



## *Office of the President*

3211 FOURTH STREET NE • WASHINGTON DC 20017-1194 • 202-541-3100 • FAX 202-541-3166

Most Reverend José H. Gomez  
Archbishop of Los Angeles  
*President*

### **MEMORANDUM**

To: My Brother Bishops  
From: Most Reverend José H. Gomez, President  
Date: August 12, 2020  
Subject: Solidarity and Assistance in Response to Beirut Explosion

---

Your Eminence/Excellency:

It is with great concern for our brothers and sisters in Beirut, Lebanon, that I connect with you today. Our Church mourns the terrible suffering of those impacted by the tragic explosion there that killed so many without warning last week. As Bishop Malloy and I said in our joint statement, the suffering has only begun to be told.

Our brothers Bishops Gregory Mansour and Elias Zaidan have spoken passionately and eloquently on the needs of the people of Lebanon at this time. They encourage us to respond by prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and advocacy. Please read their encouraging words and consider how you might respond.

If you choose to offer assistance to join in response efforts, donations can be made to Catholic Relief Services.

We continue to join the Holy Father's prayer that Lebanon may “overcome the grave crisis they are experiencing” and implore the intercession of Our Lady of Lebanon to bring peace, comfort, and strength to all in need of those graces.

I am grateful for your prayerful attention to this memo.