

# Ongoing Refugee Cases:

The Apostolate of Our Lady of Hope is the fastest and one of the few global providers to have an online Emergency Response Team. This group can help with urgent hospitalization needs for Christian refugees and other minorities who are in Lebanon. We also provide medicine for chronic medical needs for children, family providers and the elderly.

Alina is one of the children that we have supported. She depends on us; please help.

**Age:** 5 – Date of birth: 28/02/2012

**Nationality:** Iraqi

**Religion:** Christian (Syriac Catholic)

**Medical Case Report:** epilepsy, heart disease, growth disorder

**Monthly Medicines Cost:** \$560



## Future Projects:

Juliana and her family need our help. As refugees, they cannot work in Lebanon.

**Age:** 30 – Date of birth: 04/07/1985

**Nationality:** Iraqi

**Religion:** Christian (Syriac Catholic)

**Medical Case Report:** epilepsy, gallbladder node

**Monthly Medicines Cost:** \$110

**Other Monthly Needs:** \$700 (house rent, goods, water)



## *Donate & Volunteer*

Our Lady of Hope/St Rafka Mission of Hope & Mercy  
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## SAVE CHRISTIAN MIDDLE EAST

## SAVE CHRISTIANITY

## The Apostolate of Our Lady of Hope

## St Rafka Mission of Hope & Mercy

*We are the first Church organization to be approved to assist Christians in the Middle East by the USCCB.*

*Please help us protect and preserve Christianity in the land where it all began.*



# Mission Statement



*To save and aid Christian genocide victims in the Middle East.*



## SUMMARY

The Apostolate of Our Lady of Hope/St. Rafka Mission of Hope and Mercy is a 501(c)(3) dedicated to saving Christians of the Middle East from genocide. Working from the United States, partnering with Lebanon, we seek to aid our brothers and sisters so that, someday, they can return safely to their homes.

## WHAT WE DO: SEA of Hope and Mercy

**SAVE** by providing emergency food, shelter and medical aid. We have cases in the United States as well as Lebanon.

**EDUCATE** the world about Christian genocide victims in the Middle East.

**AID** families. Our Adopt-a-Family program offers assistance through donors who contribute \$50.00 (food only) or \$100.00 (food and medical care) on a monthly basis.

## WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT?

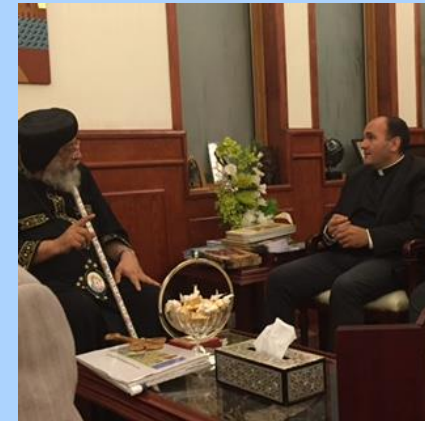
We are seeking to save Christian genocide victims in place. Other organizations are helping rescue victims by relocating them away from the Middle East. We are seeking to save, shelter and aid them there, so our Christian sisters and brothers may continue to live in the land where Jesus walked. When we encounter refugees in the United States, we provide housing, furniture, clothing, food, elderly care, medical assistance and funds to reunite families.

# Ongoing Projects



## Gift distribution for Christmas 2016-2017:

The mission distributed Christmas gifts for more than 1500 children of Iraqi and Syrian refugees residing in Lebanon. These children suffered atrocities and genocide committed against their families by ISIS and other Muslim terrorist groups. The majority of these children were deprived of food, education and proper homes. The children are in desperate need of our help: we are their only chance to survive in Lebanon. During the gift distribution this year we rejoiced in the innocent, long awaited smiles on the faces of these children, who had forgotten what childhood felt like.



## Financial and moral support for the church of Egypt:

The mission provided financial support for the families of 21 Coptic Christians murdered by ISIS in Egypt. We also supplied them with food, hygiene products and clothes. Father Andre met with Pope Tawadros who addressed the situation of Christians in Egypt under persecution.

