LATIN PATRIARCHATE
OF JERUSALEM

PROJECT PROPOSAL

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNT CENTER
Anjara – Jordan

GA 027/15

General Administration
Project Development Office
October 2015
THE LATIN PATRIARCHATE

The Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem (LPJ) was restored in 1847, and since then is promoting the best interests of the local communities it serves. Today, the Patriarchal Diocese oversees about 90,000 faithful in four countries, Israel, the Palestinian Authority, Jordan and Cyprus, covering a rich tapestry of cultures, languages, religions and traditions. Serving all with special emphasis on the support and care of indigenous Holy Land Christians remains the enduring mission of the Mother Church, the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

It is the LPJ goal that the family is the fundamental building block of the local community and of society at large. As a result, the Church takes a holistic approach in its work and assistance. While starting with the children and youth who are the youngest group in the society; LPJ builds outward to serve the immediate parents, the surrounding community and ultimately the society as a whole.

INTRODUCTION

Among the verdant Mounts of Gilead, we find the small province of Ajloun, which is of great importance because of its past history. It is situated 75 Km North of Amman and just about 20 Km West of Jerash, ancient capital of the Decapolis. The Mounts of Gilead were the location of different events of the Old Testament.

Only A few kilometers south of Ajloun in the north of Jordan, is the mainly Muslim town of Anjara. The environment is poor with the occupation outside the town being mainly in agriculture. There are many low income families working in unskilled jobs.

It is believed, as it is situated in the hills of Gilead east of the Jordan valley that Jesus and his mother Mary passed through the town and rested there in a cave. To commemorate this, Father Yousef Salme Nammat has built a shrine to Our Lady of the Mountain next to the school. This was one of the four pilgrimage sites, designated in the year 2000, by the Catholic Churches in the Middle East. The main pilgrimage takes place each year on the third Friday of June, when over 5,000 pilgrims descend on the town. The city of Anjara, near Ajloun, has a population of approximately 20,000 Muslims and 1,200 Christians, both Catholic and Orthodox. The Parish “The Visitation of Our Lady” takes care of the Sanctuary of “Our Lady of the Mount”, which sits on a 16,000 square meters site.

Currently this mission is assisted by two different communities of the Incarnate Word: apostolic religious sisters and priests who attend to the parish activities. The sisters and the fathers assist the Girls and Boys Homes, and there is a primary school with around 200 students, with about 38% of the same from Muslim families and other orthodox Christians are also learning at the school.

Currently the parish is home to around 45 people; 10 are Priests, Nuns, and staff, and 35 are children. Following the development of a growth plan for the parish, a project proposal was developed to meet the fast growing demand for space, especially concerning the children's home.
The parish priest of Anjara is Fr. Hugo Alaniz IVE, who is responsible for the parish, school, KG, three children homes, the prison ministry, youth and family movements and supporting to other neighboring parishes, such as Mafrak, Houson, Erbit and Swefieh.

Also within the premises, there is a center for rehabilitation for disable children (OLOPC branch) offering treatment free of charge to 20 needed children. In addition to that, there are three homes for children and t-agers residents, who are orphans, abandoned or victims of family violence.

**The Image of “Our Lady of the Mount”**

The name of Our Lady of the Mount is owed to the region in which the Sanctuary is situated, the famous Mounts of Gilead. The image was brought from Italy. The Pastor of Anjara, Don Angelo Foresto, having seen the statue in Jerusalem, wanted it for his parish. It was the year 1932. The statue remained in a small chapel until the year 1954 when the parish church was built. It was in the 70s, when it was transferred to the grotto built by Father Yousef Naemat, where it is now found.

People began to visit the grotto and venerate Our Lady, and as the years passed, an ever-growing stream of faithful came. There were various graces that the Virgin Mary granted to the faithful who turned to her with trust-filled prayers. The image is a beautiful wooden statue of the Immaculate Heart of Mary with Jesus Child in her arms, who points to Heaven with one hand and with the other to Our Lady, indicating Mary’s role as the one who intercedes for us to God our Father.

