

The Anglican Church of Canada



L'Église anglicane du Canada

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Wednesday in the 2nd week of Advent
December 11, 2024

The Most Reverend Hosam Naoum
Archbishop of Jerusalem
The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem

Dear Archbishop Hosam,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Christ, our Prince of Peace and bearer of hope.

On behalf of your friends in the Anglican Church of Canada, I write to assure you of our continued prayers following the recent events in Syria, including the departure of President Bashar al-Assad. We recognize the profound uncertainty and potential challenges this moment brings, and we stand in solidarity with you and the communities you serve during this tenuous time.

As you minister to the faithful in a region so often marked by conflict and instability, we pray for the peace of Christ to dwell richly among you. May his presence bring hope to those feeling the weight of fear and anxiety, and may the Spirit guide you and your clergy as you offer pastoral care and leadership to your people.

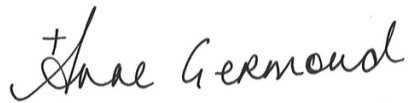
Please know that the National House of Bishops of the Anglican Church of Canada joins in this commitment to prayerful support. Around our church we lift up the ministry of the lay people and clergy of the Diocese of Jerusalem and all those in the broader region who long for a just and lasting peace.

This week I attended a meeting of the Companions of Jerusalem. We began the meeting with a beautiful prayer from the Rev. Hatim Jiryis, of Christ the King, Ma'a lot-Tarshiha, Israel, which, I think, speaks fittingly to the present situation:

“O Lord, in the depths of life’s turmoil, amidst the weakness of faith and loss of security, and at the height of war and distress, we pray and say: We are in desperate need of the fruit of Your Holy Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, wisdom, daily guidance, and help from Your Holy Spirit. Our Father, hear our prayer in the name of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.”

May Christ, the Prince of Peace, continue to strengthen you and sustain your community in the days ahead.

In Christ’s love and service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne Germond". The signature is written in black ink and includes a small cross symbol above the first letter of the first name.

Archbishop Anne Germond
Acting Primate, Anglican Church of Canada