# Schedule of Events

- Sunday April 23- 2017: 9:00 am Until 3:30 pm: Divine Mercy Sunday Ecumenical Mass, Lunch and Awareness Meeting among Archdiocese of Denver, Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon for Maronites, Mormon Church Stake of Lakewood Colorado (Saint Rafka grounds in Lakewood Colorado)

-Saturday August 19- 2017: 7:00 am Third Annual Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast to Support the Christian Refugees in Lebanon

-August 19- 2017: 7:00 am: Celebrating the PLACE INITIATIVE- Bishop Jorge Rodriguez, Archdiocese of Denver Colorado, Bishop Elias Zaidan, Maronite Bishop, Evangelical, Orthodox and other Church Tradition Leaders (Saint Rafka grounds in Lakewood Colorado)

- September Month of Awareness: events TBA

- Saturday-Sunday, September 9- 10- 2017: St Rafka Church Third Annual Festival-Mass on Sunday morning for the Martyrs and Innocent Victims of Wars of Religious hate and poverty. (Saint Rafka church in Lakewood Colorado)

- Fourth Assembly of Hope & Mercy in September [Please follow website for details].

- Fourth Christmas Dinner and celebration to raise funds for the Gift and Food Distribution for Refugees in Lebanon (Nov- Dec 2017) [Please follow website for details].

Please sign up with your email and register in order to receive weekly updates from the Apostolate/ Mission of Hope and Mercy



# Founder and National President



Father Andre Mahanna is uniquely qualified to speak to the topic of ISIS and its aims. He grew up in war torn Lebanon. As a boy, he heard stories of religious-based crimes by both Muslims and Christians. At 10, his family escaped Christian massacres by living in caves in Mount Lebanon. His bed was a Phoenician tomb. By age 12, he had decided to become a monk. It was then that visions of what the world is experiencing now—famine and the massacre of women and children—gave him the resolve to address ecumenical understanding and devote his life to being an instrument of peace.

Father Andre is an interfaith communicator. He is director of the Office of Ecumenism and Inter-religious Relations and Dialogue for the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon, founder and director of St. Rafka's Mission of Hope and Mercy to Save Christian Middle East, USA president of the Vatican Associated Office of the Apostolic Union of Clergy; and pastor of St. Rafka Maronite Catholic Church in Lakewood, CO. He served on the Vatican's 2010 Synod on the Middle East, and in 2012 was appointed head of the Apostolic Association of Ordained Ministers. He has authored many articles focused on the unity of Christians and religious freedom.

# Mission Essay



We believe that atrocities perpetrated upon Christians and other religious minorities constitute genocide. When Christians suffer in any part of the world, especially in the Middle East where Christianity began, all people suffer regardless of religion or race. Our goals include raising awareness of this issue, providing material assistance to those who are persecuted and maintaining a Christian presence in the Middle East. Pope John Paul II said in 1997, "Lebanon is more than a country. It is a message of freedom and an example of pluralism for both East and West..." Lebanon once again is demonstrating its important role in religious freedom by taking in over one million refugees who have been driven from their homes, persecuted for their beliefs and denied the free exercise of religious thought.

We are shaped after the example of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) who helped a stranger in need. We are eyewitnesses whose call is to assist the oppressed and the poor, to raise awareness and to advocate for those who are persecuted because of their faith in Christ. Pope Francis has called the Catholic Church to be the field hospital of this wounded world. We are battling those whose first target is Christianity. We aim, therefore, to have a personal and compassionate encounter with the wounded ones in order to be living witnesses to the Gospel of life and salvation for us all in Jesus Christ.



# Areas of Work



## PLACES WE SERVE IN LEBANON:

- The Chaldean Catholic Church
- Beirut-Nabaa Lebanese Educational School
- Beirut-Fanar Catholic Church of Saints Sarah and Bahnam

## OUR SERVICES IN LEBANON & ABROAD

### Food and Hygiene Supplies

- 12 distributions per year (once per month)
- 3,000 portions of food per year (250 portions per month)
- 3,000 portions of hygiene products per year (250 portions per month)
- 3000 families served per year (250 families per month)

<b>Total Annual Bills</b>	\$50,469.72
Food	\$47,289.72
Transportation	\$1,800
Phone Services	\$480
Food & Expense Reimbursement for Volunteers	\$900

### Medical Emergencies & Chronic Medical Needs for Children, Family Providers & Elderly

- 30 medical emergency cases in the last year (cancer, blood disorders, skin diseases, epilepsy, heart disease, birth defects)

### Other: Housing, School, Clothing & Relocation Costs

*Please follow up by visiting our website for additional information, to volunteer and to donate:*

[www.savechristianmiddleeast.org](http://www.savechristianmiddleeast.org)