

In the Shadows of the Holy Land: Identity, Exile and the Illusion of Safety in the Holy Land

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Melbourne, Australia - Identity, Exile and the Illusion of Safety in the Holy Land, features a deeply reflective conversation with Father David Neuhaus SJ.

The episode is the last in the *In the Shadows of the Holy Land* mini series, Common Home TV's ongoing series exploring identity, belonging, and conflict in the Holy Land. Its release comes several weeks later than planned, following the Bondi attack in Australia. The team chose to pause out of respect and solidarity, taking time to grieve with Jewish communities locally and globally, and to acknowledge, once again, that antisemitism is not abstract but real and present.

Watch Episode Three: Identity, Exile and the Illusion of Safety in the Holy Land

Watch: <https://www.commonhome.tv/feature/fr-david-neuhaus-holy-land>

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<https://www.commonhome.tv/2026/01/18/identity-exile-and-the-illusion-of-safety-in-the-holy-land>

Born and raised in the Jewish tradition in South Africa, Father Neuhaus later moved to Israel, where he entered the Catholic Church and the Society of Jesus. In this conversation, Father Neuhaus challenges the "illusion of safety" promised by a state built on occupation, and calls instead for a future grounded in equality, justice, and peace. He frames the Christian task now as prophetic clarity, courageous truth-telling, and hope that makes room for lament.

The episode intentionally resists binary narratives. It seeks to confront antisemitic myths and distortions while remaining honest about the lived realities of occupation, displacement, and war faced by Palestinians today. The conversation insists that truth-telling and compassion are not opposing virtues, but essential companions.

"This series exists because we believe nuance is not weakness," said Matthew Howard, Executive Producer of Common Home TV. "If faith has anything to offer this moment, it is the courage to reject tribalism in the search for understanding and peace, and to insist on the dignity of every human person, without exception."



Media Contact
Matthew Howard
Executive Producer — Common Home TV
Email: m.howard@cssr.org.au