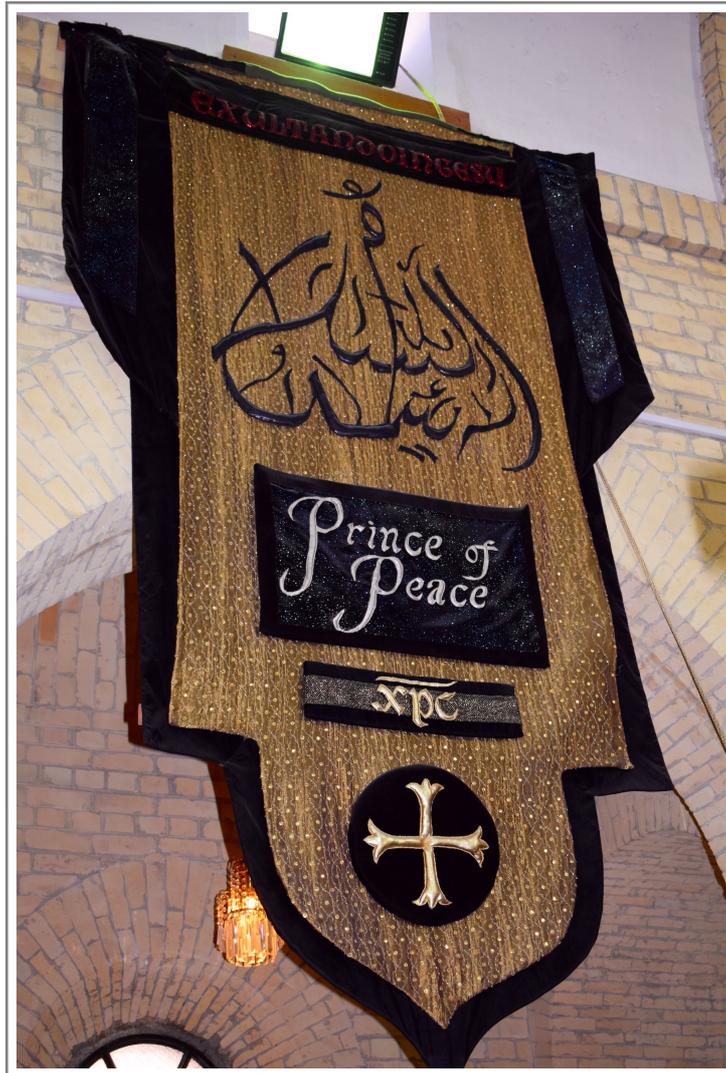

St George Baghdad

Quarterly Insight

August 2022



*A quarterly snapshot of the life and people of St George Baghdad,
a parish of the Anglican Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf*

Photos: Sinan Kakarash

Hope in adversity



Fr Faiz Jerjes led the congregation of St George in a joyous welcome for Archbishop Michael and his wife Julia in June—their first visit to Baghdad since the lifting of covid restrictions.

