



## PATRIARCHATUS LATINUS - JERUSALEM

بطريركية القدس لللاتين

Prot. N. (3) 779/2016

August 23, 2016

Dear Rateb,

The peace of the Lord be with you all!

I convey greetings and compliments to you and the 18<sup>th</sup> HCEF International Conference on the theme: *"Forging a New Bond of Solidarity for Equality, Prosperity and Peace"*. I join your many friends, associates and colleagues in an expression of support for your Conference and appreciation for the numerous undertakings by which HCEF brings communities together for a common good – for the well-being of Christians in the Holy Land.

The path we take to realize our goal is in parts and in stages: working together, sharing each other's readiness and zeal, and moving through the challenges and triumphs, one step at a time. In unity, we have collective strength for a common cause that we bring to the awareness of the participants of the Conference.

Please express my heartfelt congratulations to the HCEF Award recipients this year, and in gratitude for their support for our people and commitment to uphold the Christian presence in the Holy Land. May their witness of solidarity stir in every person a deep sense of faith, caring, self-worth and dignity.

With dedication, we serve the Church and our people in the ways that our Lord calls us. May your work continue to bear fruits and your efforts be a living invitation that moves people forward in faith, towards solidarity and peace. Let us pray together for peace in the Holy Land and in our world.

With my best wishes for the success of this year's HCEF International Conference.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Pierbattista Pizzaballa  
Apostolic Administrator



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