

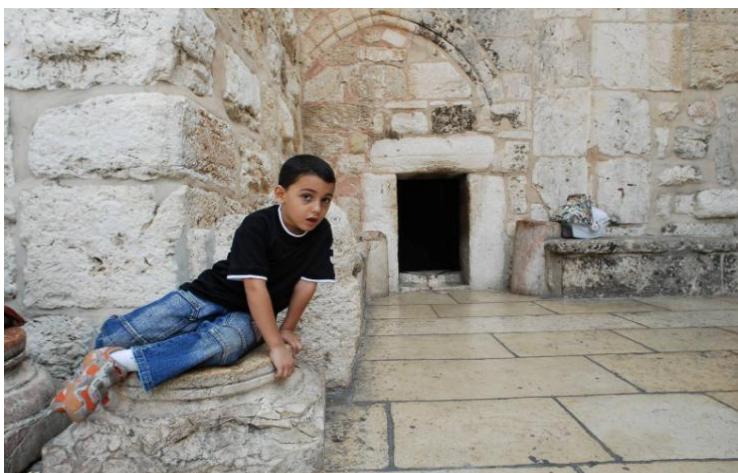
## Bethlehem: Help for the Little Ones

Raising funds for the education and basic needs of the poorest children of Bethlehem

*"He became a child, so that the Word could be grasped by us. In this way God teaches us to love the little ones. In this way he teaches us to love the weak. In this way he teaches us respect for children. The Child of Bethlehem directs our gaze towards all, particularly towards children who suffer and are abused in the world, the born and the unborn."* - Pope Benedict XVI

The complex political and economic situation of Bethlehem strikes hard at the many children and adolescents who do not receive an adequate education. Many of them have troubles at school due to violent and extremely difficult family situations. In many of these families, the parents have no income and are burdened with many grave problems.

In the territory of the Palestinian Authority there is no public medical assistance. The family, which does not receive any help other than from the parish, has to find the way to take care of all types of illness. If serious illness strikes (leukemia, tumors, kidney surgery or dialysis), the parish priest verifies the gravity and urgency of the need and seeks financial aid from the Custody of the Holy Land and private donors locally and internationally.



### Objectives and Activities

**Help for the Little Ones** is a project to promote the personal and social growth of needy children and youth, in this very special part of the Holy Land, where God himself became a child.

Finance is to be made available to the Catholic parish and the schools of the Custody in Bethlehem, which can be used to help them to fulfil their pastoral and social duty to the children and young people. Specifically, this will ensure that:

- Children's school fees are paid for those families who are unable to raise the money themselves
- Recreational activities are made available for children and young people
- Families who find themselves in financial difficulty and unable to take care of their children properly due to unemployment are supported
- Young people with learning difficulties are taken care
- Financial aid is provided for medical care for children whose families are unable to bear the costs



To find out more: [www.proterrasoncta.org](http://www.proterrasoncta.org)

Email: [info@proterrasoncta.org](mailto:info@proterrasoncta.org)

**Support the Holy Places and maintain the Christian Community in the Holy Land!**

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**ATS Pro Terra Sancta** is the non-governmental charitable organization at the service of the Custody of the Holy Land. The mission of the NGO is to serve the Franciscan friars of the Holy Land in its proper task of: maintaining and promoting the Holy Places, keeping up the Christian Community in the Middle East, advancing peace and dialogue.

*The Franciscan friars remind in their priers the supporters of the Holy Land.*