



# Collège des Frères- Jerusalem

## Newsletter

JANUARY  
2025 # 38

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

A New Year, A New Chapter: 2025 – The Jubilee Year of Hope

As we step into 2025, we pause for a moment to reflect on the year that has passed. 2024 is now behind us, with all its joys and sorrows, triumphs and challenges. Time moves forward, and with it, we are given the gift of renewal—a fresh beginning, a new chapter to write.

This year holds special significance in our Christian tradition. Every 25 years, the Church celebrates a Jubilee Year, a sacred time that calls humanity to recognize its mission on Earth. This mission, deeply rooted in faith, urges us to live with purpose, to serve others, and to build a world where love and justice prevail.

For 2025, the Church has chosen the theme: "Pilgrimage of Hope." This year is a call to embrace hope, not as a fleeting wish, but as a guiding light that strengthens us to transform our world.

#### What Shall We Hope For?

**Hope for Peace** – In our country and region, where conflicts have left wounds in the hearts of many, we hope for lasting peace. May this be the year when bridges are built and understanding triumphs over division.

**Hope for Justice and Freedom** – Every human being deserves dignity, fairness, and the right to live freely. As people of faith, we must continue to stand for truth and work toward a society where justice is not just a word but a lived reality.

**Hope for Our Children** – The future belongs to them. May they grow up in a peaceful, nurturing environment, where equity, fairness, and freedom are not privileges for some but rights for all.

#### A Lasallian Vision of Hope

As a Lasallian school, we find inspiration in St. John Baptist de La Salle's mission of education and service. The Lasallian theme for this year, "You Are Part of the Miracle," reminds us that hope is not passive—it is something we create together.

Like De La Salle and the first Brothers, we are called to be instruments of change, to uplift those in need, and to offer education as a path to transformation. In this Pilgrimage of Hope, let us walk forward as a community, with faith, resilience, and a commitment to making the world a better place.

May 2025 be a year where we live our mission with courage, bring hope to those around us, and truly become part of the miracle.

**Brother Daoud Kassabry, FSC**  
Principal

## Christmas Festival December 23, 2024

The Christmas Joy Festival at Collège des Frères High School in Jerusalem, organized in collaboration with the Latin Parish, with the blessing of the Latin Patriarchate and the Pontifical Mission, brought together more than 150 children from schools across Jerusalem.

The festival featured a Christmas play performed by Mr. Jamil Samara and his troupe, followed by Christmas songs and hymns led by Ms. Claire Ghazzawi. Children also enjoyed carnival games, inflatables, and various activities. The event concluded with the Holy Mass, celebrated by Father Ayman Batheesh. At the end of the day, each child received a Christmas gift and enjoyed a sandwich meal. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



## Annual visit to the Orthodox Arab Charitable Shelter Association Januray 4, 2025

On the occasion of the blessed Christmas holidays and, as every year, during their regular visit to the Al-Malja Association, the La Salle family in the Holy Land and the Al-Raja Band visited the association's headquarters in Al-Eizariya to bring joy and happiness to the faces of the residents.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the residents, staff, general manager, and Board of Directors of the Orthodox Arab Charitable Shelter Association.

The residents' message this year is: Christmas is an opportunity to see life from a different perspective. It has gifted us a new year and a new chance to do something we have never done before.

Christmas is like the renewal of blood cells in our world, so why let it pass in vain without celebration? Let us decide to leave behind despair and pain and create a new life filled with joy and hope.



## Book fair Januray 15, 2025

Frère Secondary School in Jerusalem organized a book fair in collaboration with the Academic Scientific Library. A wide collection of books in three languages—English, Arabic, and French—was showcased at the event.

The exhibition was inaugurated in the presence of Brother Daoud Kassabry, the school's principal, and poet Gabreal Abdullah, a Jerusalemite poet and alumnus of the school. Students visited the fair, explored the books, and purchased their selections. Additionally, a poetry evening was held, attended by poet Gabreal Abdullah.



## Visit the book fair January 16, 2025

Photos of our kindergarten students from La Salle Nursery during their visit to the book fair at our school, where they selected the stories they wanted to read. We sincerely thank the parents for their continuous support and encouragement in helping their children purchase books, fostering a love for reading and enhancing their literacy skills.



