PIN Bulletin For Local Organizers SPECIAL EDITION

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





A Kairos Moment

"Now. The churches of occupied Palestine are ringing their bells in support of Jerusalem and against Zionist apartheid occupation attacks and violations, occupied Palestine, 11 May, 2021." (Younes Arar on Facebook) The bells of resistance are ringing. Now is the Kairos, when the ferocious cruelty of Israel's settler colonial regime and its citizen supporters is on full display for the whole world to see -- the tear gas, grenades, and raids on worshipers at the holy site of al-Aqsa Mosque; the Lehava gangs prowling the East Jerusalem streets during Ramadan, chanting "Death to Arabs."

The voices of the Patriarchs and Heads of Churches in Jerusalem also rang out this week in a <u>Statement</u> decrying the violent acts, "whether at Sheikh Jarrah or al-Aqsa, which violate the sanctity of the people of Jerusalem...Actions undermining the safety of worshipers and the

dignity of Palestinians who are subject to eviction are unacceptable."

The church bells are ringing: "We call upon the International Community and all people of good will to put an end to these provocative actions and pray for the peace of Jerusalem." Now is the Kairos, the moment of opportunity for action, even as the violence accelerates beyond Jerusalem, with deadly bombs raining down on Gaza and bloody clashes erupting in Israeli towns.

As Israel brutally attacks Palestinians for resisting the oppression they have faced for 73 years, Palestinians from Sheikh Jarrah to Lydd to Gaza are standing up against Israel's continued ethnic cleansing and apartheid in Palestine. The bells and the Patriarchs are calling on us, the international community and Christian sisters and brothers, to act.

What Can We Do at this Kairos Moment?

** Share this Bulletin with your bishop, your clergy and wardens. Let the bells of Jerusalem & call to action resound in your diocese.

**Get serious about our own complicity in the violence. Each year, \$3,800,000,000 of our tax dollars are invested in Israel's oppression of Palestinians. Our country provides unconditional diplomatic support and military funding to Israel; Israel uses U.S. backing to act with impunity and entrench its apartheid regime. The communities here at home who would most benefit from those tax dollars are Black and Brown. We as the church need to demand: stop funding apartheid, start investing in health and safety for all.

**As individuals and as dioceses and as General Convention, support the aims of the U.S. Campaign for Palestinian Human Rights:

- Lobby to End US Military Funding to Israel
- Hold Israel accountable by supporting sanctions, to be lifted when international law is obeyed & apartheid ends
- Honor Palestinian calls for justice & self-determination and affirm their right to resist ethnic cleansing and dehumanization
- Support & lobby for the McCollum bill, H.R. 2590

Follow this link to listen to Beth Miller (Jewish Voice for Peace) and Brad Parker (Defense for Children International-Palestine) as they discuss the significance of Rep. McCollum's bill and the growing power of the Palestinian Grassroots movements in Congress.

Also recommended is an analysis of public response to H.R. 2590 by Stephen Salaita HERE



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