

Charity Foundation of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Beirut

# SERVING THE COMMUNITY WITH CARE



#### His Eminence Metropolitan Elias Audi has headed the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Beirut since 1980.

Metropolitan Elias instilled a culture of dialogue, openness and tolerance. With him, the Archdiocese knew a spiritual, educational and constructional flourishment. His clear vision still leads the way to major sustainable developments.

Providing prominent, state-of-the-art, and inclusive educational, medical and social services have always been of paramount significance to His Eminence during the past 40 years.

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Beirut's volition is that no child is deprived of quality education for financial reasons and no individual in need who cannot access social services is left uncared for.



THE GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF BEIRUT

More than

3

### **Renovation Projects** and Building Sites

In 1980

In 2020 49,580<sub>sqm</sub> 168,030<sub>sqm</sub>

# **Growth in Construction Surfaces**

#### THE GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF BEIRUT



1980

His Eminence visit to Beirut Annunciation Orthodox College



### 1995

Placing the first stone for Saint Porphyrios Church



### 1982

Renovation of the Dormition Church in Ras Beirut



### 1996

Rebuilding Saint Georges Covent in Souk El Gharb



#### THE GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF BEIRUT

### 2003

Renovation of Saint Georges Cathedral in Downtown Beirut after it was seriously damaged during Lebanese civil war





# 2005

Inauguration of Saint Nicolas Church, its halls and library



# 2010

Inauguration of Saint Georges Church – Rmeil after it was rebuilt







2012

Saint George University Medical Center expansion



### 2017

Inauguration of Saint Dimitrios Center

- Vieillir Avec Plaisir
- St. Dimitrios Dorms



#### THE GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF BEIRUT



2018

Saint George University of Beirut

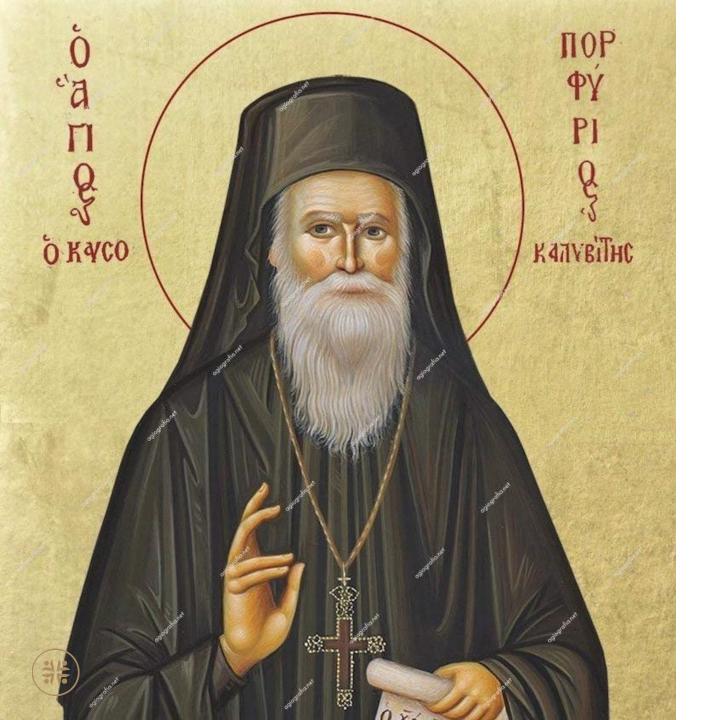


### 2019

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Beirut new premises 2020

# SAINT PORPHYRIOS





#### **SAINT PORPHYRIOS**

#### **ELDER PORPHYRIOS of KAVSOKALYVIA**

(1906 – 1991), who was formally glorified as a saint by the Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in November 2013, has long been acknowledged and recognized as a luminary and spiritual guide with the special grace of 'clear sight'.

His life was particularly remarkable in that he lived it in both ascetic fastnesses and urban contexts. His insights and interpretations have an immediacy and freshness of singular relevance to our perception of what constitutes a holy personage in the modern world and point to how we can reorient our thinking accordingly.

In 1995, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Beirut was the first to build a church under his name.

