

Select To Give



**Select To Give Charitable Foundation**

# **Pilgrimages with Purpose**

*Helping Christian Families  
in the Holy Land*



**L**ife has never been easy for Christians in the Holy Land. They have always been a minority.

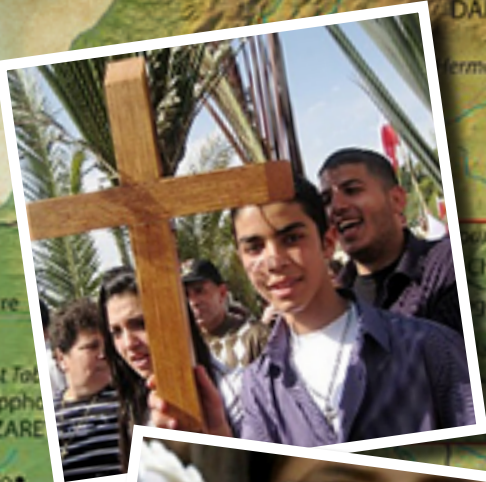
They have faced wars and occupations, but they have persevered. Today, times are especially difficult for members of this beleaguered Christian community. Economic hardship continues. Government subsidies for Christian education have been gutted. Medical services for the severely disabled are in short supply. Training for Christian educators is expensive. Programs for special-needs children in the Christian areas are almost non-existent.

Christians, who live in the Holy Land, are the oldest Christian population on the planet; tracing their roots back to Jesus himself. Our brothers and sisters there need help to survive AND thrive. The future generation of Christians is the most at-risk and Select to Give was created to address the real and tangible needs of Christians living in the Holy Land to assure that their community is not lost.

*Will you help us in this mission?*



# The Holy Land



# *Our Story*

In 2012, Edita Kronic, President of Select International Tours, traveled to the Holy Land to connect with the minority Christian communities living in Israel and Palestine. She soon discovered their plight was rife with challenges. Convinced that many of them could be overcome through organization, creative partnerships, and funding, she returned to the USA and established the Select to Give Foundation as a vehicle through which American pilgrims to the Holy Land could join her in helping to improve the situation for our Christian brothers and sisters in the Middle East.





## *Our Pilgrimages and Projects*

A pilgrimage to the Holy Land is a life-changing experience. The opportunity to visit and pray at the holy sites associated with the life of Our Blessed Lord is awe-inspiring; to say the least.

However, a pilgrimage with Select International Tours involves more than just visiting biblical sites, worshipping in historic churches, and touching ancient stones.

No trip to the Holy Land is complete without having encountered the “living stones,” namely, the modern-day Christians living in Israel and Palestine. At Select International Tours, we make it possible for you to encounter the Christians of the Holy Land and to partner with us in making a difference in their lives. Here are a few of our innovative initiatives with opportunities for you to get involved.

*Keep reading to learn about all Select to Give  
is doing in the Holy Land.*

*[selecttogive.org](http://selecttogive.org)*



## *Sharing the Bread*

Sharing the Bread takes place on most of Select International Tours' Holy Land Pilgrimages. Pilgrims travel in small groups to Christian-family homes in Bethlehem for two hours. They share a home-cooked meal and get a better understanding of life and the customs of the Christian minority in the Holy Land. They learn about the culture, lifestyle, and challenges of practicing Christianity in the Holy Land and get to know their brothers and sisters living there.

100% of the dinner fees are donated to the host families; who are often facing financial hardship. Many pilgrims have been deeply touched by the encounter and the warm and generous welcome they receive. Sharing the Bread has been a highlight of many pilgrimages. Select International Tours is the only company that offers this program on their pilgrimages.

*"This evening of food, faith, and fellowship has become a greatly anticipated highlight of each of our pilgrimages and the beginning of a lasting bond with those who live and keep the faith in the land of Jesus."*

**Reverend Zachary Navit**



## *Niño Dios Home for Abandoned and Special-Needs Children*

The cost of medical care for severely disabled children in Bethlehem often leaves families without hope; some abandoning their children in the process. The Niño Dios Home—run by the Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matara, a Religious Family of the Incarnate Word—provides love, shelter, and medical care for severely disabled children who are orphaned or abandoned.