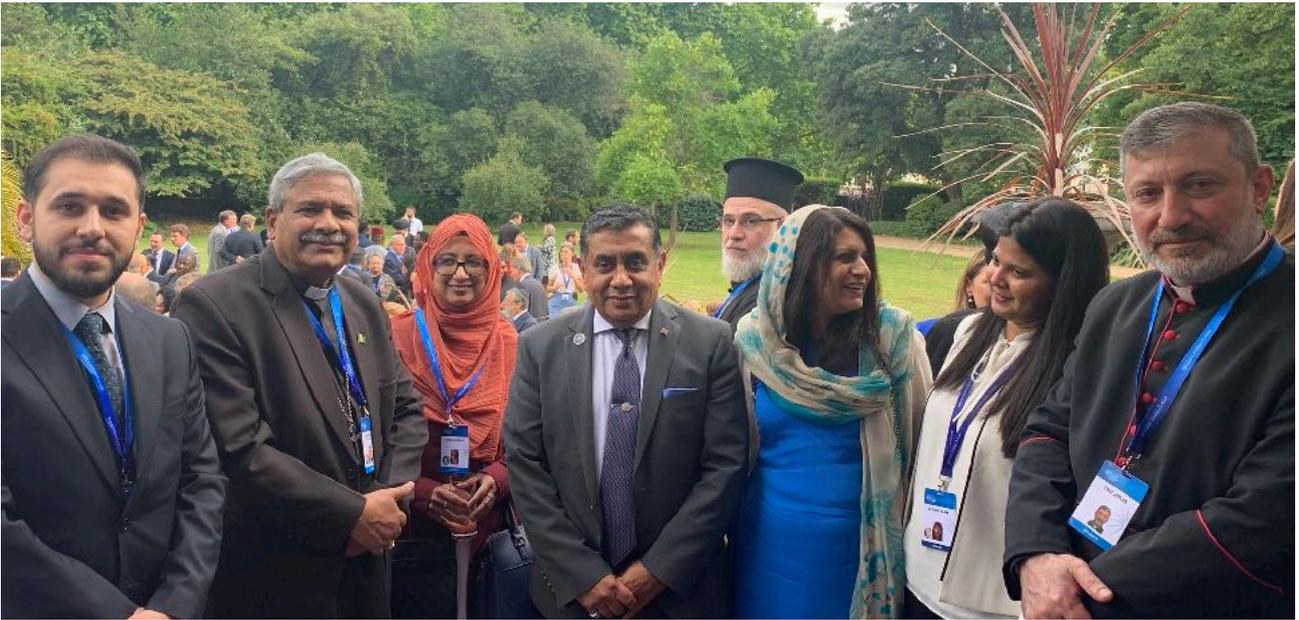
Yet these are challenging times.

Iraq is gripped by political and economic upheaval, and searing summer heat. But the joyful work goes on.

The school and clinic continue to provide vital support to families and children: steadfast in its mission, the church in Baghdad forges ties across divides—and offers the sanctuary of faith to all who seek it.



Celebrating religious freedom



Delegates to the UK FoRB (Freedom of Religion or Belief) Forum

*Former Archbishop of Canterbury Dr Rowan Williams (right)
with Fr Faiz (left)*



Fr Faiz and Sinan Kakarash were delegates to the July FoRB (Freedom of Religion or Belief) Forum in London, where they joined members of the Mosaic Board of Trustees for a meeting with former Archbishop of Canterbury Dr Rowan Williams. An invitation to visit Iraq's Ambassador to the UK, Ja'afar Al Sadr—current nominee for the role of Iraqi Prime Minister—was also warmly accepted.

Faithful harmony



Fr Faiz leads a church that works to actively contribute to and celebrate the rich diversity of Iraq's many and ancient faiths, here meeting the head cleric of Iraq's Zoroastrian community, Awat Darya (left), in London (with Sinan Kakarash, centre)

Beating the heat!



Children everywhere love the last day of lessons—and
the start of summer school.

St George's School of the Redeemer (Al Fadi) and Kindergarten offers
a busy programmes of activities: a relaxed and well-rounded
boost to learning over the holidays.

Summer plays, summer play



The end of the school year is celebrated with performances for different age groups—the hard work of teachers and pupils applauded by proud parents. And for those too young for the stage, a see-saw offers the chance to shine.



Mastering a full skillset



School holidays are an opportunity for children to try their hand at everything from computers to baking—and extra lessons promise a smooth start to the next academic year



St George Baghdad

All Christians are called to be reconcilers and all our churches should see themselves as communities of reconciliation.

Sometimes it's hard to live out that call.

But St George's in Baghdad and its priest Canon Faiz Jerjes take it seriously. Church services welcome everyone who wishes to step inside, whoever they are.

The clinic, the kindergarten, and the school serve old and young across sectarian and political divides.

And Fr Faiz leads the way in proactively involving himself, in the name of the Anglican Church, in varied dialogue and reconciliation activities at home and abroad.

Pray for our work in Iraq and for all whose hearts and minds are committed to peace, justice, and deepening understanding.

*The Most Reverend Michael Lewis, Archbishop
Primate of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East,
A Province of the Anglican Communion
Bishop of the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf*