On May 6, 2010 this image of our Lady of the Mount has cried tears of blood, becoming part of a holy route in Jordan, visited by thousands of pilgrims a year.

**LOCATION/DEMOGRAPHICS**

- Total population in Jordan: 8 million
- Population of Anjara: 20,000
- Population of Christians in Anjara: 1,200
- LP School students: 175
- Kindergarten: 35

![Map of Jordan with Anjara highlighted](image-url)
NEEDS

Construction of “Our Lady of the Mount Center”, which will serve three main purposes:

- A home for the boys
- A parish multipurpose community hall
- A Center for pilgrims and visitors

First floor

The current living conditions of the boys at the priest residence are not appropriated. The religious community is sharing the house with the young residents, as there is no proper accommodation or separate building where they can reside. This is one of the main reasons the parish initiated this project for a dedicated residence for the young boys to live, and to be properly cared for. The new section of the building will offer 20 beds and 5 bathrooms. Each two children will share a room and each four children will share a bathroom. A supervisor will sleep on the same floor, in his own en-suite bedroom. There is an office on this floor which will be used by the supervisor to meet with the children.

Ground floor

There is also a need for a reception area for the pilgrims and visitors that come to the sanctuary. The idea is also to interact with the residents when visiting the parish, holding lectures, meetings and workshops in this part of the building. The ground floor of the Center contains the main entrance, common room and laundry room that serve the boys residence.
Basement

The parish also lacks on a proper space for the community to gather on special occasions, which are essential part of the Jordanian life on the villages. Events such as weddings, parties, condolences and greetings and social activities in general, are usually held at the main parish community hall. The initial plan was to build a much larger room for the community, however due to the site’s topography and already project for the boy’s residence, a decision was made to take advantage to have the hall on the basement of the building to serve the community. The kitchen and WCs are intended to be used for the service of the potential outdoor terrace of phase two where social events can be also held. The office is intended to be used by a facility manager.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Built Up Area (sqm)</th>
<th>1.035</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basement Floor</td>
<td>353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ground Floor</td>
<td>341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Floor</td>
<td>341</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BENEFICIARIES

This project will directly benefit around 1,200 Christian’s residents of Anjara. The main beneficiaries are: 20 young boys who will be residing in the new building, the school and kindergarten students, the parishioners and their families, the priests and sister community, employees of the parish, visitors, pilgrims and the local community as a whole.

Expected results: The project will enable the target group of beneficiaries to have a suitable place to live as every child deserve.

EXECUTION/DURATION

The Latin Patriarchate technical team have prepared all the necessary detail designs and budgets for this project. The construction will require eight months from staring date. The work will be managed and supervised by the Latin Patriarchate Project Service Department in Jordan, and will comply with all LPJ internal contracting and supervision procedures. More details are available up on request.

PROPOSED BUDGET

The total estimate cost of this project is USD 360,850.00 as illustrated bellow:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Civil Works</td>
<td>213,670.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Finishing Works</td>
<td>139,722.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Mechanical Works</td>
<td>85,184.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Electrical Works</td>
<td>43,057.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basement Finishing (Community Hall)</td>
<td>79,491.50</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Estimated Cost</strong></td>
<td><strong>561,125.00</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Estimated Cost (4% discount granted)</strong></td>
<td><strong>538,680.00</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Unforeseen expenses (5%)</td>
<td>26,934.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design and Supervision Fees (10%)</td>
<td>53,868.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total Estimated Cost</strong></td>
<td><strong>619,482.00</strong></td>
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<td>Available Funds (other donors)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Needed Funds</strong></td>
<td>JOD 255,482.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL IN USD (exchange rate 1USD = 0.708 JOD)</strong></td>
<td>USD 360,850.00</td>
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</tbody>
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Present conditions of the residence
New building - Our Lady of Mount Center

Location of future construction
Rev. Fr. Imad Twal
General Administrator

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