HELP US TO KEEP THEM
WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE THEM

Due to COVID-19 pandemic outbreak that has exacerbated an already devastating economic crisis in our country and following the steep devaluation of the Lebanese pound against the dollar (1 dollar= 10 000 LL to date; that continues to rise dramatically from one day to another), our institutions of the Holy Family in Lebanon, located in Jounieh and Fanar regions, found it difficult, if not almost impossible for them to cope with those hardships.

For ages, the Holy Family Sisters have fully devoted themselves to educating the youths in Lebanon, teaching them the Christian principles and beliefs along with the human and spiritual values, thus spreading the work of the foundress of the Congregation "Saint Emily de Rodat" in the land of the Cedars. Our mission has evolved throughout the years. How many youth have we produced infused with the values of the Holy Family and spread them out of the whole world? How many families have we taught to live and to be guided by the Christian Spirit of the Holy Family?

Our institutions are among the top ranked Catholic schools in Lebanon dedicated to provide the resilient and relentless Lebanese people who are so much attached to their land with the best education ever. The Holy Family is and has always been the shining star that shall never die or fade away.

Unfortunately, today our schools are facing an unprecedented crisis unlike any we have seen in the war history of Lebanon with so many people sliding towards penury. Aren't these circumstances similar to those that Saint Emily de Rodat , our Patroness, witnessed following the French Revolution?

Here are some numbers that shall help you understand how critical our situation in Lebanon is:

Impact of the devaluation of the Lebanese lira on the average salary of a family man:

Let us assume that the average salary amounts to **2 500 000 Lebanese Lira**.

- In October, that salary was equal to **1666 dollars** ($1 = 1 500 LL) or **1 486 euros**.
- However, today that same salary is equal to **250 dollars** ($ 1 = 10 000 LL) or **221 euros**.

These numbers show how much people salaries have lost their value as a result of the increasing cost of the dollar. Millions of people lost their jobs and have no more income, **prices have increased six times higher** than usual, yet the government hasn't elaborated any assistance programmes to help the Lebanese survive this crisis.

That devaluation of the national currency has a triple repercussion on our school today:

1- In terms of collecting **our only resources** (the dropped school fees).
2- **Many parents who lost their jobs are prioritising living costs such as food, medication and rent payments over School tuition fees**.
3- Failure to pay the salaries of our Teaching Personnel.

As a result, many parents were forced to withdraw their kids from our schools. We surely do not want them to leave. They are our asset, our driven force to continue to exist in this country that we still believe in and fight for. Therefore, I earnestly solicit your assistance to help those families in need pay their kids school fees and eventually preserve the continuity of our schools. Thus, the Holy Family continuous to accomplish her mission which is to stand by all the Christian families and help them to preserve their roots and stay in their motherland, Lebanon, where they truly belong.

Bank details for the solidarity fund:

Account in Euro:

Name of the Bank: Audi Bank

Branch: 056, Fanar- 056

Number of the Account Holder: CONG.SRS.FRANCAISES D.L.STE.FAMILLE

Account Number: 005652570027

IBAN: LB11 0056 0000 0000 0056 5257 0027

Account in USD:

Name of the Bank: Audi Bank

Branch: Fanar

Number of the Account Holder: Congregation Religieuse Ste. Famille

Account Number: 005652570026

IBAN: LB38 0056 0000 0000 0056 5257 0026

Each contribution is highly appreciated and an official Thank You Note will be issued to all the contributors.

May God's blessings come to you a Thousand-Fold.

Sr. Clemence HADDAD

Holy Family Sister

Lebanon