



President's Message:

∞ New Initiatives in the New Year ∞

Each passing year brings changes to each of our lives. Sometimes these are welcome and sometimes not. The IDF is also introducing some changes for 2016 all of which we hope you will find to be of the former variety.

The IDF will be coordinating efforts with the American Friends of the École Biblique (AFEB) to expand the base of financial support for the École in America. Twenty years ago Judy Gerth organized the AFEB at the behest of the École Biblique to assist in American-based fundraising efforts and build support for the institution in the U.S.A. After faithfully serving for twenty years in this position and introducing hundreds of generous benefactors to the work of the École, she is retiring. We are deeply grateful for all of her dedication and hard work over the years. Brava, Judy! In the new working relationship between the IDF and the AFEB, the AFEB will continue to exist as a distinct entity, but we will now be able to better coordinate appeals and plan events that benefit both institutions and, more importantly, the one institution that they both serve: the École Biblique.

The first joint effort in this new relationship will be a pilgrimage to the Holy Land organized by 206 Tours and led by Fr. Gregory Tatum, O.P. of the École, which is scheduled for August 30-September 11, 2016. A share of the proceeds from the pilgrimage will go to support the École, and in the process we hope to introduce new people to the École in a direct manner. You will find more information about this exciting trip in this newsletter.

Independently of the AFEB, the IDF is also working with St. Stephen's Priory (the École) to offer for the first time a pilgrimage for permanent deacons and their wives May 29-June 8, 2016. This pilgrimage is also organized by 206 Tours. It will offer permanent deacons the added possibility of attending Holy Year events in Rome scheduled specifically for deacons as part of an add-on prior to the pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The Holy Year's theme of mercy and the unique experience of having the Sacred Scriptures come to life as the deacons see so many of the places mentioned in the Gospels and benefit from the insights of Fr. Christian Eeckhout, O.P. will undoubtedly benefit their spiritual lives and their preaching ministry.

This year the IDF will be working to revivify the Angelicum Alumni Association of North America to strengthen the



Basilica at the École biblique in Jerusalem near the Damascus Gate.

bonds between the Angelicum and the alumni and to serve as a base of support for the Angelicum's financial needs. We are in the initial stages of updating the alumni database. If anyone has an interest in helping with this project, please let us know.

The IDF has also recently been in touch with Bertrand Wallon of the French Association *Les Amis de l'IDEO* to assist American benefactors in their generous efforts to support the work of IDEO in Cairo. We look forward to developing this relationship in the upcoming year.

Finally, as you may have noticed, the IDF newsletter has also undergone a change. In addition to the new layout, the newsletter will now be a bi-monthly electronic publication.

We hope that you find these all welcome changes. We thank you for your on-going support and invite you to keep the efforts of the IDF in your prayers and in the forefront of your mind.

In Christ,

Very Rev. Allen Moran, O.P.
President

Forward this newsletter! We appreciate your help in our outreach efforts. | Become an Associate



Iraqi Religious Sister's Plea to Americans

My name is Sr. Caroline Saeed Jarjis. I was born in Baghdad, Iraq, into a Catholic Christian family. My father is a now retired engineer and my mother was a teacher and principal at a High School.



I graduated from the Technical Medicine University in the field of hemodialysis. I entered the Congregation of the Daughters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in 1998. I professed my solemn vows in 2007.

My congregation, founded in 1911 by Fr. Abdal Ahad Rais, who studied with the Dominicans in Mosul, has suffered many tragedies throughout its history. The most tragic being that of our first martyr: Sr. Cecilia Moshi Hanna. On August 15, 2002, three armed assailants entered our convent in Baghdad and found our seventy-one year old Sister Cecilia preparing to quietly retire to her room. She was brutally attacked by the dagger-wielding assailants and repeatedly stabbed to death. Sr. Cecilia's neck was slit and her head severed from her body.

ISIS has misplaced more than 100,000 Christians and other minorities following attacks. Many were given less than half an hour to flee their houses. Most of the displaced Christian adults are educated professionals –doctors, engineers, architects, government workers, teachers and university professors– who were providing services to the Iraqi people. Now their future is uncertain.

Our congregation responded to the needs of our Christian brothers and sisters and others by opening our Generalate House to welcome displaced girls and women (ages 13-50) and a rest home for elderly women. However, in December 2014, ISIS bombed the Generalate House destroying it completely, leaving only the cross of our church standing (!) This has served as a beacon to our sisters that all will pass and that someday we will return!

