



PLANTING SEEDS OF HOPE IN SYRIA



A young Syrian woman prays devoutly in the Holy Belt Church of Saint Mary in the old quarter of Homs in Syria

Many young people in Syria have spent their entire lives living under the shadow of war and economic collapse. Yet, the young women surviving this crisis are not just victims - they are the future. As tomorrow's mothers, pillars of the Church and architects of a better society, they hold the power to rebuild what has been broken.

When you invest in them, you are investing in the very foundation of a stronger Syria for our Christian brothers and sisters. That is why your support today is so essential.

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) is working with the Congregation of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary in Syria to deliver a vital, life-changing initiative: The "Stations of Light" Spiritual Empowerment Programme.

Our goal is to provide 40 young Syrian women with social, psychological, and

spiritual support they need to heal from the past and step boldly into their roles as faith-filled leaders and mothers.

Through your generosity, participants will receive personal spiritual companionship to deepen their faith, professional therapeutic workshops to deal with trauma and discover their identity, and practical skill-building sessions in crafts and trades to foster

their long-term independence.

By empowering one young woman, you are not just changing a single life. You are strengthening a future family and planting seeds of hope.

If you are able, please make a gift to the "Stations of Light" programme today. Together, we can help our Syrian brothers and sisters shape a brighter tomorrow. 



Young Syrian girls during the "Light a Candle for Peace in Syria" campaign in the heat of the civil war in the country in November 2018

If you wish to receive this leaflet by post please send us your contact details via SMS on 7922 5500



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN MALTA



BE THEIR LIGHT IN DARKNESS



LEBANON

acnmalta.org/be-their-light

A NEW DAWN FOR LEBANON'S WOMEN

Our Lady of Lebanon Marian Shrine in the mountain village of Harissa in Lebanon

If you visit a church community in Lebanon, you will find women keeping things running. They care for the families, pass down the faith, and hold neighbourhoods together. But when it comes to the bigger decisions and leadership roles in society, their voices are rarely heard.

Following a historic gathering focused on the role of women in the Church, the Maronite Patriarchate – which is an Eastern Catholic *sui iuris* (autonomous) church in full communion with the Pope and the worldwide Catholic Church - wants to take a bold next step. They want to make sure women are not just helping behind the scenes, but leading from the front.

To make this happen, ACN is looking for kind benefactors to help support 120 faith-filled Maronite women from every corner of Lebanon. This special programme will give these women the training and

confidence they need to step out into their communities as leaders. Your kind generosity makes this thorough training programme possible for a new generation of leaders.

Your kind gift will fund deep spiritual education to help these women apply the Gospel and the Church's values to real-world challenges, through hands-on workshops in the organisation of communities and public speaking, and to have a supportive network where they

can safely work together on projects that bring healing to Lebanon.

By supporting this project through ACN, you are helping 120 incredible women discover their potential, strengthen their local churches, and bring a much-needed touch of grace and leadership to a country that needs it most.

Please consider making a gift today to help these women lead the way. 🙏



Women Pastoral Council of Lay Apostolate of the Assembly of Catholic Patriarchs and Bishops of Lebanon

Any donation kindly given will go to support these or similar projects through Aid to the Church in Need



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PAKISTAN

NO FAMILY LEFT ALONE

Students and community members from the local Kutchi Kohli ethnic group supported by the local parish hostel

Every parent wants to know that their children are safe once they step out of the house. For Christian families living as a minority in the Punjab province of Pakistan, however that peace of mind is hard to find. Daily life comes with a lot of anxiety, especially for parents raising young daughters.

The reality behind this is heart-breaking. Each year, up to 1,000 young Christian and Hindu girls in Pakistan are abducted, forced into marriage, and forcibly converted. Because families face immense pressure from extremist groups and a biased legal system, many victims are silenced, and these crimes go under-reported.

Faced with police inaction and court rulings that fail to protect minors, these families have nowhere else to turn but the local church. For them, the parish is a haven and a trusted family.

To help the Church stand as a stronger shield for its people, ACN is launching

a vital safeguarding and support programme across the region.

The goal is simple: to make sure no Christian family in Punjab feels isolated or helpless. Through your kind generosity, families will receive practical guidance to help parents and young women protect themselves, understand their rights, and recognise their dignity.

Your support also covers professional

training for local catechists and leaders to identify risks early and intervene during crises, while establishing parish-based women's groups where mothers and daughters can safely support one another in faith.

Please consider making a gift today to help protect and strengthen these courageous families. ✝





BE THEIR LIGHT IN DARKNESS



ETHIOPIA

ELEVEN PILLARS OF HOPE

Franciscan Sister Lucia with children of the Gumuz tribe in Ohaba village

Right now, an entire network of life-saving charity in Ethiopia rests on the shoulders of just 11 dedicated women.

The Franciscan Missionaries of Mary left their home countries to serve families who have absolutely nothing. They receive no government funding and they take no income from the people they serve. Instead, their daily survival and the survival of the thousands of people who depend on them, relies entirely on your kind generosity.

When you choose to step in, you become the powerful force behind their incredible work across three major communities:

In Bushulo, your support keeps their specialised health centre open, allowing the Sisters to provide essential maternal care for mothers and babies, treat tuberculosis and guide local university students.

In Mazoria, your generosity fosters

community development, clean water systems, literacy classes, and business training that empower disadvantaged young women to feed their families.

In Addis Ababa, you make direct nursing care possible for destitute young mothers and their infants and also help provide language classes and the communion hosts used by local parishes.

These 11 Sisters are ready to continue doing their extraordinary work of mercy, but they cannot care for the poor if they cannot afford to survive. They need you to

stand behind them.

ACN is raising a basic living subsidy per Sister to cover their food, shelter and medical needs for an entire year. Think about the incredible power of your gift: your kind donation keeps one Religious Sister on the ground for 12 months, serving as a lifeline for thousands of vulnerable people.

The Sisters have given their entire lives to these communities. Will you take care of these Sisters today so they can keep taking care of the poor? 🙏



Franciscan Sister Lucia with youth of the Gumuz tribe in Ohaba village

Any donation kindly given will go to support these or similar projects through Aid to the Church in Need



ACN www.acnmalta.org

Aid to the Church in Need

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