

*Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect
the dignity of every human being?*



PIN Bulletin for Local Organizers

Volume 9, March 2020



Images from Diocese of Jerusalem Website

**GOOD FRIDAY IN THE TIME OF COVID-19
An Appeal from EPF's Palestine/Israel Network**

Dear Friends,

For many in our extended human family, the current global health concern over COVID-19 comes to lives already stressed to the breaking point by poverty, war, sickness, racism and daily oppression. Nowhere is this truer than in the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, which prompts this urgent appeal for your especially considered support of this year's **Good Friday Offering**.

Health care for people in the West Bank and Gaza was already jeopardized by withdrawal of all US financial support to UNRWA and US AID Projects. So now, the health care ministries throughout the Diocese will have to struggle even more to meet the needs.

Parishioners and staff in West Bank and Gaza churches are being particularly pressed by border and checkpoint closures. Hospitality ministries in Nazareth, Jerusalem, and Ramallah are suffering as tourism is restricted, so those employees face temporary loss of livelihood and even worse economic circumstances.

Those of us who watch from a distance wonder how we can help our brothers and sisters in Christ in the land of the Holy One. This year, 2020, the **Good Friday Offering** comes just in time. Since 1922, the Good Friday Offering has been a way for the people of The Episcopal Church to reach out in love to Christians in the provinces of the Middle East through support for the ministries of pastoral care, education and health care in a direct, material way. This year, that support is crucial.

To live out our respect for the health of others, most of our church doors will be closed for holy week this year. See the Presiding Bishop's statement here. We will miss the rich experience of making our offering together, but as we gather virtually, solemnly, to **commemorate the first Good Friday Offering of our Lord Jesus on the Cross**, may the love that flows from that Cross fill our hearts and move us to share what we have - our prayers, our faith, our advocacy, our material gifts - with our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Jerusalem. There are no walls, no conflicts, no pandemic, that can separate us from the love of God expressed in Jesus, God's Son.

To give your gift to the Good Friday Offering, please write a check payable to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society.

Write "Good Friday Offering" in the memo line, and mail to:

DFMS - Protestant Episcopal Church US

P.O. Box 958983

St. Louis, MO 63195-8983

Keeping PIN's Top Priority for 2020 in focus:

Visit your Bishop! Build a relationship with your diocesan General Convention Deputation.

As we shelter at home in response to Covid-19, it's a good time to mail packets to our bishops and deputations, as we await a green light for face-to-face visits. PIN's hot topic one-page flyers are easy to download and mail. Here are four new one-pagers and a glossary:

<https://epfnational.org/pin/christian-zionism/>

Sec. of State Pompeo and U.S. Ambassador Friedman



<https://epfnational.org/pin/the-disappearing-church/>

<https://epfnational.org/pin/pin-glossary/>

<https://epfnational.org/pin/nation-state-law/>



<https://epfnational.org/pin/trump-peace-plan/>

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Another resource from PIN's Palestine Israel Tool Kit:

["What is BDS?"](#)

An overview of the BDS Movement from the website:
bdsmovement.net

While the whole world is battling COVID-19, Israelis troops are busy doing their share to save humanity:

In the last 2 weeks they managed to...

- Kill 16-year-old Palestinian.
- Injure 200, including 37 children.
- Carry out 78 search and arrest operations.
- Detain 110, including 16 children.
- Demolish 16 homes and structures.
- Displace 35 people.
- Bulldoze vital road used by many Palestinians.
- Demolish Palestinian homes within the 1948 borders.
- Raze large area of crops and farmland in bedouin villages.
- Plan to build 1733 new illegal settlement homes.
- Arrest volunteers for distributing coronavirus awareness pamphlets.
- Apprehend a young man for performing sanitation work.
- Protect settlers as they cut down 385 trees, & vandalise vehicles.

and the list goes on.....



The Palestine Project

STAY CONNECTED:

