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THE SERVANT



**JERUSALEM
IS BUILT
AS A CITY
THAT IS
AT UNITY
WITH ITSELF**

165

Summer 1997

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The Servant

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A sermon for Proper 10

THE WORLD OF FEAR, THE WORD OF FAITH

Humorist Robert Benchley once said, “People can be divided into two groups: those who divide people into two groups and those who don’t.” Seriously, there are really two kinds of people in life and in the church: people of faith and people of fear.

People of faith are the people of God, the rare elect in every nation, race, church, or family, who live in faith, trusting their life and being and decisions to the direction and service of God. Throughout history God has sent prophets to remind people of their vocation to live by faith: that is what is going on in the Old Testament lesson where the prophet Amos reminds God's people that the plumb-line is set between people of faith who live in, by, and for God's Word and everyone else.

Everyone else — those who do not live by faith — let me suggest to you, are people of fear. People of fear greatly outnumber people of faith. People of fear would be the last to admit it, but political parties have known this for years. Politicians always make their pitch to people's fears, be they racial fears or sexual fears or economic fears. Religion isn't free of people of fear, either. Religion has often played upon people's fears: fear of hell, fear of God's wrath, fear of death, and fear of life itself; and this tendency in religion is shameful, because Christians are not called to be people of fear but people of faith.

Fear is a result of the fragility of human life. We are not in control. Sometimes we can feel as if we are in control of life when things are familiar. This is a false security, for we all know that things change ...

children grow up, our bodies age and decrease in strength. Not one of us can prevent it. We are not in control.

One of the frequent phrases in scripture is “Fear not.” The angel said that to the shepherds when announcing the birth of Christ. God proclaimed that to Abraham when he called him to leave tradition and follow God to the salvation of the world: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield.” Movement in scripture is always from fear to faith, and the people of God always come down on the plumb-line side of faith rather than fear. For God calls us to place our faith in his loving care.

This theme of movement from fear to faith is repeated in our Gospel lesson. Jesus calls his apostles to take nothing for their journey and admonishes them to let go of control and anchor themselves in God. Their acceptance or rejection by others is unimportant. Jesus invites them to move from fear to faith just as we are invited to do in our world of changes, in our ups and downs, our acceptances and rejections.

I believe that God is calling us, too, to be a people of faith rather than a people of fear. Most of us spend our lives conjugating three verbs: to want, to have, and to do. Craving, clutching and fussing, we are filled with fear, or as the media would say, “we are stressed.” We are kept in unrest, or stress, because we forget that none of those verbs: wanting, having, or doing, has any ultimate or eternal significance. Except as they are transcended by and included in the fundamental verb, to be. Remember that God's name is I AM WHO I AM. It is being, not

wanting, having, and doing that is the essence of the faith-filled life. It is the widening of our horizon from our personal ups and downs, desires, cravings, and efforts that enables us to see these in scale as small and transitory facts within the larger picture of being in God's eternal, unchanging love. A spiritual life, a faith-filled life, is simply a life in which all that we want, all that we have, and all that we do is anchored in a sense of God's holy, loving presence. God's

presence makes all that we do holy. And his presence casts out all fear.

The story goes that Saint Ignatius was sweeping the floor of his monastery chapel. A young novice came to him and asked what he would do if he knew the world was going to end that day. The saint replied, "I would sweep the floor of our monastery chapel..." Faith, not fear, is the hallmark of the true people of God.

Clare

Here and there with the Brothers and Sisters **COMMUNITY NOTES**

Graymoor

The community's Council gathered at Graymoor for its Spring meeting and, at the end of the day, two postulants-prospective were identified, Stephen Baker and Judith Ming. Judith has since then decided to test her vocation with the Sisters of the Transfiguration, and Stephen will attend Annual Convocation in August to consider entering postulancy. Following the long meetings (in addition to the Council's meeting, both the Education Committee and the Benevolence Trustees held meetings), several of the Council members went to mass on the Sunday morning at Saint James's Church, Goshen, New York, where Novice Thomas Mark is the parish's Minister of Music and James Dunstan serves in the choir (among a number of other ministries!). Thomas Joseph, who had visited Saint James's previously, was again asked to serve as deacon for the service. The Rev Carol Pinkham Oak, rector, introduced the friars to the congregation and they were warmly welcomed during the coffee hour. Thomas Mark and

James Dunstan then entertained the group to a wonderful luncheon at their home.

Manhattan

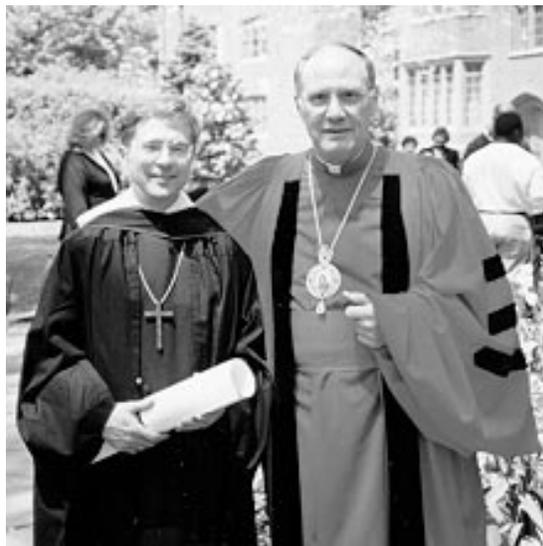
The Feast of the Annunciation attracted special interest at the Episcopal Church Center this year. The regular 12:10 pm service at the Chapel of Christ the Lord was turned into Sung Mass with Incense that day, with the Rev Dr John Docker (Staff Officer for Ministry Development) as celebrant, Francis Andrew as deacon of the mass, James as thurifer and Richard Thomas as organist. We have it on good authority that Our Lady was well pleased!

Another landmark event took place in the life of the Church of Saint Luke in the Fields, Manhattan, at the parish's celebration of its 175th anniversary of foundation. Once a mission of Trinity Parish, Saint Luke's is the third oldest church building of any denomination in Manhattan still in use today. As parishioners, James served at the Solemn Holy Eucharist and Tobias Stanislas processed among the parish's seminarians; members of the Order of the Holy Cross and the Com-

munity of Saint John Baptist — two communities which had been both active and influential in Saint Luke’s history — were on hand to process and to celebrate. Brother Douglas Brown, OHC, was the preacher for this service, which also brought back clergy who had served there in the not-too-distant past.

As Saint Luke’s celebrates its 175th anniversary, Trinity Parish observes its 300th anniversary this year! As part of the year-long observance, Trinity invited the Primates of the twelve Anglican Provinces of Africa to participate in a week’s series of events, including the annual Trinity Institute. Friday, May 9, the archbishops spent a day in meetings and events sponsored by the Episcopal Church Center, which included a festival eucharist at which the celebrant was Bishop James Ottley, the Anglican Observer at the United Nations, the preacher was Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane of Southern Africa, and the deacon was our own Francis Andrew; a luncheon was provided and eight of the UN ambassadors from African countries attended; Bishops Herbert Thompson of Southern Ohio and Orris Walker of Long Island led a discussion of Afro-Anglicanism with the archbishops; and the day closed with a gala reception at which James and his colleague Margaret Larom presented each archbishop with a specially-created memento of the visit on behalf of their Office of Anglican and Global Relations. (The gift was made possible with the assistance of Provincial Richard John, the community’s jeweler-extraordinaire!)

On April 26 the first ordination of vocational deacons in the Diocese of New York in three years took place at the Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine, Manhattan, and our Associate Earl Christian was among the nine so ordered. Joining his mother, family and a great number of beaming



Tobias Stanislas and Bishop Grein in academic garb, after the GTS Commencement (Photo: James)

parishioners from the Church of the Good Shepherd, Bronx, were Francis Andrew, who served as Deacon of the Gospel — and sang beautifully! — Postulant Pat Dickson, who carried the banner for his parish, which also presented an ordinand, and James and Tobias Stanislas, who participated with what seemed to be literally thousands of people in the great church’s nave. Many good friends were there, as well, and the reception following the service was a party in itself. Bless you, Deacon Earl, and those whom you will now serve in new and exciting ways!