## Birthday celebration in the La Salle kindergarten January 18, 2025

The kindergarten students celebrated the birthdays of their classmates born in January with an atmosphere of joy and happiness.



## Practical training session January 21, 2025

Mr. Fadi Deeb, the Food Production and Services instructor in the Hospitality Department, conducted a practical training session on food preparation techniques. This is one of the key reference topics in hotel management, aimed at enhancing students' practical skills by bridging the gap between theoretical study and hands-on application.



## Citrus Activity January 22, 2025

Our activity today in kindergarten was special with the presence of the General Visitor of Frère Schools, Brother Habib, and our school principal, Brother Daoud. They joined the students in the event, participating in various games and stations, including orange juicing, cake making, juice drinking, and an art activity.

1. Encourage children to eat citrus fruits and drink their juice due to their nutritional benefits.
2. Introduce children to different types and varieties of citrus fruits.
3. Teach children about the nutritional value of citrus fruits.
4. Learn about citrus products (such as lemons and oranges). Our little ones learned about the many health benefits of citrus fruits, especially their high Vitamin C content. They also took part in juicing and preparing fresh, delicious juice. Wishing our lovely children good health and wellness!



## Guiding Program January 23,2025

The launch of the career guidance program for 10th-grade students in all branches, covering various aspects and positive qualities of the students, their outlook on the future, and serious consideration of professions, academic specialties, and the job market.

A big thank to trainer Samar Al-Hadami from the YMCA in Jerusalem. This initiative is coordinated by the school's educational counseling office.



## Special Kitchen Classes January 23, 2025

“One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way”

In helping the students to use the French language, we have our special kitchen classes where they use the language to identify ingredients and utensils. The focus is to help students learn French vocabulary.

Special thanks to our amazing French department.



## Orientation day January 25, 2025

A wonderful day was spent by a group of 12th-grade students from both the literary and scientific branches at the annual education fair. The students gained valuable insights into preparation for transitioning to university and professional life. The event included discussions about universities in Jerusalem, admission criteria, academic majors, scholarships, and assistance with the registration process.

This initiative is part of the preparation, guidance, and support provided to students after the initial orientation stages, including individual counseling in schools through the \*\*Ruwad Center for Higher Education in Jerusalem.

A heartfelt thank to the \*\*Ruwad Center team\*\* for their cooperation and organization of these activities in coordination with the school's educational counseling department.



## the Hospitality School January 25, 2025

The Hospitality School and the practical activity of preparing the most delicious desserts with Chef Peter Hernandez.



## The school choir participated in the memorial service for Brother Rafael Gonzalez. January 25, 2025

At the beginning, the participants entered carrying candles and sang the school anthem, followed by a special song titled "We Will Not Say Goodbye", composed by Mr. Fredo Hazou. Angelina Karmi performed a solo song, after which each participant placed their candle in front of Brother Rafael's picture and expressed their gratitude and loyalty to him with heartfelt words, honoring his dedication to them.



## Memorial Service for Brother Rafael Gonzalez at Frère High School, Jerusalem

A large number of teachers, friends, and colleagues participated in the memorial service. During the ceremony, speeches were delivered by Brother Visitor Habib Zribi, Bishop Ephrem Samaan, Dr. Nakleh Baida (Chairman of the Board of Trustees), Mr. Issa Deeb, Mr. Walid Al-Qawasmi and Jerusalem poet Gabriel Abdullah and Georges Nabr. Additionally, student Elias Hazzaz recited a poem written by Mr. Nazmi Abu Halil. The event also featured musical performances by teacher Fabian and student Gabi Amer, who played several beautiful compositions. The ceremony began with the school choir, which performed touching melodies, adding a heartfelt atmosphere to the tribute.





## Mass for the Soul of Brother Rafael Gonzalez – Mid-Year Memorial Service January 25, 2025

A memorial Mass was held for the repose of the soul of Brother Rafael Gonzalez, as part of the mid-year requiem service. The Mass was celebrated by Father Amjad Sabara, pastor of the Church of the Savior in Jerusalem. A large gathering of teachers, administrative staff from Frère School in Jerusalem, friends, and acquaintances of Brother Rafael Gonzalez attended the service. In his homily, Father Amjad emphasized the values that Brother Rafael upheld throughout his life and his dedication to the education and upbringing of young generations in Jerusalem and beyond.