# IN 2002, SAINT PORPHYRIOS A NON-PROFIT ASSOCIATION WAS **ESTABLISHED**

The multiple charitable actions provided by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Beirut were merged under one entity to provide resources for each institution and program.

The funds enable schools and social programs to serve the local and surrounding communities without discrimination.



# IN 2020, CHALLENGES HAVE GROWN

Saint Porphyrios Association has provided support for many years funded exclusively by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Beirut.

It is now impelled to launch a fundraising effort - hoping to meet the emerging needs -





#### THE CONTEXT

The dire economic crisis after October 17, 2019 and the latest unforeseen consequences brought about by the pandemic caused by Covid-19 have created challenges that threaten the viability of these educational, social and medical programs that have become indispensable to the community; accordingly, the need for these programs and services have inevitable grown in an unprecedented manner.



#### THE CONTEXT

The deteriorating economic situation in the country took a toll on a communal level and especially on middle-income families that constitute the majority of the student population as it increases the large disparity between the cost of living and the income.

On the other hand, there is impending doom of increasing the institutions' operational cost in spite of reducing the related operational activities to a strict minimum.

# MAIN **SOURCES OF** INCOME WERE AFFECTED **in JUNE 2020**

76% Decrease in Archdiocese assets rental 600% Currency devaluation

43%

Decrease in tuition payments



#### SAINT PORPHYRIOS ASSOCIATION OBJECTIVES











Provide scholarships Provide financial contributions for medical care

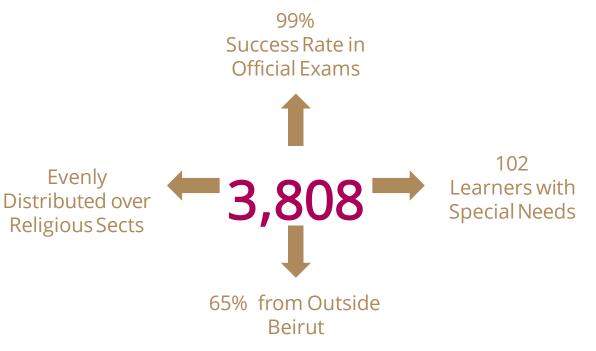
Provide food for the needy

Provide sanctuary for orphans and homeless

Raise awareness

#### **PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS**











# 708

Learners benefiting from Full Scholarship

# 25%

Learners receiving up to 40% Financial Aid **4,500** Average tuition range in USD

# 10

Top best learners in Beirut and Lebanon in official exams



#### PROVIDE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR MEDICAL CARE



**4,551** Medical consultation Provided by specialists in 2019

# 981

Members receiving chronic illnesses medicines every month

### 107

Financial contribution for hospitalization in 2019

# 541

Laboratory tests and x-rays provided in 2019

#### **1,769** Dentist sessions in 2019



#### PROVIDE FOOD FOR THE NEEDY



### 245

Elderly who benefit from free meals



Families receiving financial or food support every month



#### PROVIDE SANCTUARY FOR HOMELESS AND ORPHANS



### 3,000

Orphans received at Zahrat El Ihsan Orphanage over the years

### 89%

of Foyer Saint Georges residents are unable to cover the cost of their stay 72%

Foyer's occupancy in 2019 vs. 90% in 2018 due to insufficient funds



# INTRODUCING THE INSTITUTIONS SUPPORTED BY SAINT PORPHYRIOS ASSOCIATION





THE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ne orthodox schools have a deep-rooted history in our nation's Iucational community for they have always been remarkable for providing quality education. Serving the members of the nation in general, without discrimination, they strive to build the personality of a human being who believes in God, who belongs to the nation and is an active catalyst in society. Our schools provide equal learning opportunities to all students. They offer programs that cater to learners with special needs; these programs entail diagnostic assessment, psychological evaluation, and follow-up in addition to speech, language and psychomotor provision.

#### THE MEDICAL AND SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Upon the directives of His Eminence Metropolitan Elias (Audi), several social programs were established. Three dispensaries were established in addition to a nursing home and an orphanage that were already providing their services. These centers provide help to those in need and create jobs through their sustainable projects, that also offer job opportunities for the needy to become self-sufficient and serve their community.

