



ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES, USA
The Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio

12 August 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Tragedy never seems to sleep. Most of us continue to struggle with the effects of the pandemic, in addition to the usual preparations typical to the end of the summer.

The news of the tragic explosion in Lebanon escaped no one. The country, already torn apart by strife, crowded with two million refugees, and struggling to maintain its fragile political equilibrium, has faced this new crisis with determination.

However, even a valiant people needs the support of their brothers and sisters. The Catholic Church in Lebanon exercises leadership and cares for all those who live in the country. In the United States we have two Maronite Eparchies who attend the spiritual needs of those of Lebanese descent who live in our country.

Both bishops, the Most Reverend Gregory Mansour and the Most Reverend Elias Zaidan, have asked US Catholics to support Lebanon in the wake of this current crisis. They ask us for four responses: prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and advocacy.

To that end, I ask you to include those suffering in Lebanon in your prayers and to offer your customary Friday penance for that intention. To the extent that you are permitted, I suggest that a designated offering be taken up for this purpose. For those who desire to make a direct contribution, you may do so through Catholic Relief Services at 228 W. Lexington St. Baltimore, Maryland 21201-3443 or online at www.crs.org, indicating that it is for Lebanon.

Grateful for your attention to this request and invoking abundant blessings upon you, I remain

Sincerely in Christ,

(The Most Reverend) Timothy P. Broglio
Archbishop for the Military Services, USA