## Board of Trustees meets Brother Visitor January 27, 2025

Brother Visitor Habib Zribi's Meeting with the Board of Trustees of Frère School, Jerusalem  
As part of his visit, Brother Visitor Habib Zribi met with the Board of Trustees of Frère School in Jerusalem, which consists of alumni dedicated to supporting the school and strengthening its connections. During the meeting, the Board of Trustees presented their work plan, sharing details about their activities and initiatives. The board is chaired by Dr. Nakleh Baida and includes a distinguished group of alumni, business professionals, academics, and other key figures.



## Visit of General Visitor Brother Habib Zraibi to the School January 22, 2025

On January 22, 2025, Brother General Visitor Fr. Habib Zraibi visited the Frère Secondary School in Jerusalem. This was the first official visit of this academic year. The visit aimed to review the school's strategic plan and its implementation plans. Brother Zraibi met with several working groups at the school. Below is a brief overview of the visit:

### Visit to De La Salle Kindergarten

The students of De La Salle Kindergarten welcomed Brother Zraibi during the citrus activity, where they shared orange juice and colored orange drawings, while also engaging in various conversations. Brother Zraibi was impressed by the visit and praised the efforts of the kindergarten director and all the teachers.

### PALMUN Program Group

A group of students participated in the PALMUN program, which was held in Ramallah. Thirty students took part in this conference. During the meeting, the students shared some of the activities they engaged in and the lessons they learned through their interaction with other participants. Coordinator Flavia Kamel presented the plan for preparing the students for these activities.

### Tawjihi Students Representatives

The Tawjihi students shared with Brother Zraibi their relationship with the school, where they have studied for 12 years, and expressed their feelings as they approach graduation. They also shared their dreams of pursuing university studies. The conversation was spontaneous, and in the end, Brother Zraibi wished them great success in their official exams.

### Volunteer Work Group

Students from the volunteer work group presented their project on building their team, which aims to have each person work for the benefit of others voluntarily and without compensation, as well as encouraging voluntary work within and outside the school. This program is supervised by Mr. Tamer Zakak.

### First Grade Visit

First-grade students presented their Arabic language projects to Brother Zraibi, where they shared some of the knowledge they have gained during Arabic lessons. In the end, there was a discussion between the students and their teacher, Queen Qassis, about their love for the school and their strong attachment to it.

### Second Grade Visit

Second-grade students presented a theatrical piece that represents the story of the tiger and the human, illustrating that humans have the ability to control all animals.

### Sixth Grade Visit

Sixth-grade students presented a collection of poems they participated in during the Arabic Language Week. Brother Zraibi was impressed by the students' abilities and their skills in reciting poetry. In the end, they discussed with Brother Zraibi the applications of artificial intelligence and its role in the educational process.





## Our Unforgettable Experience at PALMUN 2025

On January 16th, 17th, and 18th, our 27 outstanding delegates proudly represented College Des Frères at PALMUN, held in the vibrant city of Ramallah. The energy and excitement were palpable as over 900 students from across the region came together to engage in meaningful debate and collaboration.

Our delegates showcased exceptional skills in public speaking, diplomacy, and teamwork, tackling global issues with innovative solutions and thoughtful discussion. We are incredibly proud to announce that Omar Husseini earned an honorable mention for his outstanding performance, and Fouad Hanna received a well-deserved shoutout for his contributions during the conference!

Staying together in Ramallah also fostered a strong sense of unity among our team, creating bonds that will last far beyond the conference.

We return home with unforgettable memories, a wealth of knowledge, and a renewed drive to make a positive impact on the world. A heartfelt thank to our remarkable delegates, supportive parents, and the PALMUN organizers for making this experience truly special.

Stay tuned for more updates as we continue to shine!



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## Education is our Passion

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youtube: [la-salle-jerusalem](https://www.youtube.com/la-salle-jerusalem)

Our Application: La Salle Jerusalem  
on Android and Apple Store

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