I started my bachelor's degree in the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in 2010 after a recommendation from the Dominican friars in Mosul who play an important role in Iraqi society and in my own personal life. I was convinced that through my studies in the social sciences combined with the Catholic social teaching of the Church and the Dominican tradition of social justice, which are the main characteristics of this Faculty, I could better accompany my Iraqi people from darkness into light, from a culture of death to a culture of life that respects the dignity of every human being.

For my fellow Iraqi religious sisters and me it has been extremely difficult to find funding to continue our studies and pursue our dreams. My dream is to return to Iraq and especially help abused, neglected and trafficked women with my studies at the Angelicum. I'm on my final year of the license program after having obtained my bachelor's degree in 2014. Other Iraqi religious sisters, brothers, priests and laymen and women may follow in my footsteps to the Angelicum. The Church in Iraq has been a shining witness amid the misery. Two bishops, several priests, and more than 100 displaced sisters are still living among the people, helping them and sharing in their sorrows. My fervent plea to you is to care for your Iraqi Christian brothers and sisters that are suffering! Help us help them!



Report from the IDEO on January Conference

Conference on “The Sciences of Islam, Between Repetition and Innovation: What is it to comment in Islam?”

On January 14, 2016, IDEO organized a conference devoted to the genre of commentary in post-classical Islam (6th-13th century A.H./12th-19th century A.D.). Opened by the President of Al-Azhar University, this conference concluded the “200 Project” which began in March 2013 and aimed at the historical contextualization of the works of 200 major authors of the Arabic and Islamic heritage. The “200 Project” was funded by the European Delegation in Cairo.

The results of the “200 Project” are available on the online catalogue of our library. For each book, in addition to the classical information displayed on the left side of the screen, we present, on the right side, information regarding the works themselves: their editorial history, their cultural history (commentaries, refutations, complements, imitations...), and the relations that their authors have with other authors (masters, disciples, family...). After three years of research, we have processed around 190 authors, which represents

15% of the 200,000 bibliographical records that our catalogue contains.

The January conference aimed at continuing the work of Mellon Sawyer Seminary (University of California, Berkeley, October 12-14, 2012) which was devoted to the commentary genre and its sub-genres (margins, glosses, notes...). Sixteen speakers presented a paper, coming from twelve countries and eight universities. They also met in small groups to share their insights. Fifty people attended the conference. Here, we will present only the questions that were posed at the end of the conference.

Excerpt take from the online IDEO newsletter:

<http://www.ideo-cairo.org/spip.php?article615&lang=en>



Join the International Dominican Foundation, The American Friends of the Ecole Biblique and 206 Tours on **A PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND**

led by **FR. GREGORY TATUM, O.P.** a renowned biblical scholar from the Ecole Biblique in Jerusalem



The Dead Sea



Mt. of Olives



Church of the Holy Sepulchre



Mt. Tabor

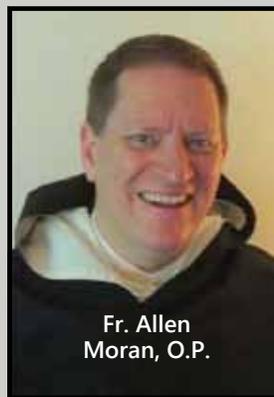
August 30 — September 11, 2016

\$4,869 from New York, JFK

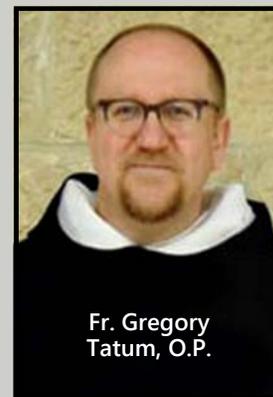
www.pilgrimages.com/ecolebiblique

Your Trip Includes:

- Round-trip air from New York, JFK
 - Airport taxes, fuel surcharges
 - 11 nights Holy Land at centrally located first class hotels (or similar)
 - Transfers as per itinerary
 - Three daily meals plus wine and mineral water with dinners
 - Transportation by air-conditioned motor coach
 - Wi-fi on motor coach
 - Wireless headsets
 - Assistance of a professional local Catholic guide
 - Sightseeing and admission fees as per itinerary
 - Tips to hotel staff and restaurants
 - Daily mass and spiritual activities
 - Flight bag and portfolio of all travel documents
- *Not included:**
Beverages where not mentioned. Tips to your guide and driver.

