives.

**13th** That plans to develop an Inter-faith Centre for dialogue in Tehran may be fruitful.

**14th** The Government, the Supreme Leader, the President, the Governors and all in authority.

*We find thee, Lord, in other's need  
We see thee in our brothers  
By loving word and kindly deed  
We serve the Man for Others.*



# Praying round the Province

Day by day take a break to focus prayer  
for some of the world's bravest people  
and some of the most troubled

## ● THE DIOCESE OF CYPRUS AND THE GULF

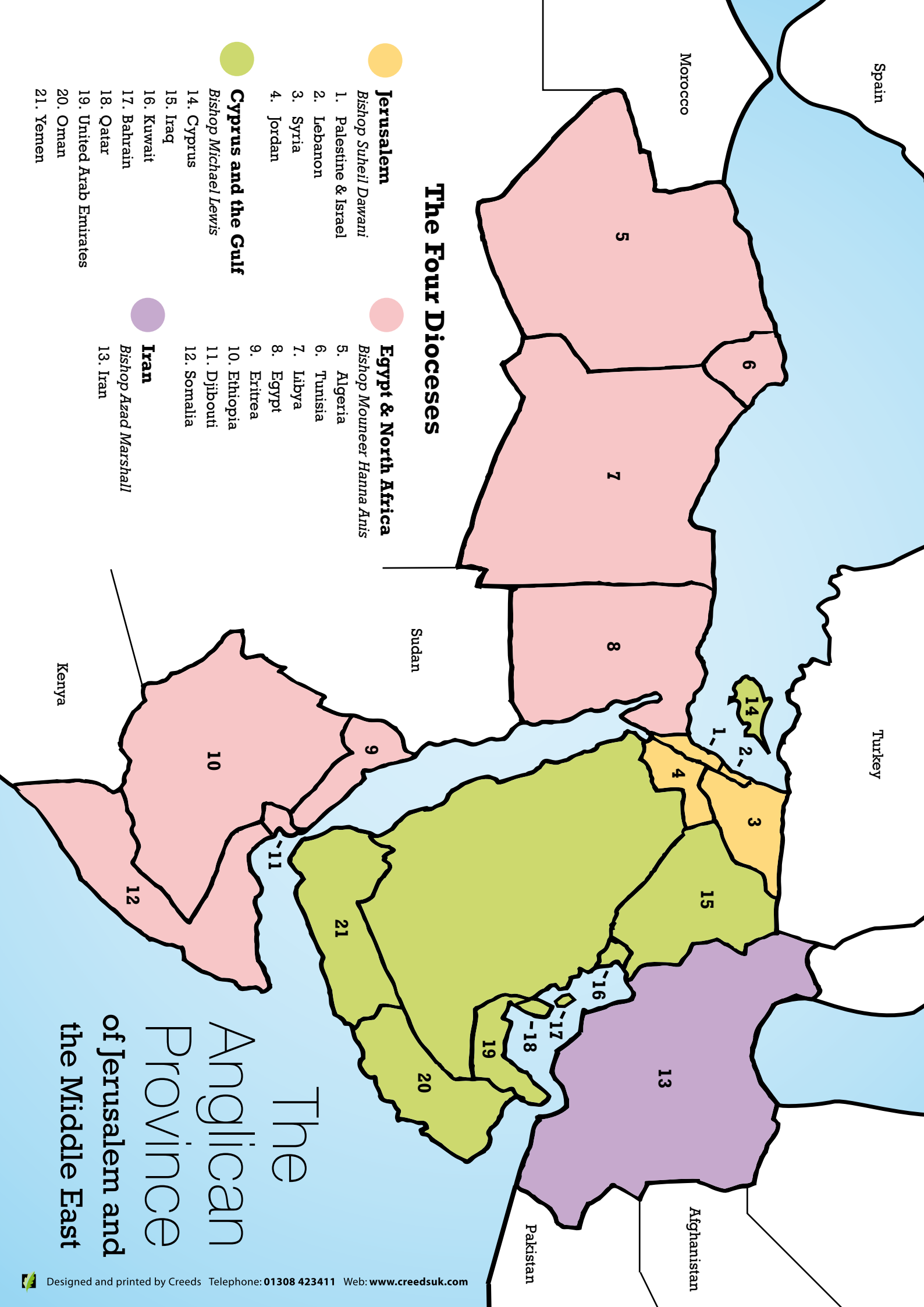
- 15th** The Bishop, Rt. Revd. Michael Lewis and his wife, Julia, and his Administrative staff.
- 16th** The Dean of St.Paul's Cathedral Nicosia, Very Revd. John Tyrrell and his wife Carol. The Dean of St.Christopher's Cathedral Bahrain, Very Revd. Christopher Butt and his wife Tricia.
- 17th** The Archdeacon of the Gulf, Ven. Bill Schwartz and his wife Edith. The Archdeacon of Cyprus (elect) Ven. Dr. John Holdsworth and his wife Sue.
- 18th** The clergy of Cyprus serving the people of Kyrenia, Larnaca, Limassol, Ayia Nape, Paphos, Famagusta and for the faithful who serve those churches. Also for Katafyio Retreat House.
- 19th** The clergy of the Gulf, serving the people of Dubai, Sharjah, Oman, Jebel Ali, Ras al Khaimeh, Aden, and the scattered congregations of the Arabian Peninsular who keep the faith privately.
- 20th** The building of the church in Qatar, and for Archdeacon Bill Schwartz who leads the work and the appeal for funding.
- 21st** The Ecumenical congregation of Baghdad, led by Canon Andrew White. The people of Iraq, of all faiths, and all the Iraqi Christians who are sheltering in other lands.
- 22nd** The political leaders of the ten jurisdictions, in Cyprus, in Iraq and in the Gulf States, seeking just and stable government.

