

FROM THE PASTOR

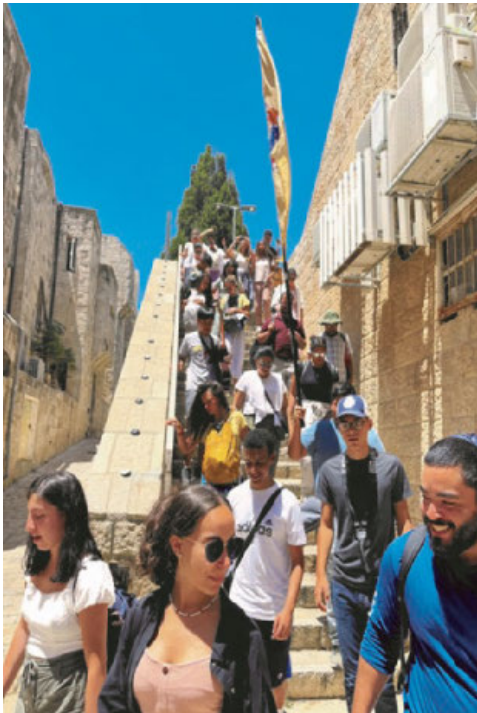
Dear Brothers and Sisters

I am writing from the shore of the Sea of Galilee, on the last night of my pilgrimage to the Holy Land with one hundred youth. Our group has traveled over the last ten days from Galilee to the Negev Desert, from Bethlehem to Jerusalem, from the Wailing Wall to the Mount of Beatitudes. Today (Tue July 19th as I write) we participated in a vocational meeting together with 8,000 other youth from all over the United States who came here to the Holy Land for this pilgrimage. The purpose of this pilgrimage was to meet Jesus Christ, and to discern one's vocation in life.

Today on the Mount of the Beatitudes, overlooking the Sea of Galilee, there was a meeting of the 8,000 pilgrims, presided over by the Patriarch of Jerusalem. In response to the call for vocations, 205 boys stood up for the priesthood and over 300 girls for the Convent. Among these were 5 young men and 4 young women from our group of 100 pilgrims.

I will tell you more about this when I see you - I return tomorrow night July 20th. For now, I'll share a couple of pics.

Fr. Sean



Processing through the streets of Jerusalem.



The upper room.