



DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

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OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Memo

To: All Clergy
From: Bishop Jaime Soto
Date: August 13, 2020
Subject: **Solidarity and Assistance in Response to Beirut Explosion**

The world watched with shock and horror at the catastrophic explosion in the Port of Beirut last Tuesday. Over 150 have died, thousands are injured, and the suffering has only begun to be told.

We mourn the terrible suffering from this tragedy as well as the political turmoil that has weakened the country of Lebanon.

We encourage Catholics and all people of good will to pray for the afflicted. Please give generously to Catholic Relief Services' Lebanon disaster response at www.crs.org. In addition, we call on the U.S. government to accelerate humanitarian assistance to Lebanon in this hour of critical need.

Let us join with 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.

Intercessory prayers:

- For the people of Beirut, Lebanon in the aftermath of the devastating explosion: may the dead be granted eternal life; may the wounded find healing; may those left homeless find shelter; and may mutual respect and reconciliation heal the nation...**Let us pray to the Lord.**