



Support and Sponsorship of the Event:

This event has been initiated by North East Ecumenical Accompaniers. It is being actively supported by Christian Aid, CAFOD, Friends of Sabeel UK, Justice & Peace, Pax Christi and North East Christian Churches Together. *These organisations do not necessarily share the same positions or agenda.*

North East Church leaders have given their endorsement and in addition to Bishop Martin Wharton (CofE), Bishop Seamus Cunningham (RC), Rev'd Leo Osborn (Methodist) and Rev'd Rowena Francis (URC) will be in attendance.

Location: St Joseph's Parish Centre **NE8 1LX** is located **next to Gateshead Bus & Metro Interchange**

Car parking: There is limited free parking at the Centre and more, above the Centre, at the back of Walker Terrace for £3-80 all day

Access: There is disabled access to most of the building including toilets

Food: Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and Coffee provided

Creche and other care: To enquire about childcare or other support for carers **email before 8 Sept** to patdev48@btinternet.com

Conference Fee: £6 / Concession: £3 for students and benefit claimants
If you can make an extra donation this will help to cover costs. Make cheques payable to 'The Church of St Thomas the Martyr' & write PEACE & JUSTICE IN THE HOLY LAND on the back

Further information: Judith Sadler • 0191 228 0115 • jsadler@christian-aid.org OR Anne Marie Hanlon • 0191 384 4847 • ahanlon@cafod.org.uk

Booking form

name		tel	
address			
email			
fee enclosed:	£	donation	£

Please return to
CAFOD, St Bede's, Carr House Drive, Durham DH1 5LZ
OR
Christian Aid, 42-44, Mosley Street, Newcastle NE1 1DF
by October 8th - book early to avoid disappointment



Peace & Justice in the Holy Land



9.30am - 3.45pm
St Joseph's Parish Centre
beside the bus & metro interchange **Gateshead**

share the lived experience of a Palestinian Christian & an Israeli Human Rights Worker

with Bishop Martin Wharton (CofE)
Bishop William Kenney (RC)
Stephen Leah (Methodist)

Programme

- 9.30 **Registration** + experience the map of Palestine & Israel
- 10.00 **The Historical and political context** in relation to Christian Aid's work with their partners *William Bell of Christian Aid*
- 10.30 **An Israeli Jewish voice** *Rabbi Yehiel Grenimann of Rabbis for Human Rights*
- 11.10 COFFEE via Checkpoint Experience
- 11.30 **A Palestinian Christian voice** *Nora Carmi from Kairos Palestine*
- 12.10 **Churches Responding** *Stephen Leah on the Methodist Conference statement on 'Justice for Palestine and Israel'*
Bishop Martin & Bishop William answer the question, 'How do you see your church contributing to Peace & Justice in the Holy Land?'
- 1.00 LUNCH + Information Stalls
- 1.45 **Workshops** with the following organisations:
- Friends of Sabeel UK *Nora Carmi and Anne Clayton will focus on the Christian Presence in Jerusalem, West Bank and Gaza, the issues they face and what impact Kairos Palestine is having on them.*
- Friends of the Holy Land *Dr Michael Whelan will talk about work raising funds & supporting Christian communities*
- Pax Christi *Ann Farr (Pax Christi Executive Committee Member & EA) on building solidarity links and educational opportunities in parishes and schools through work on Palestine-Israel.*
- Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine & Israel *Jonathan Adams, recently returned, and others share their experience of providing a protective presence and monitoring human rights abuses*
- Villages Group *Andrew Greaves of Hexham Quakers on The Villages Group, a partnership of Israeli Jews & Palestinians supporting threatened families and communities within the Occupied Territories*
- Campaign Actions *Stephen Leah of the Methodist Church Israel & Palestine Working Party*
- Christian Aid/CAFOD *Current initiatives*
- 3.00 **Panel discussion** *What are our responses? Chaired by John Battle*

The Invitation

Most Christians cherish a dream of visiting the land of the Gospels at some time in their lives, but what do we know of the lives of the communities who live in that land today?

Jesus was born into a land under Roman occupation, but what do we know of the role of the military in that land today?

Jesus came to bring good news to the poor, release to captives, sight to the blind and liberty to the oppressed. As Christians, what responsibility do we have to work for the fulfilment of that promise for the vulnerable communities of that land today?

The Speakers



Nora Carmi is a Palestinian Christian with Armenian roots. Born in Jerusalem a few months before the establishment of the State of Israel, she became a refugee in her own city. She has remained a resident of Jerusalem, (now East Jerusalem) except for periods of study abroad.

A founder member of Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center since 1993, until recently Nora worked as Coordinator of Community Development & Women's Programs. Now she works for Kairos Palestine promoting the call made by the Palestinian Churches in 2010 to the international Christian community to support them in their struggle to be free.



Rabbi Yehiel Grenimann, Director, Dept. of Human Rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. **Rabbis for Human Rights** is the only rabbinic organization in Israel today that speaks about human rights in the voice of the Jewish tradition. The organization, founded in 1988, today has over 100 members – rabbis & rabbinical students. Orthodox, Reform, Conservative, Reconstructionist and Renewal rabbis together supporting Palestinian land rights, opposing demolitions of Palestinian property and intervening in cases of unlawful arrest & detention.

Stephen Leah helped prepare the 2010 Methodist Conference statement 'Justice for Palestine and Israel'.

Bishop Martin Wharton, who regularly leads pilgrimages to the Holy Land, was a member of the international delegation who visited Yasser Arafat in his compound to gain acceptance of international observers for the first elections for the Palestinian Authority after the Oslo accords.

Bishop William Kenney, with Archbishop Kelly, represents the Catholic Church of England and Wales on the Holy Land Coordination Committee which annually gathers bishops of Europe and North America in Bethlehem with the heads of Churches in Jerusalem to explore ways of supporting the Christian Communities.

William Bell is Christian Aid's Advocacy Officer: The Palestinians and Israel.

The Revd Rowena Francis, Moderator of the Northern Synod of the United Reformed Church, is to chair the day.

John Battle, formerly MP for Leeds West, has long been active in work for justice and peace.