*Speak to us and every nation, bid our jarring discords cease  
To the starving and the homeless may we bring a full release.*

## ● DIOCESE OF EGYPT with N.AFRICA and THE HORN OF AFRICA

- 23rd** The Bishop, the Most Revd. Dr. Mouneer Anis and his wife, Nancy, and the Interim Dean of the Cathedral, Rt.Revd Derek Eaton and his wife, Alice.
  - 24th** The Bishop in the Horn of Africa, Rt. Revd. Andrew Proud and his wife, Janice, with those who are establishing a centre at Gambella.
  - 25th** The Bishop in North Africa, Revd. Bill Musk and his wife, Hillary.
  - 26th** The clergy who serve the church day by day in Egypt, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Ethiopia and Eritrea, and the congregations who sustain them.
  - 27th** The Institutions that serve the community: The Harpur Hospital in Cairo, Health Centre in Sadat City, the Episcopal School Menouf, the work with the deaf, with refugees, with prisoners and in other areas of welfare and social need.
  - 28th** The Theological School in Alexandria with its Principal Revd. Emad Azmi, all his staff and students, that it may be a place of sound learning and good fellowship.
  - 29th** The leaders of the many and diverse nations that form the diocese, that Government may be just and sound.
- \*\*\*
- 30th** The Jerusalem and the Middle East Church Association, its Chairman Mr. Richard Owens, the chair of Trustees Mr. John Clark, and all those whose gifts, past and present, sustain the work.

*Bring to our world of strife  
The sovereign word of peace  
That war may haunt the earth no more  
And desolation cease*



## The Four Dioceses

### Jerusalem

*Bishop Suheil Dawani*

1. Palestine & Israel
2. Lebanon
3. Syria
4. Jordan

### Egypt & North Africa

*Bishop Mouneer Hanna Anis*

5. Algeria
6. Tunisia
7. Libya
8. Egypt
9. Eritrea
10. Ethiopia
11. Djibouti
12. Somalia

### Cyprus and the Gulf

*Bishop Michael Lewis*

14. Cyprus
15. Iraq
16. Kuwait
17. Bahrain
18. Qatar
19. United Arab Emirates
20. Oman
21. Yemen

### Iran

*Bishop Azad Marshall*

13. Iran

The  
Anglican  
Province  
of Jerusalem and  
the Middle East