SOME OF OUR SPEAKERS

Rev. Dr. David Renwick
Senior Pastor of the National Presbyterian Church, WA, DC

Dr. Stephen M. Colecchi
Director of the Office of International Justice and Peace of the USCCB

Dr. Khalil Jahshan
Executive Director of the Arab Center Washington DC, Inc.

Dr. Cynthia Finlayson
Associate Professor with the Department of Anthropology and Museum Studies at BYU

Sami Khoury
President, Holy Land Tours Operators Association (HLTOA)

Claudette Habesch
Former Secretary General, CARITAS Jerusalem

Fr. Michael McDonagh
International Advisor of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem

Stephen B. Corbin
D.D.S., M.P.H. Former Special Olympics Senior Vice President

"Tourism for Peace"

***HCEF** invites you to take part in this valuable discussion on **"Tourism for Peace"** to encourage pilgrimage to the Holy Land, for the wellbeing and continuation of the Christian community, as well as for the spiritual good of participating pilgrims. Recognizing the tourism sector as a major driver of the Palestinian economy, especially in the Bethlehem area as a key employer of the Palestinian people, **HCEF** and **United Nation World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)** have committed to working together to enhanced cooperation in the sustainable development of cultural and religious tourism in the Holy Land, as well as in the promotion of intercultural dialogue, peace and prosperity and are willing to combine their efforts and work together in the achievement of shared objectives. These two agencies, along with the support of **Palestine's Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities (MOTA)**, and **the Holy Land Incoming Tour Operators Association (HLITOA)**, **United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)** and many of the main stream Protestant Churches and several orthodox Churches, will cooperate to carry out a variety of initiatives that will enhance Promotion of tourism to the Holy Land to benefit all people.*

Let us all forge a new bond of solidarity with our Palestinian Christian brothers and sisters through pilgrimage.

- *Participate in workshops, presentations, and cultural events that bring Palestine to life in Washington, DC*
- *Hear inspiring personal testimonials from pilgrims who have traveled to Palestine that will dispel negative media stereotypes regarding safety and access*
- *Speak with experts about concrete opportunities for pilgrimage, including logistical information*
- *Receive informational kits regarding tourist attractions, accommodations and tour companies to help prospective pilgrims plan their travel when they return home*
- *Discover business and investment opportunities in the Palestinian tourism sector.*

***HCEF** will hold a special day on **Friday October 14, 2016** with variety of workshops presented by speakers' experts on religious tourism.*

*If you are pilgrimage organizer or Mission director, or pastor to your church or diocese please email us at **Conference@hcef.org** to request an invitation, **as this symposium not open for public.***

With the Participation of

UNWTO
United Nation World Tourism Organization

Jin-Yung Woo
Advisor on Tourism and Culture to Secretary General, UNWTO

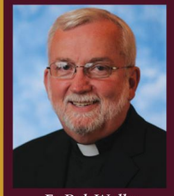
H.E. Maen Areikat
Chief of the PLO Delegation Washington, DC

Sabrina Radojičić
Founder of Sakramento Peace Center, HCEF Representative Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina

Saliba Sarsar, Ph.D.
Professor of Political Science, Monmouth University

Fr. Jacek Orzechowscki
OFM, Pastor of St. Camillus Parish in Silver Spring, MD

Hugh M. Dempsey
D.Ed., K.M.Ob., KCHS Bethlehem Museum Consultant, Washington, DC



Fr. Rob Waller
Pastor, Archdiocese of Cincinnati

Rev. Dr. Carl S. Hofmann
Pastor, Congregational Care, FPC, Boulder, CO

A PROGRAM OF
Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation
WWW.HCEF.ORG

6935 Wisconsin Ave, Suite 518
Bethesda, MD 20815-6124
***Tel:** 301-951-9400*
***Fax:** 301-951-9402*
***Email:** conference@hcef.org*

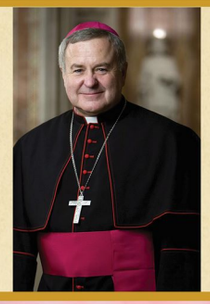
Forging a New Bond of Solidarity for Equality, Prosperity and Peace — HCEF

The Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation
18TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Friday, October 14, 2016
Reception 6:00 pm • Dinner 7:00 pm

Saturday, October 15, 2016
General Assembly • 9:00 am - 5:30 pm

WASHINGTON MARRIOTT GEORGETOWN
1221 22nd Street, NW Washington, DC 20037



HCEF Award
H.E. Archbishop
Robert James Carlson
Archbishop of St. Louis, MO,
HCEF Advisory Board Member

Living Stones Solidarity Award
His Eminence
Metropolitan Joseph
Archbishop of Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF RAMALLAH PALESTINE

Palestinian Diaspora Award
American Federation of Ramallah, Palestine

Global Leadership Award
H.E. Dr. Taleb Rifai
Secretary General, United Nations World Tourism Organization

Heritage Award
H.E. Rula Ma'ayah
Minister of Tourism and Antiquities State of Palestine

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

On behalf of ***the Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation (HCEF)*** *Board of Directors and Staff, I invite you to join us for our* ***18th International Conference & Awards Banquet!***

Have you dreamed of visiting the Holy Land but never really known how to go about it? Have you wanted to learn more about the Christian of the Middle East and the pressures they are facing? Did you know there are local Christian communities in the Holy Land that face uncertainty? Are you interested in learning how intercontinental economic strategies might offer solutions to struggling economies in Palestine? Have you wondered what repercussions these elections might have on the United States' policies in the Middle East? If any of these questions resonate with you, I invite you to join us and register today!

Held under the theme, ***"Forging a New Bond of Solidarity for Equality, Prosperity, and Peace,"*** *this diverse conference has a little bit for everyone.*

I look forward to seeing you there!

Warm wishes,

Rateb Rabie

Rateb Y. Rabie, KCHS
President/CEO

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Dr. M. Craig Barnes,
President and Professor of Pastoral Ministry
His Eminence Archbishop Khajag Barsamian,
Primate of the Diocese of the Amernian Church of America
Most Reverend Blasé Joseph Cupich,
Archbishop, Archdiocese of Chicago
Ms. Marie Dennis,
Co-President, Pax Christi International
Most Reverend Daniel Cardinal DiNardo,
Archbishop, Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston,
Vice-President, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
Most Reverend Kevin Downling, C.SS.R,
Bishop, Co-President, Pax Christi International
His Beatitude Fouad Twal,
Patriarch Emeritus, Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem
Most Reverend José H. Gomez,
Archbishop, Archdiocese of Los Angeles
The Rev. Richard H. Graham,
Bishop, Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod
Most Reverend Wilton D. Gregory,
Archbishop of Atlanta, Archdiocese of Atlanta
Most Reverend Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D.,
President, US Conference of Catholic Bishops
Most Reverend William E. Lori,
Archbishop of Baltimore
Archbishop Nourhan Manougian,
Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem
Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted,
Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Phoenix
Most Reverend Seán Patrick O'Malley, OFM Cap.,
Archbishop, Boston
Reverend Dr. David A. Renwick,
Senior Pastor, The National Presbyterian Church
Most Reverend Nicholas J. Samra,
Eparchial Bishop, Eparchy of Newton
Most Reverend Dennis M. Schnurr,
Archbishop, Archdiocese of Cincinnati
Rev. Dr. Sandra Cox Shaw,
Pastor, Living Faith Lutheran Church
Dr. Carolyn Y. Woo,
President & CEO, Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

HONORARY COMMITTEE

His Eminence Donald Cardinal Wuerl
Archbishop, Archdiocese of Washington
Reverend Dr. Craig M. Barnes
President, Princeton Theological Seminary
Most Reverend Robert Carlson
Archbishop, Archdiocese of St. Louis
Reverend Richard Graham
Bishop of the Metropolitan Washington D.C.
Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
H.E. Cardinal Theodore McCarrick
Archbishop Emeritus, Archdiocese of Washington
Most Reverend Denis Madden
Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of Baltimore
Most Reverend William Lori
Archbishop, Archdiocese of Baltimore
H.E. Archbishop Barsamian Khajag
Primate, Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern)

CONFERENCE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Saturday, October 15, 2016 - 9:00 am - 5:30 pm

Palestinian Christians in the Face of Uncertainty

This session will address the dire conditions affecting Palestinian Christians such as high unemployment, restricted mobility, and limited access to goods and services. Our esteemed speakers will identify signs of hope for the future.

Christians Under Pressure: The Weight of the Current Conditions in the Middle East

Panelists will discuss the past and current status of Middle Eastern Christians and other religious minorities, specifically in Syria and Iraq, and ways that we can help alleviate the weight of their duress through initiatives such as the Muslim Christian Coalition.

Keynote Speaker: His Eminence The Most Reverend Metropolitan Joseph

Tourism for Peace: Support for the Holy Land through Pilgrimages

This panel will explore the challenges and unique opportunities of religious tourism to the Holy Land and the support it gives to the Palestinian economy.

Diaspora Palestinians: The Untapped Global Resource and Palestinian Development

This session will examine key economic strategies such as crowdfunding and initiatives like the Future Business Leaders program, which brings together bright, young diaspora Palestinians from around the world to build the Palestinian economy and promote prosperity and equality.

Presidential Election Results: Implications for U.S. Policies in the Middle East

The presidential election results on November 8 will be significant as they indicate possible shifts in American policies. This panel will explore the implications and prospects for equality, prosperity, and peace given a Democratic, Republican, or Independent win.

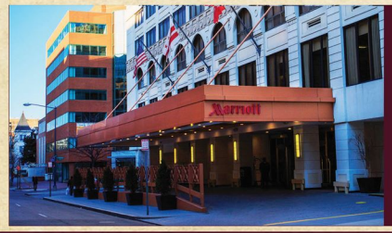
CONFERENCE AND BANQUET RATES

	TICKET COST	AFTER 10/7/2016
General Session, Saturday Oct. 15th *9:30 am- 5:30 pm*	**$30**	**$45**
Awards Banquet, Friday Oct. 14th ***No Banquet Ticket Sales at the Door***	**$160**	**$170**
Conference and Awards Banquet *Friday Oct. 14th & Saturday Oct. 15th*	**$150**	**$170**
Awards Banquet Table Sponsor (reserves 10 seats) *Includes acknowledgment at Banquet*	**$1500**	**$1500**
Clergy and Students *General Session Sat. Oct. 15th*	**$20**	**$40**

WAYS TO SUPPORT

- *Sponsor the conference*
- *Sponsor students and/or clergy to attend*
- *Make a donation*
- *Purchase an ad in our conference program book*

TO REGISTER OR SUPPORT THE CONFERENCE:
Please call 301-951-9400 ext. 219, fill enclosed form and mail to 6935 Wisconsin Ave., Suite 518, Bethesda, MD, USA 20815-6124, or go online to: www.hcef.org



WASHINGTON MARRIOTT GEORGETOWN

Dates October 14-15, 2016

Washington Marriott Georgetown
1221 22nd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037-1203

Tel: 202 872-1500 Toll Free: 1 800 228-9290

Room Rate $169.00/night
Cutoff Dates October 7, 2016

Registered conference attendees will be able to park at the Marriott for $14 per car for the dates of October 14-15, 2016.