



PATRIARCHATUS LATINUS - JERUSALEM

بطريركية القدس لللاتين

To all the Bishops and priests of the Latin Patriarchate.
May the Lord give you peace!

Attached to this letter, you will find the list of all the changes and assignments to the various offices, to the seminary and parishes.

After a long year of listening and evaluation the time has arrived to reach some conclusions. As I said in the recent communications, during last week I had discussions with the bishops about this subject, in order to understand their perspective on the situations. And so on June 12 and 13, together with all the bishops and the consultors, we had brain storming sessions about all the changes. It was necessary for me to discuss, to hear and to understand the different ideas, opinions and perspectives.

The last days of discussions have been very fruitful and useful for me and helped me to think and address some situations from different perspectives. I thank the Bishops and the Consultors for their important contribution. So it was my responsibility to make the final conclusions, which I present to you now.

I have tried to speak with all of you personally, even if sometimes a longer time would have been desirable. Thanks to all of you for your patience in these days and for your readiness to help.

Some will be happy, and others will be disappointed. Some would have expected to change differently, others not to be changed and other not to remain. In these circumstances, you know that it is impossible to meet the needs and desires of all. I count on your understanding.

Allow me to present shortly some explanations of the changes you will find in the list.

A special word about the Vicars. As you can see, after the installation of Bishop William Shomali in Jordan, we were in need of a new Vicar in Jerusalem. I believe that the presence of a bishop in Jerusalem is

important, given all the different public commitments of the Latin Patriarchate. Bishop G. Boulos Marcuzzo, after more than twenty years, has expressed his readiness to leave Nazareth and to come to Jerusalem, while Abouna Hanna Kaldani leaves Jordan for the first time in his life to go to a completely new adventure: Vicar in Nazareth.

Also in the seminary we have changes. Abouna Jamal Khader, after the experience of the seminary and many years of teaching in the seminary and in the University of Bethlehem, has accepted to have a pastoral experience in Ramallah. The same for Abouna Hanna Salem and Abouna Samer Mdanat. Thank you to those who are leaving this important institution of our Patriarchate and to those accepted this responsibility.

In the Financial Administration there will be a new situation. As Administrator I will take the direct responsibility of the office, with a layperson who will help me in the management of it. Mr. Sami al-Yousef, who is presently the director of the Pontifical Mission for Palestine, expressed his readiness to help us in this period of assessment. The change is due, to the necessity of restructuring and reorganizing our economy.

I wish to thank Abouna Imad Twal for his support and for the tremendous effort he gave during his years as General Administrator. In this period of my time at the Patriarchate, I saw his everyday commitment to the office and service to the community. His position was not an enviable or gratifying one, but his contribution and patience with all the different requests and expectations (including those of mine) are deeply appreciated. Thank you Abouna Imad for your service and full commitment to the Patriarchate!

I also wish to thank Abouna George Ayoub, who has been my right (and left!) hand for the past year. He has been an excellent help in the Chancellery; efficient, always ready and available for all the different issues, with the desire to help. He introduced me to the life of the Patriarchate, with patience and concreteness. It will be strange, now, to see the Chancellery office without George behind his desk talking on the phone. But it is now time for him to prepare himself for the next phases of his priestly life.

Abouna Ibrahim Shomali, on the other hand, will leave the direct pastoral activity to come to the Latin Patriarchate for the Pastoral office and for the

Chancellery. Abouna Rafiq Khoury has accepted to preside over the new Pastoral office you requested and which we all agree is necessary.

For the schools, we had decided to rethink the nature of the offices, with proper bylaws and counsels. Within the month of October we must finish this program and then we will see also about personnel for the office.

As you can see, there have been major changes in the administration. In practice, this year, all the bishops, vicars and officers have moved. I thank all of them for their prompt obedience.

And thank you to all of you for your obedience.

I know that not all of the decisions are perfect and not all the situations have been resolved. This is part of the life and we have to accept it.

I saw in all of you, anyway, in these last days of meetings and dialogue, the desire to help and to serve our Church, and I experienced especially your love for our people and for the Latin Patriarchate. This makes me sure that, in spite of my weakness, our Church is in good hands.

Now, finally, it is time again to raise our glance above. After many discussions and human considerations, we have to put all in the hands of God, praying and entrusting again our life and our Church to Him, confident that He will guide us as a loving Father.

All the changes must take effect – beside special cases approved by myself – by August 15th.

I wish you all every blessing and a fruitful summer period.

