

I feel very blessed to have had the opportunity to experience two pilgrimages to the Holy Land. Both years, I've had the privilege of having His Grace, Bishop Nikiphoros, to guide, teach, and spiritually inspire me throughout many of our Orthodox Holy sites.

I want to thank you for publishing the Bishop's interview in the last issue. He is truly an inspirational and dedicated spiritual leader who is now faced with a monumental challenge. I can personally

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T I V I S T

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attest to the fact that I saw unfinished buildings in Jaffa and Bethlehem — unkempt grounds at many of the monasteries and having met so few monastics whom are required to maintain these monasteries. It is a disgrace as Orthodox Christians to see such poor management of these sites.

I urge all conscientious Orthodox Christians to write to the Bishops of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem, Patriarch Diodoros, Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople, and Archbishop Iakovos of New York. We must protect and preserve these rich inheritances. We must be reminded of the significance and importance that the Holy Land offers for all of Christianity.

Sincerely,
Karen Jensen
Hughson, CA