



ICoHS



**Enabling Communities
in the Holy Land to Flourish**





ICoHS

INTRODUCING THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE (ICoHS)

Christians could disappear from Jerusalem in our lifetime. To address this, and for the first time, the thirteen churches (denominations) in the Holy Land have come together to support a new initiative. ICoHS is a new international charity working to secure a future for the Christian community in the Holy Land.





Recognizing Christianity in crisis...

We are witnessing an exodus of Christian families from the Holy Land. Decades of political, social, and economic upheaval have made everyday life for a Christian in the Holy Land nearly impossible. As this pandemic creates havoc, economic ruin and potentially terminal damage. Within living memory, Christians constituted over 20% of the population of the Holy Land; today, the community accounts for less than 2.5% of the entire population of Israel, Palestine, and Jordan. Without quick and decisive action, this community could face extinction within our lifetime. Devastating for the Christian families who have served faithfully for centuries, such a loss would also comprise a tragedy for the global Christian family.

Becoming part of the solution...

The International Community of the Holy Sepulchre exists to reverse this current declining trend of the Christian community in the Holy Land. To this end, we are calling individuals and institutions around the world to join together in support of the Christians in the Holy Land. Our Patrons, His Majesty King Abdullah II of Jordan and Rt Rev Lord Williams of Oystermouth (former Archbishop of Canterbury), and our trustees invite you to join us as a Founding Member of the International Community of the Holy Sepulchre. Together, we can secure a brighter future for the Christian community in the birthplace of the Christian faith.





Following a successful start...

Over the last years, we have witnessed the power of unity and solidarity in support of Christians in the Holy Land. In preparation for the establishment of ICoHS, we have secured renewed support for the Christian community from Heads of State, global religious leaders, and senior politicians and officials around the world. These efforts have already effected significant change, strengthening Christian institutions through our Hope for the Holy Land Campaign and radically improving the conditions for the local Christian community. By becoming a member of ICoHS you can build on these foundations and transform the prospects for Christian Churches and families for generations to come.



“The International Community of the Holy Sepulchre has been established to advocate on behalf of the Churches in the Holy Land. This Community will strengthen the bonds of the Ancient Churches of Jerusalem with our brothers and sisters in Christ around the globe. It will help the Churches address the pressures in a proactive and collaborative way with lawmakers, faith communities, and concerned Christians. Through the restoration of holy sites and support for the Christian communities, ICoHS will help strengthen the diverse fabric of our beloved Holy Land.”

– Patriarch Theophilos III to Members of Congress, 2018

All this has helped to forge greater unity among the Churches in the Holy Land. The Council of Patriarchs and Heads of Churches in Jerusalem – the leaders of the thirteen recognized Christian denominations in the Holy Land – are united in their support for ICoHS, commissioning us to grow an international community that will stand up for these Churches and their congregations. We invite you to make a difference for the Christian community by becoming a Founding Member of ICoHS.



Making a difference...

As a Founding Member of ICoHS, you will have the opportunity to make a unique contribution to this historic effort by playing a vital role in an international demonstration of support for Holy Land Christians. Members of ICoHS will be empowered to make a difference through three decisive activities.

AWARENESS

ICoHS is raising awareness about the challenges that Holy Land Christians face. Although events in the Holy Land frequently receive international attention, the Christian community often goes unnoticed. As a Founding Member of this community, you will help to raise international awareness of the vulnerable position that many Christians find themselves in and promote the vital ministry and mission of Churches in maintaining worship, supporting communities, welcoming visitors, and building peace across the Holy Land. Because ICoHS represents all of the churches in the Holy Land, we will ensure that you are provided with accurate and up-to-date information, and able to raise awareness within your own sphere of influence and local community.



ADVOCACY

ICoHS is advocating on behalf of the Christian community in the Holy Land. By ensuring that influential leaders around the world hear the needs of Holy Land Christians, we will bring about change and enable churches to flourish in the birthplace of our faith. As a Founding Member of this community you will have an opportunity to speak up on behalf of Holy Land Christians. Through our various advocacy initiatives, we will provide you with opportunities to engage senior leaders from the worlds of politics, faith, and civil society on behalf of the Christian community.

ACTION

ICoHS is investing in projects that improve the lives of individuals and institutions and build stronger and more resilient communities. As a Founding Member of this community you will play your part by supporting Church-led schools across the Holy Land, sustaining the provision of Christian healthcare and humanitarian support for vulnerable groups, and enabling the restoration of historic sites that are significant to Christians everywhere. Through our ICoHS programs we will provide you with opportunities to connect with projects and initiatives that are of particular interest to you.

Visiting the Holy Land...

As a Founding Member of ICoHS, we look forward to welcoming you to the Holy Land. Here, following in the steps of Jesus, you will witness the glorious history of the Christian community and build relationships with Holy Land Christians. Here, in the very birthplace of the Christian faith, you will have an opportunity to extend your own personal journey and make a difference in the lives of the Christian community. Our exclusive members' pilgrimages will provide ICoHS members a privileged, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to worship with Holy Land Christians, walk and pray in the footsteps of Christ, experience the unique sights and sounds of the Holy Land, and to meet with Church leaders.

BECOMING A FOUNDING MEMBER...

Founding Members will contribute \$25/month or more, for a minimum of three years, to support the creation of ICoHS and our work to secure a brighter future for the Christian community in the Holy Land. Every member will benefit from:

- ICoHS membership pack
- Your name on the Founding Members page at icohs.org
- Invitation to ICoHS events in the UK, USA, and the Holy Land
- Regular newsletters to update you on our work, with opportunities to participate in awareness-raising and advocacy campaigns on behalf of Christians in the Holy Land
- An invite to participate in an ICoHS members pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Donors who give an inaugural one-time gift of \$1,000 to ICoHS in 2020 will receive a thank you letter and welcome gift from Church leaders in Jerusalem, as well as a special invitation to join ICoHS for our 2021 launch events with patrons, church leaders in the Holy Land, and other senior figures.