

Monthly Update **October 2017**

Welcome to the Oct 2017 Monthly Update, with apologies for lateness – we’ve been holding on so we can give the latest from our very successful National Gathering held recently in Kenilworth.

Subjects covered in this update include:

- Full report on the National Gathering
- Arrangements for FHL’s Carol Service, Lichfield Cathedral 7.30pm on 15th Dec
- Information on FHL Christmas cards, olive wood products and gift vouchers
- Raise money whilst shopping on line for Christmas presents

News from the National Gathering:

“We must not be blind to the Living Stones of the Holy Land”

Over 90 people attended the National Gathering in Kenilworth, held Sat 30 Oct at St Francis of Assisi



Parish Centre. The ‘Day of Action’, in support of Christians living in the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan, started with an ecumenical service. By the end of the day attendees had committed to raise awareness of the challenges faced by Christians in the Middle East through prayer, fundraising and pilgrimage. Keynote speaker Husam Wahhab from FHL’s Bethlehem office gave a vivid account

of the isolation felt by West Bank Christians. He spoke of the continued exodus of fellow Christians, highlighting the imminent danger that the birthplace of Christianity could soon have no Christian at population at all.

“Can our children cope with this life? The only thing that is predictable in our future is that it will be unpredictable. Christianity must not be politicised.”

For more on the National Gathering please read the news report on our [website](#)

FHL Carol Service at Lichfield

Lichfield Cathedral have given FHL the most wonderful opportunity. On Friday Dec 15 at 7.30pm, the



Cathedral will host a dedicated FHL carol service with singing led by the Cathedral choir. After the service there will light refreshments and olive wood gifts will be available for purchase. Can you help us maximise the potential of this event? We are asking supporters to help by organising

carloads (or even coach loads!) of parishioners to join us at this truly unique and seasonal occasion.

Tickets cost £10 each, all proceeds will go to FHL, and can be booked on line [here](#)

For help with bookings please call Lichfield cathedral on 01543 306100 or email enquiries@lichfield-cathedral.org.

If you have any further questions regarding this event please contact the FHL office: 01926 512980 or office@friendsoftheholylan.org.uk.

For more details and resources to support this lovely please check our [dedicated website page](#) regularly.

Supporting FHL at Christmas

There are many ways you can support the work of FHL this Christmas. FHL Christmas cards are



printed in the West Bank and our range of olive wood items are sourced from Christian workshops in Bethlehem. FHL Christmas cards cost £3.75 for a pack of 10 and can be posted to you for a small additional charge. Proceeds from cards and olive wood support the local Christian economy as well as raising funds for FHL. If you are stuck for a present idea, or want to encourage friends and family to donate to FHL on your behalf this Christmas, you could consider FHL vouchers. Vouchers are available in £5, £10 or £15 denominations with each voucher detailing what that donation will provide for needy Christians in the Holy Land. Further information on all these items can be seen on our [dedicated](#)

[website page](#) .

For enquiries about olive wood, Christmas cards and vouchers please email olivewoodproducts@btconnect.com or call the office on 01926 512980.

To download our Christmas and order form click [here](#)

To download the olive wood brochure click [here](#)

To download the olive wood 2017 price click [here](#)

To download the FHL voucher order form click [here](#)

Raise Money whilst shopping on line

Are you planning to shop on line for Christmas presents this year? Did you know you could raise money for FHL at the same time? All you need to do is visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk to register, and then select 'Friends of the Holy Land' as your charity of your choice. Then every time shop on line a donation will go to FHL. It's as simple as that, you won't even notice you are giving!

Diary Dates

FHL Carol Service Friday: 15th Dec 7.30pm Lichfield Cathedral. Please help us organise group visits to attend this special event. Tickets at £10 each can be booked at to be booked on line [here](#)

hwww.lichfield-cathedral.org/what-s-on/friends-of-the-holy-land-carol-service

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