



## NEWSLETTER

The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem

September, 2011

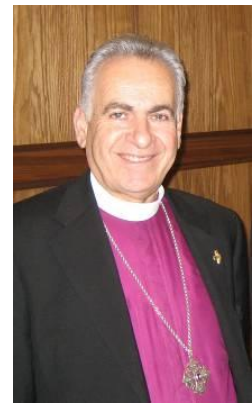
*Peace to you in the name of the Lord*

*Greetings from Bishop Suheil Dawani*

*Dear Friends,*

We thank God for the wonderful news that Shafeeqa, Luban and I have had our Residency Permits reinstated. I want to thank you all for your most faithful prayers and support over the past year.

With the beginning of the new academic year, we look forward to continuing our work with the young people of our Diocese. Our Diocesan schools and fellow educational institutions strive toward excellence in their commitment to the young people of our community. I have spent some time this month visiting schools and speaking with faculty members. I want to thank all the educational staff for their faithful dedication to their work.



*+ Suheil Dawani*

September 20, 2011

### New Bishop's Assistant

Bishop Dawani is pleased to announce the arrival of his new office assistant, Deborah Neal.



Deborah is originally from Montreal, Canada but most recently from California, where she worked for the Diocese of Los Angeles. She was the Front Desk Administrator and Database Administrator. She also coordinated Youth Pilgrimages to Palestine and has visited us a number of times in the recent past.

Having just arrived in mid-September, Deborah has jumped in with both feet and is quickly learning her way around the office. 'I am very excited to be here and am looking forward to working alongside the Diocesan team. I am so thankful and appreciative of the generous and kind welcome given to me by everyone.' said Deborah.

### New Academic year at the Dioceses Schools

Sep, 5, 2011

Ahliyyah School, Bishop's School and Ahliyyah & Bishop Kinder garten- Amman

Mrs. Haifa Najjar, Superintendent of the Ahliyyah School for Girls, the Bishop's School and the Ahliyyah and Bishop's KG, held a meeting at the beginning of the new academic year with family members of the three schools. Mrs. Najjar launched this first meeting by welcoming all and congratulating staff on their personal and professional accomplishments. This meeting hosted His Grace Bishop Suhail Dawani and Mr. Haleem Bashlawi, chief accountant of the Diocese.

The meeting highlighted opportunities for success and achievement. It emphasized that despite the financial limitations facing the dioceses institutions, these institutions possess high performance levels and the passion to reap great success. Mrs. Najjar also stressed the values adopted by the schools, which are the ethical umbrella of their conduct, beginning with humility, giving, and goodness, extending to long life learning, open-mindedness, and embracing diversity.

Mrs. Najjar also addressed major challenges that are to be confronted, and emphasized that good communication, integrity, harmony, and togetherness are our tools to best face them. She added that our schools are institutions of enlightenment that target the local community by large. Our schools have the patience to create a different quality of education. Therefore, the dream of launching the first IB Collejis deemed possible. Moreover, our recent accomplishments at Bishop's are a great source of inspiration for our teachers and institutions.

At the end of the meeting, His Grace Bishop Dawani thanked family members of the schools for their efforts. He particularly thanked Mrs. Najjar, who was able to create such fruitful partnerships among all workers and staff with her patience, vision, and wisdom.



### Christ School –Nazareth

August 31, 2011 Bishop Suheil Dawani had a meeting with the school staff, demonstrating the new Strategy that was negotiated and approved at the beginning of the School year, concerning the new management structure and the alterations to the school building.



### St. George's School- Jerusalem

Sept.5, 2011 Bishop Suheil joined St. George's school students on their first day of the new school year 2011/2012; all students were happy and excited about their new uniform. Bishop Suheil encouraged all students and wished them a good and fruitful year.





St. John's School-Haifa

September 5, 2011- Summer is over and here we are again, starting and welcoming a new academic year, bringing energy of new beginnings, and challenges. Hopes blow like a variable wind through our communities as much as any other. With a joyful atmosphere the 1<sup>st</sup> graders and the new students coming from all different Arabic towns and villages from surrounding Haifa's were especially welcomed.

The students arrived to their first day of school in a very positive and encouraging atmosphere. As a yearly traditional ceremony the 1<sup>st</sup> graders were welcomed by all the school students, followed by a word from Mr. Aziz Daeem the school principal, in which he expressed his wishes and hopes of a very productive and successful year. Afterwards, music was played by the music teacher in the school.



The presence of Bishop Suheil Dawani, the President of St. John's School, accompanied by the Parish School Board Members, as well as the parents committee, and the Rev. Canon Hatem Shehadeh, who led a prayer with the attendees to give the blessing of the Lord to the new academic year, gave the day a special flavor.



