



Let Light Shine Out of Darkness: The Campaign for St. George's College



**"For God, who said 'Let light shine out of darkness'
made his light shine in our hearts"
(2 Corinthians 4:6)**



This is an appeal to all who know and value the work of St George's College, Jerusalem, including those whose faith and ministry have been inspired and encouraged by pilgrimages based there, and to all who value the ministry of hope and reconciliation that the college represents, especially in the present dark days of violence, fear and isolation.

Since its founding in 1920 as a theological college for Palestinian seminarians and its redevelopment in the 1960s as a centre for formation and reconciliation for clergy and laity from the worldwide Anglican Communion and beyond, St George's College, Jerusalem has worked and witnessed through times of relative stability and times of political and armed crisis in and around the Holy Land.

The warfare that has intensified in the Middle East since October 2023 has had a devastating impact on the ministry of the Diocese of Jerusalem. Archbishop Hosam Naoum has said "my diocese is bleeding at this time" and he has appealed to Anglicans from around the world to offer prayers and practical support.

Never before has a crisis so existentially challenged St George's College as the present one.

Yet never before – either – has a crisis presented such an opportunity to ensure the College's thriving until the Lord returns.

Let Light Shine out of Darkness is the title of an international appeal to friends of St George's across the globe that aims to raise **£1 million**, in the first instance to ensure the College's survival through the present crisis and – beyond that – to strengthen its core finances to ensure a thriving future for the College.

The **British Regional Committee** has the objective of raising at least **£100,000** towards this total.

The Present Crisis

Violence and uncertainty have created a major crisis for St George's College. The annual budget of the College is primarily supported through earned revenue from pilgrims' fees, gift shop sales, and other lodging fees. This revenue stream has been totally disrupted. It is highly unlikely that pilgrimages will resume in the next twelve months and there are insufficient funds to provide already-reduced salaries for the College's staff and essential operations in 2025.

The situation is dire for the staff and their families, and for the future of the College itself.

During this time of alarming tension and restrictions, the College has adapted with creativity and resilience. The Dean and remaining staff have produced videos for virtual pilgrimages, developed future curricula, and maintained the facility.

The British Regional Committee maintains close contact with the College's Dean, the Very Reverend Canon Richard Sewell, and with Archbishop Hosam, who are both deeply dedicated and committed to the College. We join in solidarity with them to help St George's College in its time of need.



How To Give

This appeal is going out to approximately *** UK based friends of St George's, including some 125 who have taken part over the last ten years on a Jerusalem Formation Course as ordinands or recently ordained clergy. A donation of between £100 and £200 from each recipient would enable us to reach (and exceed) our target. If you are a UK taxpayer, please ensure that your contribution is Gift Aided so as to maximize its value.

In addition to any personal gift that you are able to make, you may be in a position to arrange a collection in your own ministry setting – church, college, school etc. – which would also obviously be enormously welcome. Any money collected by these means can be contributed via the same route as personal donations.

There are three ways to give to the special appeal:

> **Cheque**

Send a cheque payable to The St George's College Jerusalem Trust to the treasurer: Rev. John Angle, 2, Orchard Court, Claverham, Bristol BS494TB.

Please send a note of your name and address.

> **Online**

Make a payment to The St George's College Jerusalem Trust:
NatWest (Amersham branch) Sort 60-02-09 Account 01596616

Please email hopebethlehem@btinternet.com a note of amount, name and address.

> **Standing Order**

Set up a regular banker's order from your bank to the Trust's NatWest bank.

Gift Aid

Your gift (whether one-off or regular) can be worth 25% more at no extra cost if you gift aid. If you wish to gift aid please complete the declaration on the following page.



Gift Aid Declaration Form

I want to gift aid this donation of £..... and future donations to the St George's College Jerusalem Trust. I'm a UK tax payer and will let the Trust know if I wish to cancel my declaration or if my tax status, name or address changes.

I understand that if I pay less income and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on my donations in a tax year it's my responsibility to pay any difference.

FULL NAME
ADDRESS & POST CODE
.....
SIGNATURE
DATE

Please send this form either by post or email:

Post to Rev. John Angle at 2, Orchard Court, Claverham, Bristol BS494TB.

Email to Rev. John Angle at hopebethlehem@btinternet.com.

If you wish to have a receipt for your gift please indicate by email along with your name and the amount you are giving. You will receive an emailed receipt.

Testimonials



We are asking all our friends around the world to come together to help St George's College and to walk with us during these dark times of war and distress. We ask you to be companions on the way so that we may continue to work and serve Christ in the ministry of pilgrimage and love and light. We thank all our friends and partners who have come through the doors of St George's College and for those who will come in the future. We ask you to join hands with us and to be so generous so that we can continue to celebrate St George's College as a beacon of life and love in Jerusalem and from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth."

The Most Reverend Hosam Naoum Archbishop of Jerusalem and The Middle East



"Ever since the war in Gaza began on 7th October last year, we have been aware of the prayers and deep concern of so many friends of St George's College who have reached out to us to assure us that they are with us in this time of great difficulty. Now we are in a position of needing financial help to secure our position as the war and its terrible impacts roll on through another year. We are resilient and determined and confident that the grace of God will sustain us through this challenging time. We appreciate everything that is being done to support the staff and the ministry of the College."

The Very Reverend Canon Richard Sewell, Dean of St George's College Jerusalem

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has never overcome it"

Please could you play your part in ensuring that the light that is St George's College, reflecting and witnessing to the "true light that lightens everyone", may be enabled to shine on in and through the present darkness to greet the dawning of the day and the promised Prince of Peace.



St George's College

saintgeorgescollegejerusalem.com

St George's College Jerusalem Trust

stgeorgescollegejerusalemtrust.org.uk

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