



ECHOES

from *Caritas Lebanon*

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Exchange and information visits

To Patriarche Sfeir

On May 31st, as part of his regular visits to His Beatitude Patriarch Mar Nasrallah Boutros Sfeir, Father President Simon Faddoul brought up the colloquium scheduled on July 4, 5 and 6, regrouping the Caritas MENA agencies and their partners.

To Minister Ziad Baroud

Aiming at improving cooperation with governmental institutions, Father President Simon Faddoul, along with director Georges Khoury, visited His Excellency Mr. Ziad Baroud, Minister of Interior and Municipalities.

Among different matters, they discussed about the General Security/Migrants' Center partnership regarding the protection of migrants detained at the Retention Center, as well as the project of implementation of another center that could be more respectful of human rights.

To Minister Salim Sayegh

Early June, two visits were made to His Excellency Mr. Salim Sayegh, Minister of Social Affairs, in order to inform him about Caritas Lebanon's activities.

The first visit, that took place on June 7, was led by Father Faddoul. During the second one, on June 10, Secretary General Attorney Fady Ibrahim gave a presentation of programs and projects.

Mr. Sayegh is expected to visit Caritas Lebanon's Head Office on July 2, to be more acquainted with running activities.



Also...

- *At the Center for Children with Specific Needs (Fghal):* Mass was celebrated on the 29th of May on the occasion of the First Holy Communion of five children of the center.
- *Evening Studies Program - Tripoli:* While visiting the medical center of the Lebanese Red Cross, students and their teachers attended a symbolic first aid training.
- *At the Tyre MSC:* Diagnostic tests were carried out in collaboration with Aventis Pharmaceuticals in order to detect osteoporosis and other tests to measure the triglycerides level, in cooperation with the healthcare company Novo Nordisk.



Excursions for the Elderly

Several outdoors activities were organized for the elderly by some Sectors of Caritas Lebanon:

- Ashrafieh Sector invited 70 elderly to a church celebration at the Maronite Patriarchal Seminary, located in Ghazir (Kesrwan). Mass was followed by lunch in a restaurant near by.
- After going for a pilgrimage to Himlaya (Metn), Saint Rafqa's hometown, one hundred Seniors of the Metn III Sector had a wonderful time in the restaurant where they had lunch.
- The West Bekaa Sector invited one hundred elderly to a country lunch in the restaurant "The Friendship", located in Ksara (Bekaa).



For members of Sectors, volunteers and beneficiaries, spending some extra time together, out of the every-day activities is an excellent way to know each other better and reach true friendship.

As for the elderly, excursions out in the country allow them to escape from the dullness of their regular life, discover new places and make friends.