#### THE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

#### Ecole des Trois Docteurs

Founded in **1835**. near Saint George Cathedral, in the city center of the Capital. It was then known, as "the grand school", the first school to be founded in the city. During the latest civil war (1975-1990), the buildings were occupied; in 1998, and upon the directives of His **Eminence Metropolitan Elias** (Audi), school was rehabilitated and equipped to become a safe educational environment adapted to the pedagogical requirements of this era.

#### Ecole Zahrat-El-Ihsan

Founded in **1881**, the first modern school for young Orthodox girls opened its doors and welcomed its students. The nascent school quickly spread roots as the community swiftly recognized the power of education in opening the path for the social advancement of their girls and in preparing them to meet the challenges of change that a new age and century would bring along.

#### Beirut Annunciation Orthodox College

Founded in 1952. His Beatitude Ignatius IV (Hazeem), the former Patriarch of Antioch (at the time Archimandrite), headed it as the first principal until 1962. Between 1978 and 1986, the school opened its doors to war refugees. In the late nineties, the school reopened after the renovation of its premises. Two years after relaunching the school, a department of Special Education was formed - marking the school as one of the very first and few inclusive schools of Lebanon.

#### Collège Saint Elie Btina

Founded in **1953** by a group of intellectuals from Mazraa and Msaytbeh to fulfill a need for an educational institution to teach the Greek Orthodox children of the families residing in the area. The buildings of the Saint Elie Monastery were renovated to be used by the school. The school was very much affected by the turmoil in the Lebanese situation. Its buildings were partially destroyed during the Israeli invasion of Beirut in 1982 and renovated afterwards.

#### Saint Mary's Orthodox College

Founded in **1979**, the reputation of the school spread quickly. Its high enrollment rate has entailed the renovation of the building in Ras Beirut and the transfer of the Secondary learners to Mar Elias Msaytbeh after its buildings had been renovated and equipped to accommodate the learners in order to serve the new Educational and Academic methodology and approach.



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#### THE MEDICAL AND SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS

#### Saint Katherina Orphanage

In 1880, Sister Geahchan established Zahrat Fl-Ihsan Association, with the help of Mrs. Emily Sursock and a group of Orthodox ladies, in Saint Catherine Covent. The mission of the association was to empower the most vulnerable girls of its community by providing quality education, and raising them by the highest standards and values, which until then was a very limited and selective undertaking. The boarding school welcomed orphans and girls from deprived families.

#### The Foyer Saint George

Established in 1874 by a small group of young volunteers who extended a helping hand to members of their community and, later expanded their humanitarian support by housing elderly. The Foyer Saint George is committed to providing the best medical, nursing, and social care services to the elderly population above 65 years old. Peace and dignity are at the core of the Foyer's principles that strives to provide a safe, comfortable, and efficient environment to its elderly.

#### Vieillir avec Plaisir

An elderly program was launched in 2017 in the premises of Saint Dimitrios Church. VAP, which translation is Age with Pleasure, focuses on the mental level to fight elderly depression, it offers routine vision check-ups as well educational and recreational programs, those include conferences, drama sessions and outings. Registered members benefit from daily activities in the center with catering service including breakfast, snack, and lunch.

# The Socio-Medical Dispensaries

Three dispensaries have been inaugurated to cater for the growing need of each congregation and every person in need. Al Saydeh Dispensary -Ashrafieh in 1991; Niyah Al Saydeh Dispensary - Ras Beirut in 1994 and Saint George Dispensary - Souk Al Ghareb in 2000. Dispensaries provide free doctor consultation, medication for chronic illnesses, medical Imagery, dentistry... in addition to support in case of hospitalization, Monthly Financial contribution for most vulnerable(to cover vital bills or scholar books) and Food supplies donations.



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Love is above everything. Love towards one's brother cultivates love towards GOD. We are happy when we gently love our people secretly.





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- ELDER PORPHYRIOS



# YOUR DONATION TO SAINT PORPHYRIOS ASSOCIATION

provides education, food and healthcare for Lebanese families affected by the severe economic crisis.







For more info about Saint Porphyrios Governance and Institutions, kindly visit our website.