



Humanitarian Coalition launches emergency appeal for Middle East

Since February 28, the escalating military violence in the Middle East has been worsening and widening, with humanitarian needs rising rapidly:

- More than 2,000 people have been killed, and more than 20,000 people are injured.
- Nearly 4 million people are internally displaced. In Lebanon alone, more than 810,000 people, including 290,000 children, have been forced to flee their homes.
- Hostilities have affected 14 countries so far, destroying or damaging schools, hospitals, health centres and energy infrastructure.

Until March 30, the Humanitarian Coalition (HC) is raising funds to rush life-saving assistance to people in need in Lebanon, Syria and across the wider region. The HC comprises 12 leading international aid organizations in Canada including the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. As a member of the Foodgrains Bank, Alongside Hope is able to participate in and contribute to emergency fundraising appeals.

In a [pastoral letter](#) against the escalating violence, the Most Reverend Hosam Nouam, Archbishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, called for “the global Church to join us in urgent unceasing prayer. We implore God to protect the innocent – the mothers, the children and the elderly – who are caught in the crossfire of this ‘operation Epic Fury’ and the subsequent ‘crushing responses.’ We pray specifically for a ‘sound mind’ for the leaders of the United States, Israel and Iran, that they might recognize the futility of this bloodshed and turn back from the precipice of a global catastrophe.”



[Read the entire story](#)

How you can help

PRAY. Please continue to pray for the innocent people in the Middle East caught in the crossfire of this war.

ACT. Please share our [emergency bulletin insert](#) with your parish or community.

GIVE. Support our partner’s life-saving work with the Diocese of Jerusalem by donating online to [Alongside Hope’s Gaza and West Bank Emergency Appeal](#). You can also donate by calling at 1-866-308-7973. Or mail a cheque to Alongside Hope, 80 Hayden Street, 3rd Floor, Toronto, ON, Canada, M4Y 3G2. Please indicate “Gaza/West Bank” in the memo field.

A flyer titled "Humanitarian Coalition launches emergency appeal for Middle East". The top half features a photograph of a person standing next to several large metal water tanks in a desolate, war-torn urban environment. Below the photo, the text reads: "Since February 26, the escalating military violence in the Middle East has been worsening and intensifying, with humanitarian needs rising rapidly." It lists statistics: "More than 2,000 people have been killed, and more than 30,000 people are injured," "Nearly 4 million people are internally displaced. In Lebanon alone, more than 85,000 people, including 200,000 children, have been forced to live their homes," and "Hostilities have affected 11 countries so far, destroying or damaging schools, hospitals, health centres and energy infrastructure." It then states: "The Humanitarian Coalition (HC) is raising funds to help life-saving assistance to people in need in Lebanon, Syria and across the wider region. The HC comprises 11 leading international and organizations in Canada including the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. As a member of the Foodgrains Bank, Alongside Hope is able to participate in emergency fundraising appeals." At the bottom, it says "Support the Diocese of Jerusalem's life-saving work by donating to Alongside Hope's Gaza and West Bank Emergency Appeal by scanning the QR code above or at [alongsidehope.org/give-today](#). You can also donate by calling at 1-866-308-7973 or mail a cheque to Alongside Hope, 80 Hayden Street, 3rd Floor, Toronto, ON, Canada, M4Y 3G2. Please indicate 'Gaza/West Bank' in the memo field." The flyer includes a QR code, the "Alongside Hope" logo, and social media handles for Facebook (@alongsidehope), Instagram (@alongsidehope), and YouTube (@alongsidehope). A small note at the bottom says "Logo: © 2020 All rights reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced without the written permission of the publisher." The flyer is dated "March 2020".