



## EQUESTRIAN ORDER OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE OF JERUSALEM

*Western USA Lieutenancy • Dame Margaret Romano, DGCHS, Lieutenant*

June 7, 2024

Dear Member,

Since 1099, the mission of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem has been to support Christians in the Holy Land. We have raised funds for orphanages, schools, churches, and a seminary, all managed by the clergy and religious members of our Catholic Church. Before the COVID pandemic, one of our most successful programs provided loans to Christians to help them start or grow their businesses. Throughout the duration of this program, we never had a loan default. The recipients took pride in establishing and growing their own businesses, fostering hope for the future.

The pandemic, followed by the war in Gaza, has caused significant economic hardship. In response, we are launching a special campaign called the "Peace & Mercy Crusade" to raise funds. This campaign aims to provide financial assistance to Christians affected by these crises. Funds received will directly aid families in parishes and schools in the Holy Land, ensuring they meet their daily needs as much as possible. Support will include providing food, housing/rent, utilities, medical assistance, and medicine. Additionally, educational challenges have arisen. Without work, families need scholarships to continue their children's education. The Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem (LPJ) employs over 1,700 teachers, making it one of the largest employers in the region. It is vital to keep these teachers on the payroll. The LPJ schools also need repairs and face threats of closure by local governments. The need for support is urgent and substantial. Parents' hope for their children's future is bleak. Our assistance is critically needed.

The swift response from members of the Western Lieutenancy of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem has been inspiring and has motivated us to strive for more! Our goal is to raise one million dollars by Easter 2025. We are excited to announce that we are already one-third of the way to this goal! Achieving this will not only provide financial support but also show our brothers and sisters in Christ that we stand with them. If you have not yet contributed, I hope you will prayerfully consider joining this campaign. Your contribution is greatly appreciated, fully tax-deductible, and will benefit our struggling brothers and sisters in the Holy Land.

Thank you for your consideration. We invite you to join our cause and look forward to speaking with you!

God Bless you,

H.E. Margaret Romano, DGCHS  
Lieutenant  
EOHSJ Western Lieutenancy

*" Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me"*  
Matthew 25: 31-46