Commencement week at the General Theological Seminary took on special significance this year as one of our own graduated at the top of his class! Tobias Stanislas completed his senior year at GTS, receiving the Master of Divinity Degree (cum laude). Festivities began on Monday evening, May 12, with the annual Alumni/ae Dinner hosted by the Dean, Bishop Craig Anderson. James accompanied Tobias Stanislas to the elegant affair in the seminary’s refectory, where the Rev Dr Margaret Guenther’s portrait was unveiled and dedicated; she retires

as Professor of Ascetical Theology and Director of the Center for Christian Spirituality with this past semester. Solemn Evensong on Tuesday at the Chapel of the Good Shepherd highlighted the second day of festivities, culminating on the Wednesday morning of Commencement Day, May 14. Each year the graduating senior who wins the Bishop of Newark Preaching Prize, for “the sermon judged best on the basis of content, delivery, theological consistency and biblical integrity,” is accorded the position of preacher at the Commencement Day Holy Eucharist, and Tobias Stanislas numbered that among his awards. He preached a fine sermon to a full chapel, with the dean, faculty, visiting alumni, and James and Francis Andrew in the congregation. A buffet breakfast came next, followed by the Commencement Service itself — Latin and all! — at which Tobias Stanislas received two other academic awards in addition to his diploma: the Clement J Whipple Prize for “the best paper submitted to the faculty by a student enrolled in a degree program of the Seminary which has been accepted for publication”; and the J Wilson Sutton Prize for the “member of the graduating class whose thesis was judged by the faculty the most valuable of those presented.” A gala luncheon followed on the seminary lawn, accompanied by a gentle fall of natural confetti from the flowering trees on the close. The day was perfect in every way — even the weather cooperated!

God willing, and the people consenting, Tobias Stanislas will be ordained to the diaconate by Bishop Grein at the Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine on Saturday, June 14, at 10:30 AM, with the other members of the diocese in his class, and he will be ordained priest by Bishop Grein at the cathedral on Saturday, December 13. All are most welcome!

White Plains

The Mother Church of the community has been Saint Bartholomew’s, White Plains, for over 25 years; therefore, Gregorian friars, sisters and Associates take special interest in those who serve that parish. On April 13 a new rector was instituted by the Rt Rev Catherine Roskam, Bishop Suffragan for Region II of the Diocese of New York: The Rev Alfred Patrick Montalto. Al is a long-time friend of the community, going back to the days when Br William Bunting would drop in and preach at his parish, Good Shepherd, The Bronx. The Superior General was in his element that day, both as organist/choirmaster and as one of the presenters of the institution gifts (he brought a special letter of congratulations from Presiding Bishop Edmond Browning), and Provincial Richard John represented the entire community at the presentation of a candle and a book of prayers, symbolizing the spiritual life. Associates of the Brotherhood played prominent parts in the service, including the Rev Lynne McQuade as master of ceremonies and Earl Christian as epistoler and chalicist, while James, Tobias Stanislas, Christopher Stephen, Francis Andrew, Elizabeth Mary and Postulant Pat Dickson represented the community and the province. Many old friends among the local clergy enjoyed the gala reception, and Al beamed all the while — Saint Bart’s has got it’s hands full now!

Cincinnati

Stephen Julian paid a call in the spring, as part of the Peace and Justice Summit. Thomas Joseph served as one of the Presiding Bishop’s deacons at the closing eucharist of the Summit on Peace and Justice. The brothers headed for Calvary (Thomas Joseph’s parish) for a cocktail party for new and old parishioners who were delighted to meet another friar of the community. After the party

they headed out to a favorite Chinese restaurant for a wonderful dinner and great fellowship. Thomas Joseph worked with and sat next to Bishop Browning's chaplain, Keith Yamamoto, one of Tobias Stanislas' classmates! It was also good to touch base with Bishop Moore and Bishop Williams, and to meet Bishop Walker.

Lima, Ohio

Another blessed event — though to some it might seem a cross to bear! — was the election of Associate Ian Louth to the vestry of his parish, Christ Church, Lima, Ohio. This is a very serious and necessary ministry within our church polity and Ian has our assurance of prayers for his perseverance!

Diary of a Lenten Pilgrimage to a Land of Faith **JERUSALEM AND BEYOND**

Those who have been reading *The Servant* for a few years will hopefully recall the published accounts of our friars' journeys to the Holy Land, and a number of others have visited and/or lived in Jerusalem at one time or another. Having this in mind, and not wishing to test the gentle reader's further endurance by relating yet another travelog, still I want to say a few words about my own recent visit there — please bear with me!

One of the programs I manage as a staff officer at the Episcopal Church Center in New York is the campaign known as the Good Friday Offering, a dedicated annual collection which is taken up throughout the Episcopal Church and given in support of the many institutions and ministries of the four dioceses which comprise the Anglican Province of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East. The dioceses of Jerusalem, Egypt and North Africa, Cyprus and the Gulf, and Iran share in these funds through a distribution made according to a formula legislated by the synod of the province itself. Last summer my colleague

Nancy Marvel, the Director of the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief, and I decided to accept the many invitations to visit which the bishops of the Middle East have issued to both of us for many years, invitations to come and see first-hand the important work throughout the Middle East which continues to be enabled by the generosity of Episcopalians — and so we did!

The Anglican Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East is a vast and diverse area: The Diocese of Jerusalem includes Israel, Gaza and the West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon



Sadat City rises out of the Egyptian desert. Dr Mouneer Anis, Director of the Sadat City Clinic Project (Episcopal), describes the building plans to Nancy Marvel and James.



The Dome of the Rock glistens in the sunlight above the Holy City of Jerusalem; the Temple Mount as seen from the Mount of Olives.

and Syria; the Diocese of Egypt includes all of the southern Mediterranean countries, as well as Ethiopia, Somalia and Djibouti; the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf encompasses not only the island of Cyprus but also Iraq, Saudi Arabia and all of the other countries which border the Persian Gulf; and the Diocese of Iran. Any visit which would attempt to include all of these areas would literally take months to accomplish, so we had to admit from the beginning that we could only hope to see a sampling of the ministry which goes on throughout that province. So, with that in mind, we arranged to spend time with the Middle Eastern church in the West Bank and Gaza, Israel, Jordan, Egypt and Cyprus, and we would complete it in a little over three weeks. And we did.

As guests of the church our itinerary was developed by the local bishops and we were spared no effort in giving us as much of a taste of the region as our time would permit. We traveled throughout Israel and the West Bank to visit diocesan hospitals, schools and institutions for the handicapped and the poor. Our hosts were very conscious that we were present as pilgrims as much as church

officials and time was always provided to absorb the richness of Christian history which lay all around us.

There is incomparable value to be found in traveling through the Holy Land, especially for those with an active prayer life. I cannot imagine anyone walking down that steep incline called the Mount of Olives, following Jesus' own steps as he approached Jerusalem on what would become known as Palm Sunday, and not appreciate what was happening to that person's future; or standing on the hillside overlooking Nazareth, perhaps on the very spot where our Lord once rested; or gazing upon the Sea of



Kids will be kids! Visiting a class at Saint George's School at the Episcopal cathedral in East Jerusalem.



On a cold, wet afternoon, James visits the archaeological dig at Jericho.

Galilee from among those rugged streets of Capernaum. These and many more moments are the stuff which will fertilize one's prayer life forever, as they seem to colorize the images which had until then existed in a mental sepia tone or in stark black-and-white!

Christianity in the Middle East is a minority religion, even though many denominations seem to constantly rub against one-another — the Latins (we know them as Roman Catholics), the Greek Orthodox, the Armenians and the Coptic Orthodox and the Lutherans and the Anglicans and several more. You can know this before you go there, but it still comes as a shock that first Sunday morning when you wake up to find that, for the overwhelming majority of people there, it is just another business day! Church services are held, of course, but most Christians must be at their work, so attendance is light. Just then you notice the call of the minaret again, the Muslim call to prayer which penetrates everyday life like the ringing of a church bell to us. When you first heard it you could think it quaint and ignore it, but it comes again and again each and every day, inserting itself into whatever you might be doing, starting at 4:30 in the morning! The Muslim prayer hours are a



James at the Tomb of the Virgin Mary, carved into the rock of the Mount of Olives.



