





God, who said *let light shine out of darkness*, made his light shine in our hearts. 2 Corinthians 4:6

# ABOUT

The Old City of Jerusalem has eight gateways, each one offering a distinctive portal into the place where many generations of pilgrims remember the death and resurrection of Jesus. Not too far from the historic Damascus Gate in East Jerusalem, there is another gateway, used by thousands from around the world who seek spiritual renewal in the Land of the Holy One: St. George's College Jerusalem.

The College is an integral part of the ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. It is nestled within the bustling St. George's Cathedral Close, alongside the diocesan Cathedral, guest house, administrative offices, episcopal residence and St. George's School (Kindergarten to Secondary), whose students are often found playing beside the College.

# WHY - THE PRESENT CRISIS

St. George's College was founded in 1920 for Palestinian seminarians and was redeveloped in the 1960s as a centre for pilgrimage, teaching, and reconciliation, for clergy and laity from the worldwide Anglican Communion and other churches. The College provides a unique gateway to the Land of the Holy One and those who live there. The College's staff offer skilled guidance and information to enable pilgrims to see, feel, and understand the biblical and contemporary richness of the land and the Christians, Jews, and Muslims who live there. The College is wholly committed to building awareness and dialogue through pilgrimage, education, and by arranging encounters between different groups of people to promote reconciliation.

The College normally draws many pilgrims to the Land of the Holy One, and many local Palestinians provide services and goods to pilgrims. **Everyone benefits when pilgrims are on the land.** 

The warfare that has intensified in the Middle East since October 2023 has had a devastating impact on the ministry of the Diocese of Jerusalem. Archbishop Hosam Naoum has said "my diocese is bleeding at this time" and he has appealed to Anglicans from around the world to offer prayers and practical support.

Violence and uncertainty have created a major crisis for St. George's College. The \$2 million annual budget of the College is primarily supported through earned revenue from pilgrims' fees, gift shop sales, and other lodging fees. This revenue stream has been totally disrupted. It is highly unlikely that pilgrimages will resume in the next twelve months and there are insufficient funds to provide already-reduced salaries for the College's staff and essential operations in 2025. The situation is dire for the remaining staff and their families, and for the future of the College itself.







### LET LIGHT SHINE

St. George's College Jerusalem is a gem of the worldwide Anglican Communion. Although some emergency funding has been made available in 2024 through the North American Committee (NAC), St. George's College Jerusalem is now appealing to all Anglicans and friends to help provide essential support in 2025.

Let Light Shine: The Canadian Campaign for St. George's **College Jerusalem** is the NAC appeal to friends of the College in Canada. It will run from December 2024 to April 2025.

#### The Campaign objective is to raise \$250,000 from Canadian friends of St. George's College Jerusalem, to provide funds for paying staff salaries and related operations in 2025.

During this time of alarming tension and restrictions, the College has adapted with creativity and resilience. The Dean and remaining staff have produced videos for virtual pilgrimages, developed future curricula, and continue to maintain the facility.

The Canadian Campaign team maintains close contact with the College's Dean, the Very Reverend Canon Richard Sewell, and with Archbishop Hosam, both of whom are deeply dedicated and committed to the College. Please join in solidarity with them to help St. George's College in its time of need.

Friends in Canada can donate to the St. George's College Jerusalem fund through the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa. Tax receipts are available for all donations, with online donations receiving an automatic receipt.

# HOW TO DONATE

#### **Online Payments**

To make an online tax-deductible donation via Anglican Diocese of Ottawa from within Canada visit: www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/124044

#### Payments by Cheque

Simply mail your cheque, payable to: Anglican Diocese of Ottawa with St. George's College Jerusalem Fund on the memo line to the following address:

**Donate Now** 

Anglican Diocese of Ottawa 71 Bronson Avenue Ottawa, ON K1R 6G6

# armed conflict."

#### LET LIGHT SHINE For more information Contact:

The Right Reverend Shane Parker Canadian Campaign Chair

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www.StGeorgesCollegeJerusalemNAC.org/Canada

"Ever since the war in Gaza began on October 7 last year, we have been aware of the prayers and deep concern of so many friends of St. George's College who have reached out to us to assure us that they are with us in this time of great difficulty. Now we are in a position of needing financial help to secure our position as the war and terrible impacts roll on through another year. We are resilient and determined and confident that the grace of God will sustain us through this challenging time. We appreciate everything that is being done to support the staff and the ministry of the College."



The Very Reverend Canon **Richard Sewell** Dean

"We are asking all our friends around the world to come together to help St. George's College and to walk with us during these dark times of war and distress. We ask you to be companions on the way so that we may continue to work and serve Christ in the ministry of pilgrimage and love and light. We thank all our friends and partners who have come through the doors of St. George's College and for those who will come in the future. We ask you to join hands with us and to be generous so that we can continue to celebrate St. George's College as a beacon of life and love in Jerusalem, and from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth."



The Most Reverend Hosam Naoum Archbishop of Jerusalem and The Middle East

"Like so many Canadian Anglicans who travel in the Land of the Holy One, I have had the pleasure of visiting St. George's College Jerusalem. It is a special place that promotes dialogue, understanding and reconciliation in a world that urgently needs all three. I encourage Anglicans across Canada to support St. George's College through the difficult circumstances brought about by



Most Reverend Anne Germond Acting Primate of Canada

