



OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

5 August 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers of Our Lady of Good Help Maronite Catholic Community,

We were shocked and disheartened to learn of the massive and devastating explosion in Beirut on Tuesday, especially knowing that many of you have been personally touched by this unprecedented disaster. On behalf of the people of the Archdiocese of Edmonton, I offer my deepest sympathies and condolences. Please be assured that we are keeping you and your loved ones in our prayers during this terrible time.

I was blessed to visit Lebanon in 2017, and during my short time there witnessed the unique creativity, hospitality and resilience of the Lebanese people – despite facing challenges we in Canada can only imagine. I pray that Our Lord grant them solace, healing, and hope as they grieve their losses and begin to recover and rebuild. May you, too, find consolation through your faith in Christ, whose love conquers all things.

Father Saad has invited me to celebrate Mass with you at Our Lady of Good Help parish, and I look forward to seeing you this Sunday, August 9, at 6 p.m.

Our Lady of Good Help pray for us!

St. Charbel pray for us!

Yours sincerely in Christ,

✠Richard W. Smith
Archbishop of Edmonton