



EPARCHY OF SAINT MARON OF BROOKLYN
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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15 September 2009

Prot. No. 606/1/09
Circ. No.09.26

Dear Brother Priests:

Enclosed please find a letter from Bishop Shaheen and I that we would like **mailed** to every household in your parish – even the inactive families. We are doing our best to help people here connect with their Middle Eastern brothers and sisters in Christ. A letter from us directly to their homes will be a help for this important initiative. The office we have established in Los Angeles is now up and running.

Can you please also put the information on your website and a few times during the year repeat in your bulletin.

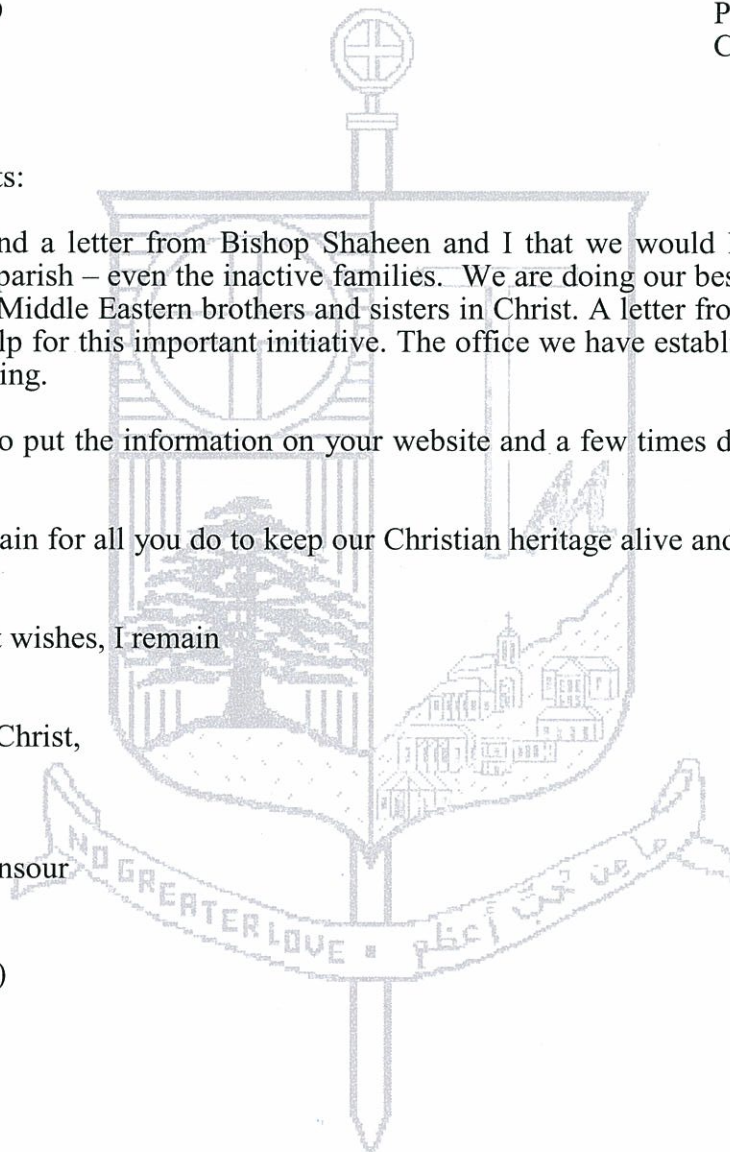
Thank you once again for all you do to keep our Christian heritage alive and well here and in the Middle East.

With prayerful best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Gregory*
+Gregory John Mansour

GJM/cm
Enclosure (2 pages)





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8 September 2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:


We are happy to announce a new effort to connect families with Middle Eastern roots to their churches, relatives, villages and country of origins. *Project Roots* is a joint effort of the Eparchy of Saint Maron and Our Lady of Lebanon in cooperation with, and at the request of, His Beatitude and Eminence, Nasrallah Peter Cardinal Sfeir, our Maronite Patriarch, and the Synod of Maronite Bishops throughout the world.


The project is made possible by a grant from the Maronite Foundation and its sole purpose is to encourage Christians here in the United States to connect with their roots in Lebanon and the Middle East (www.maronitefoundation.org). Enclosed, please find a one page summary that answers some questions you may have. As Bishops, our desire is that Christians with Middle Eastern roots have at their disposal all they need to make connections with those who have given them life in Christ over the ages. *Project Roots* also hopes to assist those interested in obtaining Lebanese citizenship.

For more information you may contact Father Abdallah Zaidan, M.L.M., at Our Lady of Mt. Lebanon Cathedral, 333 S. San Vicente Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90048, telephone number (310)-276-1939 , fax number (310)-858-0856 and email projectroots@live.com .

We hope you will find this effort will be helpful to you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,


+Robert J. Shaheen
Bishop of the
Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon


+Gregory J. Mansour
Bishop of the
Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn

Enclosure

Project Roots

The Eparchies of Saint Maron and Our Lady of Lebanon are joining together to help people reconnect with their Christian spiritual roots in Lebanon and the Middle East. An office in Los Angeles, under the direction of Father Abdallah Zaidan MLM, will assist those interested to:

1. Obtain their sacramental records from their country of origin;
2. Connect with family members living in their place of origins and throughout the world where the emigrated;
3. Obtain Lebanese citizenship if desired;
4. Obtain immigration records if desired;
5. Remain connected with the Maronite Church here and throughout the world.

This Project is being made possible by a grant from the Maronite Foundation. No eparchial funds are being used, but the office will accept financial contributions from those willing to help. For more information contact:

Father Abdallah Zaidan, MLM
333 South San Vicente Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90048
310-276-1939
projectroots@live.com

Those interested in Lebanese citizenship can log on directly to the website for the Maronite Foundation at www.maronitefoundation.org .