

Pray, Support, and Advocate!

Our sister parish, St. Mary's in Aboud, Palestine is experiencing continued aggression at the hands of the Israeli settlers and members of the Israeli Defense Force (IDF). That aggression has led to fear, economic instability, and health insecurity. They are in desperate need of our prayers, our generosity, and our advocacy. Read



Fr. Remon's latest email (April 29) and let his words guide your hearts and pockets. The Poor Box collection for St. Mary's is this weekend, May 16/17. You can also contribute online through ParishSoft or by a check made out to The Church of the Resurrection with a memo for St. Mary's.

Fr. Remon's email:

"I hope you are well. Thanks be to God, we are doing fine and continue to carry out what the Lord Jesus grants us in grace, serving the children of the Church and the village. Although the war has stopped until now, we are still living in difficult conditions, which are as follows:

The ongoing attacks by settlers on the land, and their continuous attempts to seize more and more land belonging to the local residents. This creates fear of continued escalation and further aggression. The return of checkpoints, which now cause long delays. People are forced to wait for hours, especially at the beginning and end of the working day. The lack of salaries for government employees, which has become a major crisis. Doctors and government hospitals are on strike, raising serious concern about the potential collapse of the health system in Palestine. Education is also affected, as government schools now operate only two days in person and three days online.

The weakening of the currency, where the US dollar has dropped to less than 3 shekels, affecting the economic situation of families whose salaries are in dollars or dinars. The shortage of job opportunities due to the difficult situation, as well as the lack of work permits to Israel. What I would like is for us to work more and more on conveying our voice to governments. If you wish, we can write again to Congress or to your President. People are exhausted, and I hope we do not fall into discouragement or despair or be forced to leave this holy land because of the conditions we are living in. United in prayer—please keep us in your prayers."

Ways to help:

1. **Contribute** to this week's Poor Box.
 - a. Contribute on ParishSoft: www.resurrectionmd.org click on ParishSoft icon
2. **Write a letter** to your state congressperson or to the federal government
 - a. Addresses and letter template on the parish website: www.resurrectionmd.org/stmarys
3. **Get Informed** about the situation in the Holy Land
 - a. News articles linked on the parish website: www.resurrectionmd.org/stmarys