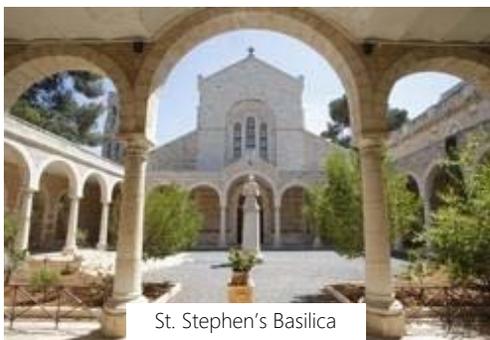


Fr. Allen Moran, O.P.



Fr. Gregory Tatum, O.P.

Fr. Allen Moran, O.P. is the President of the International Dominican Foundation. Fr. Gregory Tatum, O.P. is a New Testament scholar and professor at the Dominican-run Ecole Biblique in Jerusalem. Since its founding in 1890, the Ecole Biblique has been a leading institution in biblical and archaeological research in the Catholic Church and now for the first time some of the fruits of its works are being made available through this pilgrimage. Don't miss the one-of-a-kind opportunity! A portion of the proceeds of this pilgrimage will directly benefit the Ecole Biblique.



St. Stephen's Basilica



Bethlehem, Church of the Nativity



The International Dominican Foundation



Ecole Biblique et archéologique française de Jérusalem



To book or for more information, please contact 206 Tours:
www.pilgrimages.com/ecolebiblique | 1-800-206-TOUR (8687) | Amanda@206tours.com

800th Jubilee Pilgrimage: In the Footsteps of St. Dominic with the International Dominican Foundation



In the Footsteps of St. Dominic | Pilgrimage Itinerary | June 5-17

SPAIN, FRANCE & ITALY: June 5 — 17, 2016

Celebrate the 800th Jubilee of the Order of Preachers on pilgrimage with the International Dominican Foundation. Travel with friends and friars as you enrich your faith and retrace the earliest days of St. Dominic.

- Madrid • Calurega • Burgo de Osma • Toulouse • Albi • Fanjeaux • Prouille • Carcassone • Bologna • Florence • Siena • Rome •

[CLICK HERE for Itinerary and complete details!](#)

Pilgrimage includes:

Daily mass, roundtrip airfare, 4-star hotels, luxury motor coach, professional guides, breakfast and dinner and unforgettable experiences! Fr. Michael Demkovich plans to join the pilgrimage and provide spiritual direction to the IDF group. While in Rome, the group will visit the **Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum)**, one of the projects of the International Dominican Foundation.

Per Person Rates by Occupancy:

SPAIN, FRANCE & ITALY

Double: \$5,165*

Single: \$6,145*

**Price subject to change pending departure location*

Canterbury Pilgrimages & Tours Inc.

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If you wish to travel with friends or with others from a particular ministry, please indicate so.

**Tour dates and prices are subject to change.*



A Pilgrimage for Permanent Deacons and Their Wives in the Year of Mercy to the HOLY LAND



May 29—June 8, 2016

\$4,549 from New York

**Spiritual Director: Fr. Christian Eeckhout, O.P.
from St. Stephen's Basilica at the
Ecole Biblique in Jerusalem**

WITH AN OPTIONAL PRE-TOUR to ROME

May 26—30, 2016 | \$899

www.pilgrimages.com/deacons



Since its founding in 1890, the Ecole Biblique in Jerusalem has been a leading institution in biblical and archaeological research in the Catholic Church and now for the first time some of the fruits of its works are being made available through this pilgrimage. Don't miss this amazing opportunity! A portion of the proceeds of this pilgrimage will directly benefit the Ecole Biblique.

Your Trip Includes:

- Round-trip air from New York, JFK (or add-on as per www.206tours.com/addon)
- Airport taxes, fuel surcharges
- 10 nights accommodations
- Tour Guide/Escort
- Transportation by private motor coach
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily
- Entrances and Sightseeing as per itinerary
- Flight bag and portfolio of all travel documents
- ***Not included:**
Beverages where not mentioned. Tips to your guide and driver, items of personal nature.

- 3 night hotel accommodations
- Tour Escort
- Transportation by private motor coach
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Wine and mineral water with dinners
- Entrances and Sightseeing as per itinerary



To book or for more information,
please contact 206 Tours:

www.pilgrimages.com/deacons
1-800-206-TOUR (8687) Amanda@206tours.com

Pre-Tour to Rome:

Want to know more?

Click on these three links to watch.

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[Rome video](#)

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