

Hikmat Michel Dandan - Christian Refugee Relief Director

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# Worthy District Deputies, Grand Knights, & Dear Brothers,

My name is Hikmat Dandan, the Ontario Christian Refugee Relief Director. When you receive a message from me, it is because I need your help to save persecuted and at risk Christians. As Catholics which means universal, we should do our best to help our brothers and sisters in Christ all over the world. Call me 416-893 8060 or email: knightsofcolumbus@hotmail.com

Participating in these initiatives will also earn you credits and qualify your council as having completed various programs under FAITH, FAMILY, COMMUNITY, LIFE towards achieving your **COLUMBIAN** or **STAR** council awards. There are many initiatives and options, so do not put all your charity eggs in one basket.

Donate to: **Knights of Columbus Ontario Charities Foundation**, write in the memo part the name of the initiative. Mention your address and email (Tax receipts will be issued if required). Visit my website: **www.christianrefugeerelief.org** 

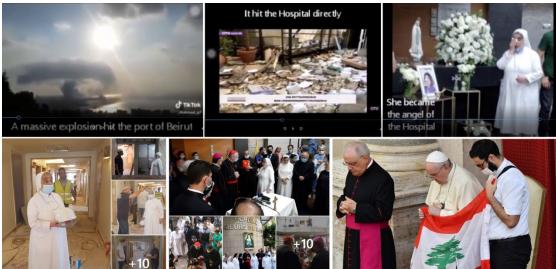
Send your cheques by post to this address: **Ontario Christian Refugee Relief Director, 6428 Yonge Street, Centerpoint 37150, Toronto, Ontario, M2M 4J8**.



#### JERUSALEM STUDENTS

Sponsor the education of needy Christian students suffering from economic and other difficulties in The Holy Land. It is very affordable starting at \$21 per month \$250 per year. This will lay the foundation for successful Christian families that will grow to populate the area, thus strengthening the alarmingly diminishing Christian presence, which is now less than 2%. The program received the Supreme Council International

Youth Service Award. Thanks to you 24 students have already graduated while being sponsored and joined universities for higher learning. Another 80 students are still being sponsored. Choose your student, read his story and call me 416-893 8060 or email: <u>knightsofcolumbus@hotmail.com</u>



## **ROSARY SISTERS HOSPITAL (BEIRUT BLAST)**

The massive explosion on August 4, 2020, resulted in devastating destruction to the city of Beirut and its port and the main Christian area displacing 300,000 people. The Rosary Sisters Hospital was severely affected due to its immediate proximity to the Beirut port (less than 500 meters). The hospital operates under the guidance of the Holy See in Rome, and its funding has always been dependent on donors and charitable organizations. Rebuilding this very vital healthcare institution in this very critical time, requires the Knights of Columbus help. Call me 416-893 8060 or email: knightsofcolumbus@hotmail.com



# FOOD FOR SYRIA / CARITAS LEBANON

Syria and Lebanon are the land of the first Christians. There are no FOOD BANKS in Syria or in Lebanon. So these two projects support providing food, for Syrian and Lebanese Christian families who are passing through very difficult times and hardly able to get food for their children. The economies & currencies of both countries have collapsed to unprecedented levels. Call me 416-893 8060 or email: knightsofcolumbus@hotmail.com



I AM IRAQI I AM CHRISTIAN

Do not let this be the last chapter of Christianity in Iraq. The Iraqi Christians are one of the oldest Christian communities in the world. They still speak Aramaic, the language of Our Lord Jesus Christ. This project is dedicated to providing water, food, medicine, shelter (rebuilding of Karamles, a Supreme project) for the returning Iraqi Christian refugees of Nineveh plain, where ISIS devastated the area. A project in final stages of implementation in partnership with Wheel Chair Mission is to provide 75 wheelchairs and 150 sticks for the disabled and amputees in the Christian area of Mosul. Thanks to St Agnes Council, St. Joseph Chaldean Council & St. Joseph Syriac Council and many other councils that donated. Another project awaiting your council participation is to provide chronic illness medication for diabetes and blood pressure on a monthly basis for the elderly for Iraqi Christians in Mosul. Call me 416-893 8060 or email: knightsofcolumbus@hotmail.com



## **HOLY LAND RESOLUTION**

This is an Ontario State resolution that was voted unanimously to support the Holy Land which I presented in 2016. The summary is that: as the Holy Land is where our Lord Savior Jesus Christ was born, preached, crucified and rose from the dead and also where the Apostles walked and preached, therefore Ontario State Council encourages all Ontario Knights of Columbus councils to annually support through prayer and financial assistance, various Holy Land Churches, charitable organizations, orphanages, and initiatives dedicated to benefiting the Holy Land. After 4 years, let us start making an effort to put this Holy Land Resolution into action. Once a year make a donation to the Holy Land otherwise it is going to become museums of Christianity without any Christians around. Call me 416-893 8060 or email:

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#### **ST. VINCENT VOLCANO DISASTER**

This disaster was caused by mother nature. Since April 22<sup>nd</sup> there has been no major eruptions. The Ontario Knights of Columbus are coordinating with CARITAS ANTILLES to support their relief activities for the refugees and clean-up efforts in the island of St Vincent so that they return to their homes. CARITAS is a confederation of 165 Catholic relief, development and social service organizations operating in over 200 countries and territories worldwide. Call me 416-893 8060 or email: knightsofcolumbus@hotmail.com



### **ORPHANS FOR JESUS**

This initiative features orphanages in Lebanon, in the Holy Land, in Iraq, and in Syria. This initiative will make it easy for councils and parishioners to help orphans. Included already in the program are the following orphanages: Foyer de la Providence (South Lebanon), Home of Peace 3 homes in the (Holy Land), Our Lady of Perpetual Service (North Lebanon), Allepine Sisters in Aleppo Syria. Donate to all or choose an orphanage to donate. Call me 416-893 8060 or email: knightsofcolumbus@hotmail.com



### **HOLY LAND HANDICRAFTS**

Encourage the local Christian handicraft industry, to fight the effects of economic difficulties. Importation of olive wood Christian handicrafts (choose from 500 items) from Bethlehem in the Holy Land for resale, to raise funds for your councils or parishes. This encourages local Christian craft workers. Call me 416-893 8060 or email: knightsofcolumbus@hotmail.com



The Knights of Columbus Bethlehem Olive Wood Rosary

Order the first Knights of Columbus olive wood rosary. Sold at \$5 to councils who in turn resell at \$10 to members in the council or the parish, to raise funds for their council or parish or to help persecuted Christians. Order a couple of rosaries for your members. They will love it. Our Lady of Guadalupe holy image and the KOFC crest are lazered on the olive wood. Call me 416-893 8060 or email:

knightsofcolumbus@hotmail.com



### **CHURCHES FOR JESUS**

During the Middle East ISIS devastation, many churches were specifically destroyed to eradicate Christianity. This project is dedicated to restoring and preserving churches where Jesus Christ walked and preached and where Christianity was born. Call me 416-893 8060 or email: knightsofcolumbus@hotmail.com



# ST ANNE'S PATRIARCHAL SEMINARY

The Seminary has been providing priestly formation for the Catholic Church for the whole Middle East since 1886 and is currently facing financial difficulties because of the ongoing war in Syria and the collapsing economy in Lebanon and Syria. The Seminary counts essentially on contributions from the Bishops. Because the Syrian Pound and the Lebanese pound have lost their value, the contributions became almost worthless.

This has left the Seminary with dangerous deficiency in its budget. Call me 416-893 8060 or email: <u>knightsofcolumbus@hotmail.com</u>



**MASS INTENTION IN THE HOLY LAND FOR DECEASED BROTHERS** The custom of offering a Mass intention is a part of the Catholic culture. When a priest celebrates Mass each day, he offers each celebration of the Eucharist for a particular person, or intention. By doing so he applies special graces from God upon that person or intention. Similar to how we are able to intercede for others by our personal prayers, the Church is able to intercede for us through the celebration of the Mass. However, since the Eucharist is the "source and summit of the Christian life" the Mass possess a power that our personal prayers do not. The practice of offering Mass for particular intention is an ancient one, dating back to the early Church. Canon Law confirms this practice and states, "In accord with the approved practice of the Church, any priest celebrating or concelebrating is permitted to receive an offering to apply the Mass for a specific intention" (Can. 945 §1). The priest does not take the money for the Mass itself, but for the purpose of supplying the things necessary for Mass and for his own support.

The Mass Intention has immense power and countless miracles and conversions have occurred throughout the centuries by offering Masses for a specific intention or person. Mass intention is a great treasure of the Church and has a spiritual weight that is incalculable. Offer a Mass Intention for the repose of the soul of a departed brother or relative or for any other intention. The offering is C\$10 which goes to the priest for supplies and to assist in his daily life. You will receive confirmation from the priest in the Holy Land. Call me 416-893 8060 or email: <u>knightsofcolumbus@hotmail.com</u>

Again please do not put all your charity eggs in one basket but spread the benefit over many initiatives to help the needy. I am ready to guide you how to get your credits by donating to these initiatives and putting your Faith into Action and show you how to attain your Columbian or Star Awards. In case of donations, tax receipts will be issued. Also do not forget to invite me to your council ZOOM virtual meetings. Sir Knight Hikmat Michel Dandan. My email is easy to remember:

knightsofcolumbus@hotmail.com

#### Cell # 416 - 893 8060

Visit my website to read more: www.christianrefugeerelief.org

### **Vivat Iesus**

