



## *Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles*

December 20, 2019

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I would like to ask you to join me in helping some Catholic institutions doing important work in helping the poor in Lebanon during these difficult times. I am personally familiar with each of these organizations. Generally, they are organizations which help the most needy individuals in the community. If you would like to contribute, the Eparchy can assist you to support one of these worthy causes.

To donate, you can send a check or donate by credit card to the Eparchy designating the charitable cause you would like to support, and we will ensure the funds are sent to the proper organization. Please call our office in St. Louis at 314-231-1021. Thank you for considering these desperate cries for help.

- **Caritas Lebanon:** Caritas Lebanon was founded in 1972. It is the official socio-pastoral arm of the Catholic Church and is under the authority of the Assembly of Catholic Patriarchs and Bishops of Lebanon. The purpose of Caritas Lebanon is to assist individuals and communities through direct assistance to the poor, sick, refugees, victims of sex abuse, trafficking, and others in need. Caritas Lebanon is a member of Caritas International which is one of the largest humanitarian networks in the world. [www.Caritas.org.lb](http://www.Caritas.org.lb)
- **Tele-Lumiere/Noursat:** Tele-Lumiere/Noursat, the "Television of Light," is the first established Christian Television network in Lebanon and the Middle East. Founded in 1991 by a group of committed lay people, Tele-Lumiere/Noursat became a daily bread and a symbol of hope for Christian minorities in the Middle East. It also a great tool of evangelization and a source of peace for many viewers from different denominations. [www.noursat.tv](http://www.noursat.tv)
- **Oum El Nour:** Established by Maronite Bishop Guy Noujaim, it is a Lebanese not-for-profit, non-governmental organization committed to serving individuals suffering from drug addiction. Its name means "Mother of Light" and it provides a home for those who need shelter, help, understanding, and a place to recover so that they can begin a free full life.

- **SESOBEL:** The name of this organization comes from the French "Service Social pour le Bienetre de L'Enfant au Liban" or in English, "Social Service for the Well-Being of the Child in Lebanon." The mission of this organization is to assist children suffering from mental and/or physical disabilities by improving their quality of life and providing support to their families. SESOBEL cares for over 400 children each year and helped thousands of families. With over 34 years of experience, SESOBEL has a shining reputation of service in the Middle East. [sesobel.org](http://sesobel.org)
- **Beit Chabab Hospital Center:** Originally established in 1949 as a school by the Lebanese Maronite Order and later as a hospital in 1976, Beit Chabab has dedicated itself to help those in need. The hospital is considered a community-based establishment for short, medium, and long term care and offers a wide range of high quality health care services to clients. Three of its important service areas are the Saint Antoine Hospital-Beit Chabab which provides general and specialized health care, the Functional Rehabilitation Center which provides medical stays for short and long term care as well as physiotherapy and other types of therapy, and the Lebanese College for the disabled which provides rehabilitation to quadriplegics/paraplegics, and rehabilitation for patients with peripheral nervous disease.

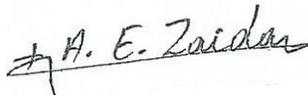
We also ask for help for three of our Maronite Catholic Eparchies in Syria. Funds will go to help their needy people and/or their institutions.

- **Archeparchy of Aleppo:** Under the governance of Archbishop Joseph Tobji.
- **Archeparchy of Damascus:** Under the governance of Archbishop Samir Nassar.
- **Eparchy of Latakia:** Under the governance of Bishop Antoine Chbeir.

We pray that our efforts and support continue to bear good fruit for Lebanon and the Middle East.

With best wishes and prayers, I remain

Yours in Christ,



+ A. Elias Zaidan

Bishop of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles