

# **VANDALISM AT THE LATIN MONASTERY BEIT JIMAL**

Last Wednesday night, 7th/20th September, unknown up to the present vandals attacked the Latin Monastery Beit Jimal near the town Beit Shemesh and seriously vandalized mosaic icons depicting events from the life of Christ and the martyrdom of the First Martyr and Archdeacon St. Stephen.

This Monastery has been the target of three similar acts of vandalism in the last four years.

The Jerusalem Patriarchate solemnly condemns this unacceptable act of vandalism as undermining the peaceful religious co-existence in the Holy Land, expresses its support to the Latin Patriarchate and asks the lawful arrest and punishment of the vandals.

**From Secretariat-General**