



Your Excellencies, Graces and Very Reverend Fathers,

Peace and all Good!

I am writing to you in the name of the Custody of the Holy Land to encourage you, your parishes and diocese to come on pilgrimage to the land of our Lord and Savior.

As many of you may already know, the Franciscan Custody has been in the Holy Land since the thirteenth century with its main mission to maintain the Holy Places as well as the support of the faithful that frequent them; that includes both the locals living in the Holy Land and the pilgrims who come in faith whether to bring a prayer or just pay homage to the site where the Lord lived.

We, as Franciscans, believe in the importance of keeping these places alive by encouraging pilgrims to visit the Holy Sites, which provides them the opportunity to strengthen their faith as well as strengthening the Christian presence in the Holy Land. We invite you and all those interested to make a pilgrimage here to see and learn, with firsthand experience, about the historic, religious and traditional Holy Sites. We have always been committed to assisting and providing facilities for the pilgrims; from those who once arrived centuries ago on foot and continuing to the comfort measures that are requested today for the travel of pilgrims.

The invitation is open to all. Feel free to contact our commissariat (Franciscan Monastery Pilgrimage Office) in Washington, D.C. for any information regarding pilgrimages to the Holy Land.

Hoping to see you here soon.

Yours in Christ,

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