



*Eparchy of
Saint Maron of Brooklyn*

*Eparchy of Our Lady of
Lebanon of Los Angeles*



August 4, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today, August 4, at around 6:00 PM (Lebanon Time), Beirut was shaken by a large blast that killed and injured many and caused great destruction. It is unclear who is behind the blast, but what is certain is that there were explosive materials which turned Beirut into an apocalyptic city. Hospitals, schools, houses, businesses, and much more is destroyed leaving people feeling hopeless and helpless.

It saddens us to see Lebanon, once designated by Pope St. John Paul II, as being “more than a country, it is a message,” a message of conviviality between Christians and Muslims, between East and West. This country is at the verge of a failed state and total collapse. We urge you to pray for Lebanon, and we ask for your support for our brothers and sisters at this difficult time and in response to this catastrophe. We appeal to all nations, all people of goodwill, to stand in solidarity with the Lebanese. We hope and pray Lebanon will regain stability and initiate a path of recovery toward peace and justice for all.

Yours in Christ,

+ Bishop Gregory J. Mansour
Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn

+ Bishop A. Elias Zaidan
Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles