

The Holy Land Crisis

Conflict is the story of the Holy Land where for centuries, faith, history and possession of land collide.



The COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing conflict have severely impacted the Holy Land's tourism industry, a key source of income for thousands of Christians. For the first time in 1,600 years, pilgrims were absent, resulting in economic losses estimated at \$320 million – the equivalent of all wages in the tourism sector.

The situation remains fragile, with increased violence and restrictions limiting access to work, education and healthcare for hundreds of thousands of Holy Land Christians. Both sides continue to endure significant suffering, and the need for resources and support is critical.



Christians, now a small minority, are disappearing from the region. Economic and political pressures force many to leave. In 1940, Jerusalem had 45,000 Christians; today, fewer than 10,000 remain. Christians now account for less than 2% of the Holy Land's population.



Franciscan Response

The Franciscans are committed to serving Christians in the Holy Land. In 1342, Pope Clement VI tasked the Franciscans with caring for the holy sites of Christendom and ministering to the faithful in the Holy Land.

Today, the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land plays a significant role in supporting the Christian community, providing for the ordinary necessities of life – food, clothing, work and education.

As custodians of Christian hope, the friars preach in word and action peace, love, mercy and forgiveness to a people struggling, to those forced from their homes, to a world in crisis, void of security.

Help us keep Christians in the land of Christ.



The Foundation

FFHL was founded in 1994 to inform and educate the general public about the plight of Christians in the Holy Land, where inadequate housing, high unemployment and limited educational opportunities are causing widespread suffering and spurring a mass exodus of the indigenous Christian population.

Increased awareness of the complex human rights issues involving the Christians in this part of the world, creates the opportunity for Christians to remain in the homeland, to receive an education, to practice their faith freely and to live in peace. This is the vision of FFHL.

For additional information, please contact:

**FRANCISCAN FOUNDATION
FOR THE HOLY LAND**

P.O. Box 29086

Washington, D.C. 20017-9086

855.500.FFHL (3345)

Info@ffhl.org | FFHL.org

FFHL is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in the United States. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

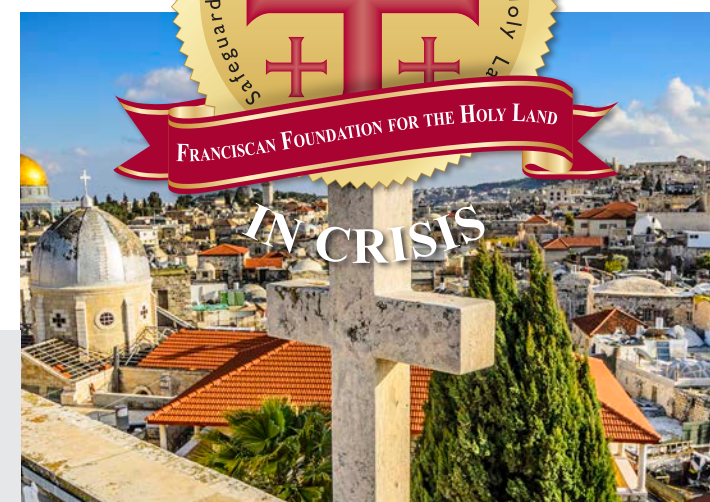
Join the Good Shepherd Society
A PLANNED GIVING OPPORTUNITY

Join our legacy community and help preserve Christianity's birthplace for future generations.

Your support keeps Christian families in the land where Jesus walked – building something that will endure long after we're gone.



For more information on planned giving, visit FFHLLegacy.org.



Complete this form with your gift and mail in today. Thank you.

Name

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City

Phone

State

Zip Code

Email

Please indicate your donation amount:

☐ \$5,000

☐ \$2,500

☐ \$1,000

☐ \$500

☐ \$250

☐ \$100

☐ \$50

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I choose to give by:

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Credit Card

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Signature

Months



Legacy gifts through the Good Shepherd Society (GSS) create lasting impacts in the Holy Land. If you are interested in planned giving opportunities, visit ffhllegacy.org or check the box below.

☐ I'd like to receive information about planned giving.

You Can Donate Online: FFHL.org/Donate-Now

Stay in touch! Provide your email above to receive news, updates and stories on the Holy Land and about how FFHL is making a difference.

Contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law. Donations will go to unrestricted. See our website for all program information.

What FFHL Supports



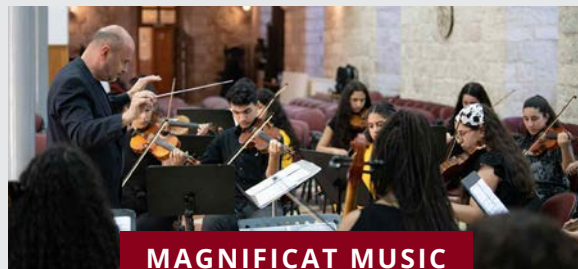
UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Since 1997, FFHL has awarded hundreds of university scholarships to marginalized Christian students who are now doctors, nurses, lawyers and architects. With a higher education, students are more likely to secure employment and remain in their homeland.



ELEMENTARY & HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

FFHL supports elementary and high school programs with annual grants. Our schools teach the importance of family and community, help those in need and welcome newcomers. We provide a Christian education that addresses global issues like poverty and social injustice, guiding students to make positive choices for peace, solidarity and development.



MAGNIFICAT MUSIC PROGRAM

The Magnificat Institute uses music to bring together youth from different backgrounds in the Holy Land, promoting cooperation and understanding.



VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

FFHL offers vocational scholarships for Holy Land Christians, providing training in trades like carpentry, plumbing and mechanics, along with accredited diplomas and tailored tool kits to help students enter the workforce.



SERVICES TO THE POOR

During times of crisis, FFHL serves the community by delivering the essentials such as food, water and medicine to those unable to access these items. In addition to counseling, medical support and social activities, FFHL provides summer camps, marriage preparation and prayer support to help Holy Land Christians overcome challenges and improve their quality of life.



SHRINES

During reconstructive work on the floor of the Shrine of the Holy Sepulchre, FFHL supporters provided funding for the important archaeological works around the tomb of Jesus.

Why the Foundation

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“The Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land was created to address a new crisis: the Christian exodus from the Holy Land. Our goal is to maintain a Christian presence by providing education, employment and housing.”

BISHOP GIUSEPPE NAZZARO, OFM, DD
Founding Custos of FFHL

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“The mission of the Franciscan Foundation is simple: Love God and serve the poor and needy.”

FR. FRANCESCO PATTON, OFM
*Former Custos of the Holy Land,
Former FFHL Chairman of the Board*

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“We don't fight for an idea. We fight for the future of the human being.”

HIS EMINENCE, CHRISTOPHE CARDINAL PIERRE, DD
*Apostolic Nuncio to the United States,
Special Advisor to the FFHL Board*

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“Christ lived among us here, and we friars follow His example. By helping people in the Holy Land, we embody Christ's teachings.”

HIS EMINENCE PIERBATTISTA CARDINAL PIZZABALLA
*Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem,
Former Custos of the Holy Land*