Bishop Clive and Jane Handford with James; they gave the pilgrims a wonderful tour of Cyprus.

symbol of the presence of faith throughout the Middle East, even in Israel, where the Jews too go about their daily routine in a much less obvious way. There were times, of course, when we were aware of the presence of the Jews as a religious group, such as the Bar Mitzvah taking place at the Wailing Wall, with the crowds of Orthodox Jews and the music and the dancing! We wanted so to join in, but felt out of place in the strangeness of that culture; the mother of the Bar Mitzvah boy would not let us be excluded, though, and she came out to everyone in that huge square bringing cake and a smile, a greeting and a feeling of really be-



An olive press stands amid the reconstruction of ancient Capernaum on the shore of Lake Galilee.

ing welcome there. We experienced ancient Judaism in that sacred and holy place as a sense of warm friendliness reaching out to bring the stranger in; how odd not to feel that way when we visit some of our own parishes for the first time!

Amman and Cairo are dominated by huge mosques, much as European or American cities are by churches; minarets and domes replacing spires and towers, but also pointing the way to heaven. In Egypt, of course, there is yet another spiritual force which exerts a silent presence. To be in the Nile Delta and not make every effort to visit the Pyramids and the Sphinx would indeed be a sin! We went, of course, and I found it to be one of the most significant places I have ever been. Not only from standing on stones which had been quarried 5,000 years ago, or crawling down inside the Great Pyramid (which I did), but to stand atop the rise above the riverside platform on which these greatest of all structures rest and to look down upon them with the city of Cairo stretching out beyond them and the Sahara Desert to your back, I saw this place as much more than the tourist attraction it certainly is — I saw it as an expression of faith, a faith which is unequalled in terms of physical construction in Judaism or Christianity or Islam. These are eternal monuments to faith, even as much as the Temple Mount or the Church of the Holy Sepulcher or the Dome of the Rock are.

You will find a selection of Nancy Marvel's photographs in this issue and I hope you enjoy them. The Middle East is a place of great, inescapable faith and I am so grateful to have experienced it.

James

INTERCESSIONS

The Brotherhood & Companion Sisterhood

Episcopal Visitor *Sun*
Walter D Dennis

Episcopal Visitors Emeriti
Horace WB Donegan d 11.11.91
Paul Moore, jr

Life and Annual Professed
Richard Thomas Biernacki
John Nidecker d 6.20.88
James Teets

Luke Anthony Nowicki *Mon*
John Peter Clark d 2.25.94
William Francis Jones
Stephen Storen
Thomas Joseph Ross
Tobias Stanislas Haller
William Bunting d 10.12.88

Edward Munro *Tue*
Charles Kramer
Bernard Fessenden d 8.10.93
Donovan Aidan Bowley
Michael David Elvestrøm
Edward Ramón Riley
Christopher Stephen Jenks

Ciarán Anthony DellaFera *Wed*
William Edward Orce
Clare Connell
Damian-Curtis Kellum
Richard John Lorino
Ronald Augustine Fox
Maurice John Grove

Charles Edward LeClerc *Thu*
Francis Andrew Phillips
Andrew Fortuna
Elizabeth Mary Burke
Gordon John Stanley
Lillian-Marie DiMicco
Helen Bernice Lovell

Karekin Madteos Yarian *Fri*
Robert Michael Burnham

Novices

Susanna Bede Caroselli
Alban Patrick Thompson
Alec McLure
Stephen Julian Moss
Gabriel Liam Everett
Thomas Bushnell *Sat*
Thomas Mark Liotta
James Dunstan Mahoney

Postulants

Ellen H Poisson
Barbara B Dunne
Karen R Kleinmann
Donald P Dickson

Associates

Cecil Berges d 10.16.90 *Sun*
Marion Pierce d 12.26.91
Helen Marie Joyce, VHM
Robert Macon
Grosvenor Calkins, jr
Jeff Emmett
Richard A Belanger d 11.21.94
Joseph di Mauro, SA
Catherine W Sturm
Mary Helen Clare
Maryann Wolff

Joseph F O'Day *Mon*
Stephen D Montgomery
Fidel Flores
Brendan W Nugent d 10.10.96
Sheila Gould
Earl Christian
Lawrence LeRoy David
Kenneth Staples d 10.6.92
David Smith
William R Munroe