Jerusalem 14 June 2017



+ Pierbattista Pizzaballa

+ Pierbattista Pizzaballa
Apostolic Administrator

Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem
Diocesan Offices and Parishes

Changes - June 2017

Office / Place	Name	Notes
<i>Patriarchal Curia - Jerusalem</i>		
Chancellery:	Ibrahim Shomali	Chancellor. Administrator of the house.
	Joseph Sweiss	Personal Secretary
	Michael McDonagh	<i>Ad nutum</i> of the Secretariat
General Vicar & Moderator Curiae	+Giacinto B. Marcuzzo	
Financial Administration:	Mr. Sami Al-Yousef	Delegate for the Economy
	Firas Aridah	Director of Property Dept.
Diocesan Tribunal (First instance):	Emil Salayta	President
Pastoral Office:	Rafiq Khoury	Diocesan Director
	Ibrahim Shomali	Vice-director Pastoral Office for Israel & Palestine
<i>Patriarchal Curia - Nazareth</i>		
	Hanna Kaldani	General Vicar
Diocesan Tribunal (First instance)	Akhtam Hejazeen	President
<i>Patriarchal Curia - Amman</i>		
General Vicar	+William Shomali	
	Juan Manuel Silva Lopez	Vicar in Sweifieh. Resident in the bishop residence.
Vice-Economio	Deacon Jubran Salame	
Diocesan Tribunal (First instance)	Jihad Shweihat (Jordan)	President
Diocesan Tribunal (Second instance)	Majdi Syriani	President
Pastoral office	Ala Musharbash	Vice director for Jordan
Regina Pacis Center	Shawki Bateriaian	

<i>Episcopal Council:</i>	+Pierbattista Pizzaballa	
	+Giacinto B. Marcuzzo	Vicar Palestine
	+William Shomali	Vicar Jordan
	Hanna Kaldani	Vicar Israel
<i>Patriarchal Seminary:</i>	Yakoub Rafidi	Rector
	Azziz Halaweh	Vice-Rector, Economo, professor
	Adib Zoomot	Spiritual Director
	Issa Hejazeen	Professor
	Bashar Fawadleh	Vocation director for Israel & Palestine, Youth director for Israel & Palestine
	Johnny Bahbah	Spiritual and Propaedeutic Year and Vocational director for Jordan
<i>Directorate of Schools:</i>	Ashraf al-Nimri	Jordan
	Iyad Twal	Israel & Palestine

Are reported here only the changes. Those who are not changed are **not** present in this list.

PARISHES

Palestine

Aboud	Simon Hejazeen	Parish priest
Beit Jala	Hanna Salem	Parish priest
Beit Sahour	Elias Tabban	Parish priest
Rafidia	Juan David Aragon	Parish priest
Ramallah	Jamal Khader	Parish priest
	Matheus Brum Maciel	Vicar

Israel

Deir Rafat	Yousef Rizeq	Chaplain and Spiritual assistant
Haifa: Sister of Nazareth School	To be provided	
Rameh	Akhtam Hejazeen	Parish priest and president of the tribunal in Nazareth.
Reneh	Raed Abusahliah	Parish priest.

Jordan

Ader	Samer Mdanat	Parish priest
Ajloun	Issa Shomali	Parish priest
Jabal Amman	Wissam Mansour	Parish priest
	Mario Cornioli	Assistente del Patriarcato per i rapporti con l'Italia a servizio delle opere di carità
Jabal Luweibdeh	Francis Shahin	Parish priest
Tilaa-el-Ali	Ala' Musharbash	Parish priest. Pastoral office
	Marwan Hassan	Vicar
Jubeiha	Tareq Abou Hanna	Parish priest
	Saqer Hejazeen	Vicar
Fuheis	Imad Twal	Parish priest
	Salam Haddad	Vicar
Hosson	Firas Nasrawin	Parish priest
	Samer Sawalha	Vicar
Kerak	Fares Syriani	Parish priest
Madaba	Butrus Hejazeen	Parish priest
	Salem Lolas	Vicar
	Bassam Al-Deir	(Hanina)
Mafraq	Tareq Hejazeen	Parish priest
Marj El-Hammam	Ashraf Al-Nimri	Parish priest.
Salt	Riad Hejazeen	Parish priest. Also in Hermemim
Smakieh	Ibrahim Naffa	Parish priest
Wahadneh	Farah Hejazeen	Parish priest
Zarqa Nord	Iyad Bader	Parish priest
	Giovanni Falorni	Vicar

New Residents in the Latin Patriarchate

Bishop G. Boulos Marcuzzo	Vicar
Ibrahim Shomali	Chancellor
Joseph Sweiss	Personal Secretary
Alberto Garau	<i>Ad nutum</i>

Priests serving abroad or in other realities

Leandro Setuval At the service of the
Cammino

Dubai Provided by Verbo
Incarnato

Priests going abroad for studies

George Ayoub Rome Moral Theology

Humam Khzouz Rome Canon Law – Continue for PhD

Imad Amat Rome Pastoral Theology

Retired

Elias Odeh Private house Jifna



+ Pierbattista Pizzaballa

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Apostolic Administrator

Fr. George Ayoub
Chancellor A.G.