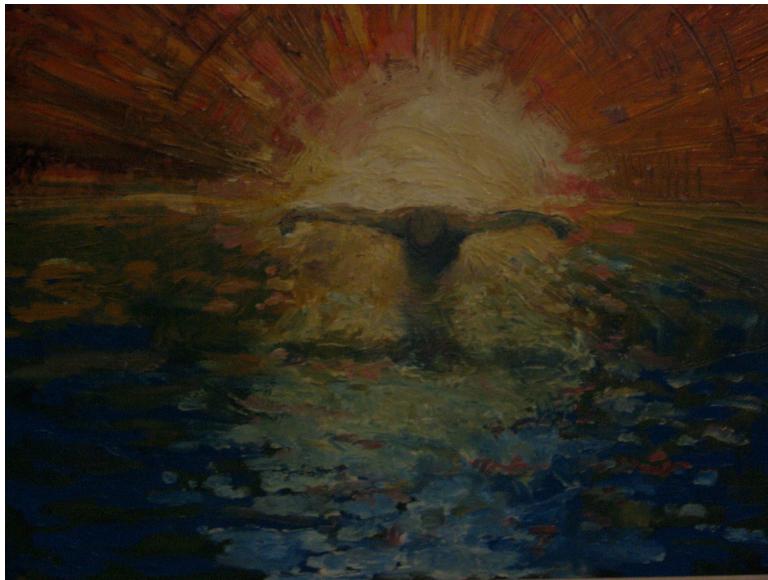


24.b- 02-10-09

Partnership Visit: 21-31 August 2009



Baptism (St. George the Martyr Cathedral, Jerusalem)

**Diocese of Jerusalem, Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East
Jerusalem, West Bank, Gaza and Israel.**

Suggested links for further reporting:

Anglican Journal October issue

<http://news.anglican.ca/news/stories/2105>

<http://notes.anglican.ca/amann/>

<http://www.anglicanjournal.com/issues/2009/135/sept/07/article/primate-heads-to-jerusalem/?cHash=dc288939d5>

Goals and Objectives:

1. To accompany Primate Fred Hiltz in his first visit to the Diocese of Jerusalem, in partial fulfilment of 2004 General Synod Resolution A250: Middle East, requesting the Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada visit the Diocese of Jerusalem as guest of Bishop Suheil S. Dawani. This accompaniment was planned in collaboration with the Primate's staff, and with the Diocese of Jerusalem. As per the resolution, the purpose of the Primate's visit was to deepen bonds of relationship and to discern how best to work with the diocese for peace with justice between Israel and Palestine.
2. To more extensively experience and learn about the mission and ministry of the Diocese towards strengthened relations through Partnerships' programs.

3. To try to convey our daily activities and reflections via blog photos and reflections.

Highlights and Summary:

1. The trip itself from beginning to end was deeply meaningful, interesting, and provocative. It was a privilege and joy to travel with the Primate, and to meet local faith leaders including Bishop Suheil Dawani and others I would likely not otherwise meet eg. His Beatitude Theophilis III, Armenian Archbishop James, Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, and others.
2. Travelling throughout the West Bank, Gaza and central Israel to visit with rural Palestinian Anglican churches, clergy and lay leaders, parishioners in worship, and to learn about their educational, medical and social ministries.
3. Discussion with Bishop Suheil and diocesan staff about practically feasible ways of working together towards stronger relationship and partnership in mission and ecojustice: diocesan and parish-to-parish companionships; Volunteers in Mission to work in diocesan schools and hospitals, or with the diocese as Development Officer, Communications Officer; exchanges of theological student interns; stronger connections between St. George's College and Canadian theological colleges in collaboration with the North American Regional Council of St. George's College; promotion of Canada Anglican group visits to the 'Holy Land' in cooperation/consultation with the Diocese and its Christian tour guides; cooperative solidarity and advocacy to governments for peace between Israel and Palestine; financial assistance with diocesan program priorities towards self-sufficiency.
4. Articulation by Primate Fred of an approach to these initiatives: several would begin immediately and others would be launched at General Synod 2010, at which Bishop Suheil and Shafeeqa Dawani will share news and stories of the diocese's faith in action. +Fred seeks a strong General Synod 2010 resolution on the situation of Palestinian Christians in Jerusalem, Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, including action for deepened relationship and partnership in mission, peace and justice. The work of enabling and implementing initiatives will fall largely to Partnerships staff. Part of this work has already begun through the exchange of information between VIM, TSIIP and diocesan program staff. A tour guide and prayer resource for Canadian Anglican pilgrims is also in process.

It would be difficult to finish this brief report without making a commitment to return to the Diocese of Jerusalem with other Canadians seeking pilgrimage and partnership with local people of faith in God's mission for peace and justice in this holiest of places in the world.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Mann
Global Relations Coordinator
Partnerships
17 September 2009