Wendell Allen *Tue*
Elizabeth J Holton d 8.27.93
Roland "Randy" RR Pryor
Grant Walsh
Mary Virginia Clement Haney
Jeffery L Benson
M Eugene Ellis
Mark Harris
Enrique Antonio Illarze
Dennis W Pattey

John A Bell *Wed*
Gerard F Beritela
Perry L Conley
Ethel B "Ettye" Hurley
Wilhelmina Barton
Raymond E Barton
Gabriel McGovern
Amy M Barron
Leopold Frade
Diana D Frade
Robin Stephanie Steele

Ulric Van den Berghe *Thu*
Carol Gwynn Hays
James David Walley
David Benzshawel
Robin R M'Kay
Theresa Allan
Glenn R Charlton
Betsy Kardos
David Burton
Timothy Lundy
Wiley W "Jack" Merryman

David A Dean *Fri*
Albert O Cantwell
Anthony Galati

Graham Thomas Prosser
Philip L Hewitt
Michael S Parenti
Mark L Raper
Laurie A Wiegand
John-Albert Moseley
JoAnn Tomback

Carl Lindgren, OSN *Sat*
R Tony Cable
Lynne J D McQuade
Ian William Louth
Zech Schariah
Lydia Karlo
Steven Bright-Jordan, OSJ
Donna Lise Dambrot
Ruth Richmond Laning
Denise A Tibedo
Kathleen C Klee
& The Friends of the Brotherhood

Postulants-Pro prospective

Robert James McLaughlin, Douglas
Cain, James E Cyphers, Donna Lise
Dambrot, Stephen Baker

Religious Communities

Sacramentine & Visitandine Nuns
Society of the Atonement
Order of Agapé & Reconciliation
Camaldolese Benedictines
Society of Saint John the Evangelist
Community of the Paraclete

For healing

Damian-Curtis Kellum, BSG
William Edward Orce, BSG
Michael David Elvestrøm, BSG
Clare Connell, CSSG
For all who live with HIV/AIDS
Ernestine Elizabeth Burke
Anne Bushnell
Robert Phillips
Nick Downen
Doug Waples
Edna Swankhouse
Andrea Walker, OSH
Roger
Rita
Cynthia Barrett Carlson
Derek Ford, SSF
Charles Keyser
Phillip Nightingale

more

Departed

Charlotte B Morgan
Arsene and Louise Lemarier
J Norman Hall
George T Koerner
Henry N Fukui
Maurice Duncan
Judith Provoost
Jerry William Brown
Wayland Melton
Paolo Freire
Howard E Rollins, jr
Marjorie Shannon
David Ross
Helen Matson

Intentions

The Decade of Evangelism
Joseph Richey House
Saint Gregory's Retreat Center
Brother Bernard Fessenden House
Baltimore International
Seafarers' Center
Tobias Stanislas Haller, BSG
Edward Ramón Riley, BSG

Andrew Fortuna, BSG
Gabriel Liam Everett, n/BSG
Thomas Mark Liotta, n/BSG
Lillian-Marie DiMicco, CSSG
Christian Williams
Lou
Anthony J Bondi
Christ Church, Portsmouth
Saint James, Fordham, Bronx
Rusty
Cliff Parks
Judith Ming
William Borgen, Lawrence David,
Glenn Charlton, John-Albert
Moseley, Douglas Christie, John
Calabrese, Scott Shenkman,
Stephen Baker, Timothy J Morris

Thanksgiving

Institution of the Rev Alfred P
Montalto, Rector of Saint
Bartholomew's, White Plains
Deaconal ordination of Earl
Christian, a/BSG
First Vows of Julian Noseworthy, OSB

Life Profession of Brian Willmer,
SSJE
Investiture of Bettie Susanna and
Beverly Edith, WSHS

WHERE THERE'S A WILL

You can assist and further the ministries of the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory by remembering us in your will. If you choose to do so, the following form of wording is appropriate:

I hereby give, devise, and bequeath to The Brotherhood of Saint Gregory, Inc., a New York State not-for-profit corporation, with a present address of 82 Prospect Street, White Plains NY 10606-3499, and its successors for ever \$_____ and / or _____ percent of my estate to be used in such a manner as determined by its Directors.

On the cover: Closeup of a section of the huge outdoor model of ancient Jerusalem on display at the Holy Land Hotel in modern West Jerusalem