

# ***PIN Bulletin For Local Organizers***

***Volume 53, December 2023***

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



## **The Feast of Holy Innocents**

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***The Collect : We remember today, O God, the slaughter of the holy innocents of Bethlehem by King Herod. Receive, we pray, into the arms of your mercy all innocent victims; and by your great might frustrate the designs of evil tyrants and establish your rule of justice, love, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.***



Mohammed Salem/Reuters

**Over 9000 Gazan children are counted among those killed by Israel; the uncounted lie dead in the rubble.**

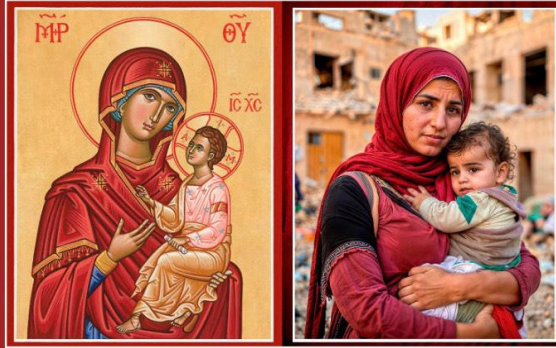
### **St. Matthew's Tale of Terror: Holy Innocents**

***When Herod [that tool of Caesar Augustus] saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, whom he had sent to locate the infant Prince of Peace, he fell into a furious rage, and he ordered and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under...***

**When children are slaughtered, the politics of death are at work: death in the service of power, sustaining the survival of kings and empires, of tribes and peoples, of death-dealing social structures and institutions and ideologies, eliminating all stumbling blocks in the way. When children are brazenly dehumanized and marked for death -- or the life-in-death of hunger and thirst and disease, homelessness and indignity, impoverishment without hope of study or work or self-fulfillment, with a devalued culture and identity -- the politics of death pervade the kingdom. Any kingdom.**

***When the wise men had departed, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt ... seeking refuge:***

# MOTHERS SEEKING REFUGE



**#STOPGAZAGENOCIDE**

## Searching for Responses to the Crisis in Palestine

Be Steadfast in Prayer, Study and Action

### PRAY

The Rev Leyla King has created [this litany](#) for the Holy Land.

### STUDY

Learn more about the history and politics of Hamas from [Hamas Contained: The Rise and Pacification of Palestinian Resistance](#) Tareq Baconi and from [this recent interview](#) with the author.

Deepen your understanding of Gaza:  
[Gaza: An Inquest Into its Martyrdom](#), Norman Finkelstein

Hear the voices of Palestinian Writers in Gaza:  
[Light in Gaza](#), [Writings Born of Fire](#), Jihad Abusalim, Jennifer Bing,  
and Michael Merryman Lotze, Editors

Consult news sources that engage Palestinian voices, such as:

[Al Jazeera](#)  
[Middle East Eye](#)  
[Democracy Now!](#)

### ACT

## **Ceasefire Now!**

The Episcopal Church has issued [this action alert](#). Use it to write to your representatives demanding an immediate ceasefire. Disseminate it in your parishes and dioceses and [sign up](#) to receive future Alerts.

EPF PIN has endorsed [this appeal](#) for ceasefire from Palestinian Christians. You may sign as an individual.

Explore these initiatives to condemn US complicity in genocide and ethnic cleansing:

Center for Constitutional Rights, [Stop the Genocide](#)  
CodePink, [Investigate Israel's War Crimes in Gaza](#)

Opportunities for donations to agencies serving the people of Gaza and the West Bank:

[Gaza Mental Health Foundation](#)  
UNRWA  
1for3  
[Middle East Children's Alliance](#)

Follow and support the inspiring work of our Jewish allies:  
[Jewish Voice for Peace](#)  
[IfNotNow](#)

Consider gift giving that supports Palestinian artisans:  
[PalestineOnlineStore.com](#)

Write to us at [epfpin@epfnational.org](mailto:epfpin@epfnational.org) to share more resources.

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*Please note - EPF and EPF PIN are now on a new platform for giving! Whether you are a monthly giver or a first time giver, please visit our new platform to make your gift. Consider increasing your monthly donation to support our efforts for peace and justice.*



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