



D.R. CONGO:

“I WAS THIRSTY AND YOU GAVE ME SOMETHING TO DRINK, ”
 (MATTHEW 25:35)

Shortage of water in IDP camps is a big problem

Amid horrific violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), more than 5.6 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) have fled their homes, meaning that the country now has the highest number of IDPs in Sub-Saharan Africa.

An increasing number of families are fleeing the fighting zones in the scorching sun, with no food or water to drink and at high risk of life-threatening diseases.

Fr Jean-Baptiste Chiza, Parish Priest of Our Lady of Hope, near Goma in east DRC wrote to Aid to the Church in Need (ACN):

“Thousands of families have arrived in our Parish desperate to flee the

fighting zones. They look starved, tired and traumatised. Solidarity and help are essential. Without them, these vulnerable people will remain exposed to hunger, epidemics, malnutrition and even death”.

ACN immediately responded by providing each displaced family with food items and temporary shelter. Shortage of water, however, is a big problem with increased cases of cholera and diarrhoea being reported as a result of lack of clean water and hygiene.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo has one of the hottest climates in summer, and for these families who have had to leave their homes, water is clearly

a priority for survival.

ACN is prioritising aid efforts to ensure access to clean drinking water in Parishes. In order to continue providing comprehensive support, ACN relies on the generosity of individuals like you.

The contribution of benefactors from Malta and Gozo can make a significant positive impact in the lives of these displaced people in the DRC. Fr Jean-Baptiste appeals to your legendary generosity to provide hope and assistance to those in need.

Together, let us answer the call to feed the hungry, and provide safe water to the thirsty, just as Christ taught us. ✚

If you wish to receive this leaflet by post please send us your contact details via SMS on 7999 9969



Aid to the Church in Need

ACN MALTA



LEBANON:

“WE NEED YOUR HELP TO CONTINUE OUR MISSION”

ACN’s education aid for Lebanon includes support for children with special needs at school

The situation in Lebanon is dire. The faithful are trying to resist leaving their country, while others have already left. ACN (Malta) is funding projects that will encourage Christians to stay and keep the Faith and its traditions alive.

One of the crucial projects to keep families deeply rooted in Lebanon is the support for Catholic schools.

ACN (Malta) continues to support the Church in Lebanon to pay the Catholic schools’ teachers and provide schoolbooks and other resources to enable children to attend schools.

A donation gift from you today can do so much:

- support fragile families in the education of their children and strengthen their presence in their native community;
- contribute to sustainable development through the provision of food for children in school and at home;
- support parents in keeping up with their children’s needs for a modern education, i.e., communication, training, technology; and
- help children with special needs and integrate marginalised families into



Children of the Lebanese school run by the Sisters of the Good Service

society, securing the possibility for an appropriate university education.

Fr Youssef Nasr, General Secretary of the Association of Catholic Schools in Lebanon, said:

“ACN is doing a good job, and helping more than 150 schools in Lebanon. I want to thank ACN, and all the benefactors. We have a difficult task on our hands, and we need your help to continue our mission”.

Mgr Joseph Spiteri who is the Nuncio of the Holy See to Lebanon, adds:

“Thank you for all the help you have given to Lebanon, and to the Christians in Lebanon, so they can continue to stay here and build this wonderful country which is a unique country in the Middle East. I will remember you in my prayers, and I ask you to remember us, all the people of Lebanon, especially Lebanese Christians, in your prayers. God bless you.” ✝



UKRAINE:

SEMINARIANS USHER IN HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Seminarians of the seminary Ivano Frankivsk with refugees from Kyiv/Kiev

In the midst of so much suffering with the war going on in Ukraine, the Catholic Church is a source of Faith, hope and healing. This applies to the 522 Seminarians in the country who are not left out.

Many people have fled Ukraine, some will never return - but these young men who will be the future Priests of this wounded country are determined to stay on and help their suffering country recover. They visit Parishes to support and accompany families in their suffering.

These Seminarians also have their own tragic stories to tell about their respective family and friends, who had either recently perished or were still fighting on the eastern front. Nevertheless, their unshakeable Faith and calling keep them positive for the future.

"This horror has contributed to my vocation," says Seminarian Oleh. The number of vocations has not diminished, but families cannot cover the formation training of these Seminarians. Seminaries in Ukraine need our financial help to remain open.

Final-year Seminarian Ivan Vovnianyk studying at Uzhhorod Greek Catholic Theology Academy said that he and his

fellow Seminarians would not have been able to follow God's call to the priesthood without ACN's support:

"We need practical help to be able to help people spiritually and in whatever other ways they require help. We are praying for you as benefactors. Please also pray for us." The Seminary also served as

a temporary home for dozens of displaced people heading to West Ukraine earlier in the war.

These young Seminarians are the hope of a country suffering material and spiritual devastation. Will you help them to reach the goal of their vocation? 



Ukrainian seminarians standing in front of a statue damaged by a missile - showing pieces of the shelling





IRAQ:

“WE WANT TO GIVE A SOURCE OF HOPE TO OUR CHILDREN”

Summer camps, supported by ACN, provide an opportunity for children to find hope and comfort



Once again, ACN is assisting summer camps for children from war-torn areas

Christians in Iraq are becoming fewer and fewer. The constant suffering and uncertainty weigh too much on their shoulders. Many are leaving the country because they are desperate and have lost hope and confidence in a possible decent future for their children and for future generations.

In this context, it is necessary to focus on the training of children and adolescents. Providing them with Christian environments is the way to forge the future of the Faith in this country and make these young people want to remain living in the Middle East.

They live their Faith as a minority. Being able to participate in summer camps and other pastoral activities, help them to integrate and reinforce their belonging to a community of Faith, to persevere in their beliefs and to become strong Christians for the future.

These summer camps and other pastoral activities are key to igniting and enlivening the Faith of the youngest.

Iraqi Archbishop Bashar Warda said: “With these camps we want to give our children hope to continue their fight in life. If we do not change the mentality of this generation, we will definitely have a

generation empty of ideals and dreams. This will lead them to leave the country in the future.”

For the vast majority of parents, financing these activities for their children is impossible. When, through ACN (Malta), you help the Church in Iraq to meet the costs of transportation, accommodation and food at these Christian summer camps, you will be ensuring that more children and young people can attend these activities and, therefore, increase their commitment to the Faith in their own country. 🇮🇶

