

BUYING AUTHENTIC PRODUCTS TO HELP CHRISTIANS IN THE HOLY LAND? OR CHEAP CHINESE KNOCK-OFFS?

Very soon we will take another group to Bethlehem to buy quality Olive Wood products made and sold by the local Christians.

When we bring our groups here we only take them to shops that sell the REAL DEAL—real Olive Wood products carved by the local Christians who are in much need of our help.

In this way, you are insured of getting the best quality product AND certain you are helping the local Christians.

Lots of the things for sale in the Holy Land are cheap knock-offs. What a shame to get junk and fail to support the local Christians. This also goes for products that are sold in parishes in the USA.

Make sure the people selling in the parishes are REALLY Catholics and have the REAL products. There are many scams even in the US.

Here is a recent piece exposing the Chinese scams. It begins,

BETHLEHEM, West Bank (AP) — Christmas is approaching and pilgrims and tourists have begun to arrive, crowding the souvenir shops that line the narrow streets and alleys of Bethlehem, the biblical town revered as Jesus' birthplace.

But when visitors choose to take a piece of the Holy Land back home with them, they better check the labels. Many souvenirs — including the West Bank town's trademark rosary beads — are imported from abroad, mainly China.

A small number of souvenir shops are now trying to fight the trend, stocking their shelves almost exclusively with locally made products. Shopkeepers say that while their wares may be more expensive, the quality is much better and they give an important boost to the struggling economy.

For the whole article, [click here](#).

