

2025 年 2 月

親愛的主教弟兄們：  
再次寫信與您談談聖地的現況。

我深感有責任以教宗的名義，向全球天主教主教致函，傳達教會的呼籲，回應那些受苦受難的人的呼聲。

執筆當下，雖然休戰協議暫時生效，我們都明白這和平多麼脆弱。戰火雖暫歇，卻無法解決根源問題，更難以消除長年的仇恨。但至少我們眼前不再有爆炸煙硝，不必日日面對無法挽回的傷痛。

我們目睹了太多淚水、絕望與毀滅。但我們仍懷抱希望：死亡不會永遠得勝。我們重新燃起希望，因為我們看到復活的主，我們的主耶穌基督，祂在那片土地上活生生地揭示了祂受苦的傷口。

教宗方濟各在 2024 年 10 月 7 日寫給聖地基督徒的信中，說的不只是美好願望，而是切實可行的盼望：「住在聖經記載之地的弟兄姊妹們，你們是渴望和平的弱小群體。感謝你們堅持信仰、守護家園，在困境中依然祈禱與相愛。你們是天主珍愛的種子。就像被埋入土中的種子終會發芽見光，請不要被周圍的黑暗吞噬。你們要被撒播在你們的神聖之地，長出希望的苗芽，因為信德之光促使你們在眾人談論仇恨時為愛作見證，在衝突擴大時彼此相遇，在一切互相對立時團結一心。」

現在我們必須行動——我說這話時既感沉重又堅定——要盡快幫助生命重現生機。主教弟兄，天主正在對您和您牧養的群眾發出戲劇性的呼籲：「『人子，這些骨頭可以復生嗎？』我答說：『吾主上主！你知道。』祂對我說：『你向這些骨頭講預言，向他們說：乾枯的骨頭，聽上主的話罷！吾主上主對這些骨頭這樣說：看，我要使氣息進入你們內，你們必要復活』」（則卅七 3~5）。每個人，從孩童開始，都有權利活在和平中，重新擁有家園和學校，能安心玩耍而不必恐懼死亡威脅。對我們基督徒來說，聖地具有特殊的價值；它們是道成肉身的見證。千百年來，不同傳統的基督徒守護著這些地方，聖地方濟各會院小兄弟會會士更以可敬忠忱維繫至今。

這些聖地周邊已發展出重要的牧靈工程：堂區、學校、醫院、養老院、移民與難民服務中心。為支持這些工作，教宗聖保祿六世設立了「為聖地募捐」，每年聖週五或各地指定日期舉行。

今年募捐特別關鍵：疫情後朝聖活動停擺，基督徒經營的小型經濟活動受創，許多人被迫離鄉。若要守護聖地、保持與聖地的積極連結，我們必須支持當地基督徒團體——他們正以不同的傳統，也以我們的名義，持續讚頌與人同在的天主。這需要各地教會全力支持。

主教弟兄們，我懇請你們成為這項使命的推動者，讓教友們記得我們在新「加爾瓦略山」（耶穌苦難）的時代目睹的慘況。聖地、聖所、天主子民都是我們的家人，因為他們是我們共同的遺產。請務必將募捐列為牧靈重點——這關係著從耶穌時代延續至今的信仰傳承。相信各位會以熱情與關懷動員所屬團體。

請避免為相同目的另辦募捐，這會分散伯多祿繼承人（羅馬主教）發起的全球性愛德行動的效果。各國聖地募捐專員可直接將款項匯至本部。切勿像古代有些人那樣，把這「儀式」當作與己無關的事。

教宗方濟各向各位致以祝福：在這希望禧年，天主必會記得所有成為祂恩寵見證者與和平工具的人。聖地的基督徒正等待著我們。感謝您，也預祝禧年朝聖之旅平安蒙福。

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（主教團祕書處 譯）

註：在以下網站可找到聖座東方教會部在聖地的工作簡介：

[www.orientchurch.va/Colletta Terra Santa](http://www.orientchurch.va/CollettaTerraSanta).

February, 2025

Prot. N. 1/2025

Dear Brother in the Episcopate,

Here I am to talk to you once again about the Holy Land.

I feel a strong sense of responsibility to address the Catholic Bishops of the world, in the name of the Holy Father, conveying the Church's appeal in response to the cry of those who are suffering so much.

As I write to you, our hearts are lifted by the ceasefire in effect. We know that it is fragile and that, by its very nature, it will not be enough on its own to solve the problems and extinguish the hatred in that area. But at least our eyes no longer see explosions, perpetuating the anguish of the irreparable.

We have witnessed tears, despair and destruction everywhere. Now our hope is that the defeat inflicted by death will not be its eternal victory. And our hope is renewed in seeing the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord, who in that very land revealed the wounds of His passion, alive.

Today we feel that the words addressed by the Holy Father to the Christians who live in the Holy Places were not a pious wish, but a possible hope: "you, brothers and sisters in Christ who dwell in the lands of which the Scriptures speak most often, are a small, defenceless flock, thirsting for peace. Thank you for what you are, thank you for wanting to remain in your lands, thank you for being able to pray and love despite everything. You are a seed loved by God. Just as a seed, apparently pressed down by the earth that covers it, is always able to find its way upwards, towards the light, in order to bear fruit and give life, do not let yourselves be engulfed by the darkness that surrounds you. Planted in your sacred lands, become sprouts of hope, because the light of faith leads you to testify to love amid words of hatred, to encounter amid growing confrontation, to unity amid increasing hostility" (*Letter to the Catholics of the Middle East*, 7 October 2024).

Immediately, our duty – and I use this term with both trepidation and determination – comes to mind: to run, as soon as concretely possible, to help life to be reborn. To you, Brother Bishop, and to all those whom you animate in your ministry, God's dramatic appeal is addressed: "Son of man, can these bones live?" I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause spirit to enter you, and you shall live'" (*Ezek. 37:3-5*). Everyone, starting with children, has the right to live in peace and to have homes and schools again, to play together without the fear of seeing the satanic grin of death again. It is true. For us Christians, the Holy Places have a special value; they are the incarnation of the Incarnation. From the very beginning, Christian communities of diverse traditions have safeguarded them and, for centuries, the Friars Minor of the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land have cared for them with admirable fidelity.

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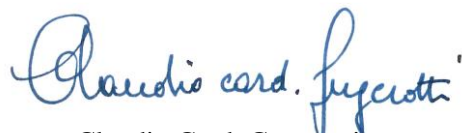
Initiatives of great pastoral value have sprung up around those places: parishes, schools, hospitals, homes for the elderly, and assistance centres for migrants, displaced persons and refugees. Precisely to help support all this, Pope Saint Paul VI instituted the Collection for the Holy Places, repeated annually on Good Friday or on another locally established date.

This year the Collection becomes an essential resource: after the pandemic, with the almost complete interruption of pilgrimages and the small economic activities that Christians in particular have created alongside them, many have been forced into exile. If we want to strengthen the Holy Land and ensure living contact with the Holy Places, we must sustain Christian communities that, in their various traditions, offer perennial praise to the God-with-us, also in our name. For this to happen, we absolutely need the generous support of your communities.

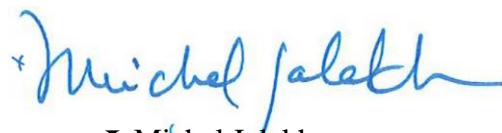
I would like you, Brother Bishops, to become persuasive apostles of this commitment, remembering the images of destruction and death that have passed before our eyes in these times of new Calvary. The Holy Land, the Holy Places, the Holy People of God are your family, because they are the heritage of all of us. I implore you to feel the Collection as one of your pastoral priorities: at stake is the survival of this precious presence of ours, which dates back directly to the time of Jesus. I am certain that you will transmit your enthusiasm and your affectionate care to the communities entrusted to you.

Please avoid that promoting parallel collections for the same purpose, which would compromise the meaning and effectiveness of your charity, a universal initiative of the Successor of Peter, the Bishop of Rome. The Commissariats of the Holy Land in your country can send what you collect directly to this Dicastery. We anticipate that no community will consider this “liturgy”, as it was called in ancient times, as something that is not its concern.

Pope Francis sends all of you his Blessing: God will not forget, especially in this Jubilee Year of Hope, those who have become witnesses of His Providence and instruments of His Peace. Our Christians of the Holy Land await you. Thank you and have a good Jubilee pilgrimage.



Claudio Card. Gugerotti  
Prefect



✠ Michel Jalakh, oam  
Archbishop Secretary