

Dear Fr. Pizzaballa,
I want to help support the immediate needs of young men at the Franciscan Boys Home in Bethlehem.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Telephone _____ Email _____

I have enclosed my donation of:

\$1,000 \$500 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other _____

I wish to charge my donation to my Visa MasterCard Amex Discover

Credit Card # _____ Exp. date _____

Signature _____

I have included FFHL in my estate.

Please make your check payable to Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land. Mail to FFHL, P.O. Box 29086, Washington, DC 20017-9086.

The Need...

\$100.00

Will provide food for one boy for a month

\$200.00

Will provide staff salaries and home maintenance for one boy for a month

\$500.00

Will provide tuition to Terra Sancta School for one boy for a year

\$800.00

Will provide for the entire cost of one boy for a year Christian family in a Franciscan Housing Project for one month



FFHL has hired a full time staff which includes a cook, several teachers, a child psychologist, a social worker, a housekeeper, a club supervisor, as well as maintenance and security personnel. We have both a Franciscan priest and a Franciscan nun as Directors of the Boys Home.

The boys come from many local communities including Bethlehem, Beit Sahour, and Beit Jala, and attend the local Catholic school. The costs of salaries of staff, food, maintenance of the building, and yearly school tuition average \$800 per boy and are fully funded by the Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land.

HELP US MAKE SURE THERE IS ROOM IN BETHLEHEM for these boys in need!

...No matter the time, the place, the country...
No matter the age, culture, circumstances...
HOME is a reality which resonates deeply in every human being. It is intimately associated with everything we understand about FAMILY. Together this brings us to the heart of our existence. These truths remind us that we belong to one another.



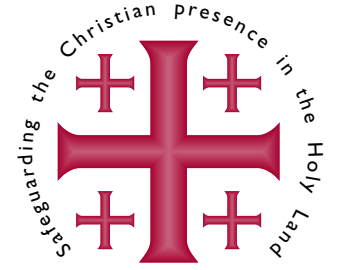
For Further Information:

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The Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land is a registered 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization in the United States. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

Franciscan Foundation

FOR THE HOLY LAND



Franciscan Boys Home in Bethlehem

WE BELONG TO HIM



Today in the traditional birthplace of Jesus Christ, Christian families struggle with all kinds of local, personal, social, and community needs. There are no perfect families anywhere, no perfect people. Like anywhere else in the world, parents, children, families suffer through hard times.

Franciscan Friars in the Holy Land are here precisely to witness to God's endless love and mercy for all. That's exactly what our BETHLEHEM BOYS HOME does. We meet ordinary human need and suffering with absolute respect and unconditional love so that every boy that is struggling knows he belongs – and is welcome.

It's unfortunate that family situations sometimes evolve into significant hardships. In a fragile land where social and political upheavals are sadly standard situations, it's hardly surprising to see these human effects of instability spill out into local families. Over the years, because of the caring charity of friends and benefactors, FFHL has attempted to ensure that such brokenness, such family displacements are not permanent conditions that can lead to hopeless despair.

WE BELONG TO ONE ANOTHER

There is much deeply instilled pride in the residents of this Holy Land – for they have descended from the Christians of Jesus' time. They belong to the land in timeless ways through traditions, faith and hopes. Theirs is a precious legacy of being ancestors of the Holy Family from Nazareth, who under stress and uncertainty, found themselves in a fragile place called Bethlehem.

Their fragility, their vulnerability as family, has inspired believers for 2000 years. It has also sustained other families with domestic difficulties, with hopes beyond, with individual courage needed in hard times. None of this is alien to God. Nothing families suffer is alien to God. Nothing we need is far from God.

Our HOME for boys (ages 6-18) is a caring place where neighborhood youth can feel the safety and nurturing needed to survive. Our HOME is a place where skilled staff assumes careful watch, accompanying each boy, who for any number of reasons in a given moment is not able to live permanently in the house of his parents. Our HOME offers a known alternative using dignity and respect to calm troubled times working toward



developing healthy, healing family relationships, addressing personal issues and attempting to create as much normalcy as possible within the community.

The schedule of the day is as "normal" as possible so as to not draw dramatic distinctions. Everyone at our HOME strives to create an environment that promotes

health, happiness, understanding – all guided by faith and charity. Everything is done to insure that our HOME builds up each boy toward his potential. Many certainly have been traumatized by varying degrees due to local hardships or hostilities. Others are dealing with the loss of parents and friends or the loss of a safe, secure shelter. Our HOME



welcomes the communities' children in need without adding distance or isolation. Some boys are able to go home on weekends when their family situation permit visits.

The goal of the Bethlehem Boys Home is to welcome, protect and restore each boy's life. The purpose is to provide the most basic environment where he can flourish amidst needs. The mission is consistent with everything FFHL has committed itself to all these years: to safeguard the Christian presence in the Holy Land in the 21st century. We belong to the community as they belong to us. We are God's people in the Holy Land today.

We share this update with these simple images from the life of the HOME so you can come to the table with us whether at meals, sports, house chores, prayers or homework – to experience the abundance of belonging to one another in simple ways. It has become completely clear, convincing and honestly compelling – that one of the best ways to sustain the Christian community in the Holy Land is to practically and professionally reach out to each person in need. We may not fix all that's wrong, but we are committed to making sure no one needs walk home alone.

THANK YOU for BELONGING to OUR FAMILY!