Six religious sisters live on the premises full-time and are assisted by four local workers who help to care for the myriad physical and mental challenges of close to fifty children in the home. Without the help of charity, these children would be left to die on the streets of Bethlehem.

Select to Give provides funding to address the medical and operational costs of running the Niño Dios Home. Additionally, many of our pilgrims have visited and brought needed supplies to the Niño Dios Home while on pilgrimage.

*Won't you help these precious children?*



## *Education Adoption*

The Israeli government has continued to reduce subsidies allocated to Christian schools. The allocation has always been inadequate to meet the demand, but recent reductions have made attending a Christian school an impossibility for most families in the region.

On average, it costs \$1,200 a year to educate one student. The Select to Give Education Adoption program currently provides full scholarships to 70 Christian students from Nazareth and Jerusalem. Our goal is to double the number of scholarships by 2025.

By donating directly to the schools, Select to Give is helping the neediest families keep their children in a safe learning environment that nurtures both mind and soul. Each donor receives a biography of the child they are helping to educate.

***“When you educate a child, you educate a nation.  
You are building a foundation and what better foundation  
to build on than a Christian foundation?”***

**-Isabel Augusto**





## *The Steps Center*

The Steps Center for Child-Development is run by the Coptic Sisters from Egypt. The major focus of the Steps Center is to provide educational, health, developmental, and psychological support for children with mental health challenges and learning disabilities. Many of the children who participate in the various behavioral therapy and education programs at the Center are on the autism spectrum.

Select to Give makes it possible for the Steps Center to employ highly qualified therapists from Jerusalem to work with the children, develop programs, and train local therapists to administer care and education using the most up-to-date methods. Not only is the Steps Center helping child development but through Select to Give funding, they are making collaboration between Israeli and Palestinian therapists and educators a reality.

*Won't you help a child with autism live a better life?*

# *You can Make a Difference Today!*

- In 2014, in support of Select to Give, Select International Tours began donating \$10 for every pilgrim that travels on any of their trips. Just by choosing Select International Tours for your group trip, you are helping Christians in the Holy Land. Thank you for traveling!
- Select International Tours partners with the Kando Family Store in Bethlehem. This religious article and antique shop directly supports a cooperative of Christian families in the region. A percentage of their profits is donated to Select to Give. Simply by shopping at the Kando Family Store in Bethlehem, you are helping Christians in the Holy Land. Thank you for shopping!
- You may choose to educate a child through our Education Adoption program. You can make a real difference by donating \$100 a month or \$1,200 annually. Thank you for donating!
- Select to Give is registered on Amazon Smile. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and choose Select to Give as your charity of choice, Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchase to Select to Give. It costs you nothing extra. Just by choosing Select to Give as your charity and shopping on Amazon smile, you are helping Christians in the Holy Land. Thanks for buying!
- Select to Give is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Tax-deductible donations can be made securely through the Select to Give website ([www.selecttogive.org](http://www.selecttogive.org)) or by issuing a check to Select to Give Foundation and mailing it to 85 Park Avenue, Flemington, NJ 08822. For more information, please visit our website or call us at 1-800-842-4842.
- When you donate, you may earmark the money to a specific initiative. Select International Tours matches the first \$50 of every donation.

*By giving generously, you are helping  
Christians in the Holy Land.  
Thank you!*

# *Volunteer Your Time and Skills*



When Elizabeth went to the Holy Land on pilgrimage with Select International Tours, the Lord called her to serve in Bethlehem. Her skills as a traveling ICU nurse and her passion for special needs children were a perfect match for the needs of Christian children in the Holy Land. “Okay God; if this is what you want, give me a way.” She prayed.

Through Select to Give, Elizabeth was able to arrange a three-month volunteer assignment at Nino Dios Home for abandoned and special-needs children. Her skills and willingness to serve are making a real difference in the Holy Land. If you would like to read more about her story, please visit <https://selectinternationaltours.com/pilgrimage-blog/>

If you have the time and skills to help any of the ministries or programs we support, we want to help you volunteer. Select International Tours has committed to assist volunteers with travel and Select to Give can assist with placing you where you can make a difference. When you are ready to apply as a volunteer, please email us at [help@selecttogive.org](mailto:help@selecttogive.org)

*You can make a difference for Christians living  
in the Holy Land*



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