September 9, 2011

### Proposed IB System-St.George's School in Jerusalem

Under the auspices of the Bishop Suheil Dawani and the presence of St. George's principal Mr. Eid Sader, his assistants, and the school Board Members , in addition to Mrs. Haifa Najjar, the General Director of Al- Ahliyyah Girls and Boys school and the St. George's Nursery in Jordan. A meeting was held in the premises of St. George's Diocese in Jerusalem.

Mrs. Najjar started by demonstrating the IB school system used in Al- Ahliyyah school, and the Bishop's School in Jordan , explaining the System's international vision, Goals, and its implementation. The IB system allows for the cooperation among the teachers and for more integration, introducing a new learning environment for students by utilizing technology as a main component in the educational process, in addition to new techniques stimulating creative and critical thinking; scientific research and leadership skills.

At the end, discussions took place for preparing St. George's School in Jerusalem, to apply the IB system in the near future.



September 23, 2011

### Leadership Conference

Sept.9-11, 2011 Led and organized by Rev. Nael Abu Rahmoun. A group of leaders between the age of 18-25, coming from Reineh,Shafa-Amer, Haifa and Zababdeh, were assembled At Al- Haddad Resort Village in Jineen /West Bank, to resume the leadership workshop emphasizing the importance of the cooperation and communication between Leaders and establishing a highly qualified leaders group. The Bible Study sessions, discussion circles, in addition to swimming and gym, were the entertaining part of the conference. The group spent their last night in Zababdeh to be able to participate in the Sunday Mass at St. Mathew's Church in Zababdeh / West Bank.



September 26, 2011

### Bishop Suheil Dawani Receives his Residency Permits



To all our friends:

From Bishop Suheil Dawani:

It is with great pleasure, and with God's help, that I and my family have received our 'Residency Permits'.

I want to thank all of you, my friends and colleagues throughout the Anglican Episcopal Communion and the Worldwide Christian Community, for your continued support throughout this time. It has been deeply appreciated and most encouraging knowing that we have been kept in your thoughts and prayers as we awaited this most heartening outcome.

I have been overwhelmed by the support given to me from His Grace the Arch Bishop of Canterbury, the Honorable Lord Rowan Williams, and all the Primates, Arch Bishop's and Bishops of the Anglican Communion; and the Greek and Latin Patriarchs of Jerusalem. Also our Partners throughout the world including the U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Germany, and the United Kingdom; and the worldwide community including Washington, D.C.; the State Department of the United States and the American Consul-General in Jerusalem, and the office of the British Foreign Secretary.

Please forgive me for not listing everyone here, as it would be impossible to name all those who have upheld us in prayer and vigil during the last 13 months. Please know that in my heart I give you all great thanks and you are not forgotten.

Salaam,

+Suheil

September 23, 2011

### Bishop's visit to Ireland

After the successful meeting in London, Bishop Suheil and his wife, Shafeeqa, flew to the Republic of Ireland to attend and preach at the consecration of Revd John McDowell as the next Bishop of Clogher, Ireland.

On Sunday, the Bishop attended services at St. Nicholas Parish in Dundalk. There, he was greeted by The Revd Sandra Pagnall and given a gift for the Diocese of Jerusalem. St. Nicholas has a special relationship with the Diocese of Jerusalem, having raised funds to help both the Princess Basma Centre for Disabled Children and also St. George's Cathedral School.

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September 20, 2011

### Bishop's visit to London

Bishop Suheil and Shafeeqa, flew to London, England where the Bishop attended the Annual Meeting of the Compass Rose Society in London England.

In the afternoon, he went to Lambeth Palace for a meeting with the Archbishop of Canterbury followed by Evensong, reception and dinner.

The Compass Rose Society is an International Organization which seeks to support the ministry of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Anglican Communion.



The Compass Rose Society is an association which takes its name from the symbol of the Anglican Communion. The Society was established under the auspices of the Anglican Consultative Council so that individuals, parishes, dioceses, provinces, and organizations throughout the world could help provide the much-needed financial support for the work of the Anglican Communion.

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More stories and information are available at: [www.j-diocese.org](http://www.j-diocese.org) Email enquiries to: [info@j-diocese.org](mailto:info@j-diocese.org)  
Donations may be sent to: The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, PO Box 19122, Jerusalem, 91191



The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, a diocese of the worldwide Anglican Communion, extends over five countries, including Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Palestine and Israel, within the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. There are 27 parishes that minister to the needs of their communities, centered on the Cathedral Church of St. George the Martyr in Jerusalem. The church supports 33 institutions, which include hospitals, clinics, kindergartens and schools, vocational training programs, as well as institutions for the deaf, the disabled and the elderly, reaching out to interfaith neighbors in mutual respect and cooperation.