

*The Episcopal Church
in Jerusalem and the Middle East
The Diocese of Jerusalem*



الكنيسة الأسقفية
في القدس والشرق الأوسط
مُطرَانية القدس

COMMUNIQUE OF THE DIOCESAN MAJMA
THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF JERUSALEM

Amman, Jordan — September 2026

“The Cross of Christ: Power and Life”

The Diocesan Majma of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, meeting in Amman, Jordan, gathers at a critical moment in the life of our region. After years marked by devastating wars, destruction, displacement, and profound human suffering—including some of the gravest destruction experienced by any part of our Diocese in living memory—our peoples and communities face an existential crisis that demands the urgent attention of the Church and the international community.

The theme of our Majma, “The Cross of Christ: Power and Life,” reminds us that injustice must give way and that a fuller life must be made manifest in the lives of peoples. Suffering is followed by glory, and darkness by the light of truth and life. Among the principal matters considered and discussed was the subject of vocations, ministries, and spiritual gifts within the Church. The Majma discussed the permanent diaconate, the policy for the admission of theological students (postulants), and other matters concerning Christian ministry in the Anglican Church in our beloved Middle East.

We reaffirm a fundamental truth: this is the region where Christianity was born, and we belong to some of the oldest continuously present Christian communities in the world. For centuries, Christians have been an integral part of the peoples, cultures, societies, and nations of the Middle East. We cherish this heritage and remain steadfast in our commitment to our Christian witness and presence in the lands where our faith first took root.

We are deeply concerned by the realities being imposed upon the Palestinian people, including forcible displacement, occupation, settlement expansion, and settler violence, as well as by the destruction and continuing insecurity suffered by communities in Syria and Lebanon as a result of Israeli attacks, particularly upon villages in the south.

We renew our steadfast solidarity with the Palestinian people everywhere, especially in the Gaza Strip, and reaffirm our continuing ministry through the Ahli Arab Hospital of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. We also stand alongside our parishes and communities throughout the West Bank, whose lives have been profoundly affected by the events and policies of recent years.

In this context, we welcome the decision adopted by the General Synod of the Church of England affirming solidarity with Palestinian Christians and a commitment to hear their experiences. We also welcome the growing attention within the churches to the ethical dimensions of their economic and institutional relationships wherever there may be complicity in violations of human rights or international law.

We commend the churches throughout the Anglican Communion and the wider ecumenical family that seek to align their witness and institutional practices with the principles of human rights, justice, dignity, and international law. We encourage all churches to accompany their prayers with tangible actions that contribute to the achievement of a just and lasting peace and uphold the dignity and security of all peoples.