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E-PULSE NEWSLETTER OF ST. MARK OCEAN PARK AUGUST 16. 2020

We are open for in-person services at 10am, maximum 50 persons.

Please register each week through the <u>eventbrite</u> link posted on <u>www.stmarkbc.org</u> or call 604-535-8841 by Friday noon. The safety protocols we were required to put in place can be found on the Church's website.

To access the online Service:

- onto the Church's website: www.stmarkbc.org
- on the page that opens, click on where it says: "St. Mark Ocean Park Online Sunday Worship Services".

Next Sunday's Service will be Morning Prayer.

YOUR COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY

LUNCH BASKET FOR HUNGRY CHILDREN is the primary outreach within your Community Outreach Ministry. We continue each month to support five young Mothers and nine children. During these difficult times, these young Mothers need our support more than ever. We are asking for your prayers and continued financial support for these families in the weeks and months ahead.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email Barb G. at: barbgrantham@shaw.ca

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR

Anyone wishing to donate Flowers for the Sanctuary after re-opening, please contact Kathryn of the Altar Guild at hkmasmith@shaw.ca or phone the office at 604.535.8841 and leave a message.

PWRDF

PWRDF stands in solidarity with all of the people of Lebanon, and we pray for all who are responding to this disaster with compassion and care. We mourn for the victims and pray for their families.

As first responders dug through the rubble and as fires continued to burn, **PWRDF** reached out to its partner in the region, the **Middle East Council of Churches (MECC)**.

MECC responded with thanks for the expression of solidarity and prayers, and shared that what happened in Beirut cannot be expressed in words. Many people are still missing and many will die due to critical injuries sustained in the blast. Tens of thousands have lost their properties; and hospitals, schools, universities and clinics have been badly damaged. It is even more trauma for people to absorb in the midst of economic and political challenges, in addition to the impact of COVID-19.

PWRDF has also been in touch with the <u>ACT Alliance</u> as one of their member organizations, and they in turn are in touch with their implementing members on the ground in Lebanon to determine how best to respond. Lebanon is the country hosting the largest number of refugees per capita, and is part of the ACT Alliance regional appeal covering Syria, Lebanon and Jordan. PWRDF is a regular contributor to these appeals.

Can You Help?

Yes. PWRDF is accepting donations to provide assistance to the victims of the explosion. Please visit its online donation page at https://pwrdf.org/give-today/ to make a gift in Emergency Response, indicating Beirut explosion in the message box.

OR call 1-866-308-7973 toll-free (please leave a message and your call will be returned), or 1-416-822-9083 to speak immediately with someone who can process your donation over the phone.

OR Write **Beirut explosion** in the memo field of your cheque and mail to: PWRDF, 80 Hayden Street, 3rd floor, Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 3G2.

Please pray for all who have been affected by this disaster, for PWRDF's partners in the region as they work to save lives and care for the injured, and for those who have died.

LOOKING AHEAD TO OCTOBER...

...a mother who is a member of the parish is looking for homestay for her 14 year old son starting in October. She is returning to China for health therapy which will last several months. He will be in grade 9 in Elgin Secondary School. They prefer a native English-speaking family living in Elgin area. The son is okay to eat Western meals. A family with a teenager who loves sports would be great. Please, ask your friends who might be interested in this homestay, if they can accommodate the son. Please contact the Parish office at office@stmarkbc.org or phone 604-535-8841