

# Stations of the Cross

Reflections on war by Syrian Child Refugees

#### Jesus is Condemned to Death



"I SAW WHEN MY COUSIN WAS SHOT AND MARTYRED"

NAME: RAGHAD CHAYEB

AGE: 13

FROM: IDLEB

"He was spurned and avoided by men, a Man of suffering, accustomed to infirmity, One of those from Whom men hide their faces, spurned, and we held Him in no esteem."

Isaiah 53:3

We Pray for all who have suffered as a result of the war in Syria



#### **Trōcaire**

#### Jesus Carries his Cross

Caritas Lebanon distribute aid to Syrian refugees living in the Qab Elials camp in Lebanon's Bekka Valley. Fifty families are currently living in the camp.

"Never be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord, nor of me, a prisoner for His sake; but with the strength which comes from God bear your share of the hardship which the gospel entails."

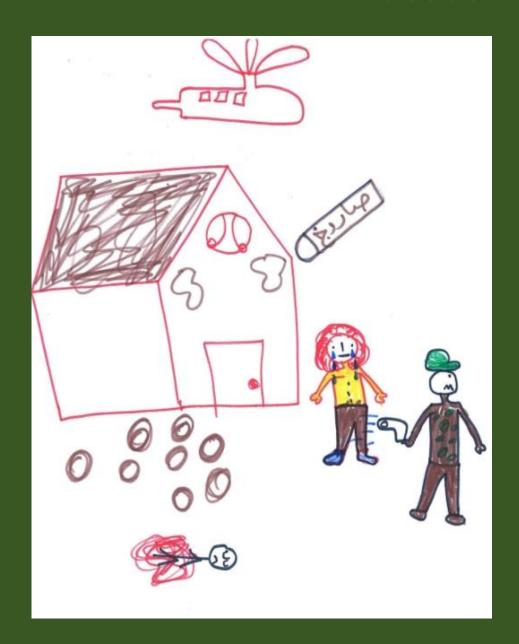
2 Timothy 1:8

We Pray for all who work, help and volunteer to alleviate the suffering of others



(Photo: Patrick Nicholson / Caritas Internationalis)

#### Jesus Falls for the First Time



#### "MORTAR SHELL"

NAME: LEEN MELHEM

AGE: 13

FROM: GHOUTA/DAMASCUS SUBURB

"Once Herod realized that he had been deceived by the astrologers, he became furious. He ordered the massacre of all the boys two years old and under in Bethlehem." Matthew 2:16

We Pray for the elderly who have been displaced or left behind as a result of the war in Syria

#### Jesus Meets his Mother

Aaicha Qattach (34) with her two year old son Abdullah at the Caritas Lebanon Medical Centre in Reyfoun, close to the border with Syria.

"Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother: 'This Child is destined to be the Downfall and the Rise of many in Israel, a sign that will be opposed, and you yourself shall be pierced with a sword, so that the thoughts of many hearts may be laid bare.'"

Luke 2:34-35

We Pray for all mothers who have struggled to keep their families together in the face of war



(Photo: Patrick Nicholson / Caritas Internationalis)



# Simon of Cyrene Helps Jesus **Trōcaire**Carry the Cross

"I AM AFRAID FROM THE FUTURE AND FROM SEPARATION FROM MY BELOVED ONES"

NAME: RANIA ALDALLI

AGE: 15

FROM: DEIR EZZOR

"The Lord saw this, and was aggrieved that right did not exist. He saw that there was no one, and was appalled that there was none to intervene." Isaiah 59:15-16

We Pray for all who carry burdens on their shoulders.

# Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus

Medicines distributed at the Caritas Lebanon Medical Centre in Reyfoun, close to the Syrian border

"They shall see Him face to face and bear His name on their foreheads." Revelation 22:4

We Pray for all who care for others, especially medical workers in war-torn areas like Syria



(Photo: Nick Harrop / Cafod)

#### **Trōcaire**

#### Jesus Falls for the Second Time



"NO FOR CHILDREN KILLING,
NO FOR EXPLOSIONS NO NO NO"

NAME: NARA HAMCHO

AGE: 13

FROM: SOUEIDA

"When men have fled a polluted world by recognizing the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and then are caught up and overcome in pollution once more, their last condition is worse than their first. It would have been better for them not to have recognized the road to holiness than to have turned their backs on the holy law handed on to them once they had known it."

2 Peter 2:20-21

We Pray for all children who have been affected by war and violence

#### Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem

#### trōcaire

Hoda with her 1-year-old child Bilal, refugees from Syria's brutal civil war. Hoda and her three children fled Syria and now live in a half-finished apartment block near Reyfoun, close to the border with Syria.

Rachel mourns her children, she refuses to be consoled because her children are no more.' Thus says the Lord: 'Cease your cries of mourning, wipe the tears from your eyes. The sorrow you have shown shall have its reward,' says the Lord, 'they shall return from the enemy's land. There is hope for your future.'" Jeremiah 31:15-17

We Pray for all women and children who suffer from gender-based violence



(Photo: Eoghan Rice / Trócaire)

#### Jesus Falls for the Third Time

"SYRIA DON'T GO AWAY, WE NEED YOU"

NAME: HADIL FALLOUH

AGE: 15

FROM: HORAN

"A third time Jesus asked him, 'Simon, son of John, do you love Me?' Peter was hurt because He had asked a third time, 'Do you love Me?' so he said to Him: 'Lord, you know everything. You know well that I love You.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed My sheep.'" John 21:17

We Pray for all who have remained courageous and steadfast in the face of terror and risk persecution



# Jesus is Stripped of His Clothes



Ahmad (right) 65yrs, with his wife Madallakh, 64yrs, and their grandsons Mohammed and Abdelrahman, living in an unfinished block of flats in Taalabeyah, Bekaa Valley.

"She gave birth to her first-born Son and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger." Luke 2:7

We Pray for grandparents, especially those who yearn to see their grandchildren

(Photo: Nick Harrop / CAFOD)

#### Jesus is Nailed to the Cross



Syrian refugee children now living in the Mount Gabriel Monastery in Beirut, Lebanon.

"He was pierced for our offenses, crushed for our sins, upon Him was the chastisement that makes us whole, by His stripes we were healed." Isaiah 53:5

We Pray for all who long for their home, those in hospital or care, those who are displaced, those who have left to seek a better life in foreign lands

(Photo: Patrick Nicholson / Caritas Internationalis)

#### Jesus Dies on the Cross

NAME: BAYAN HASSAN

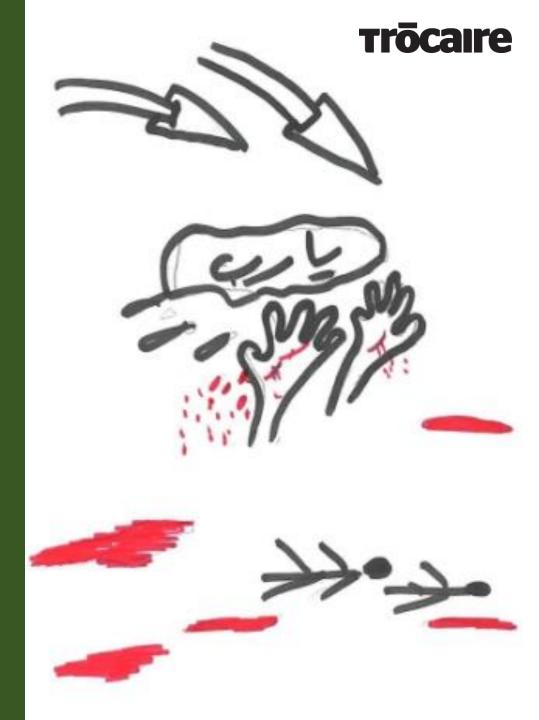
AGE: 16

FROM: GHOUTA/DAMASCUS SUBURB

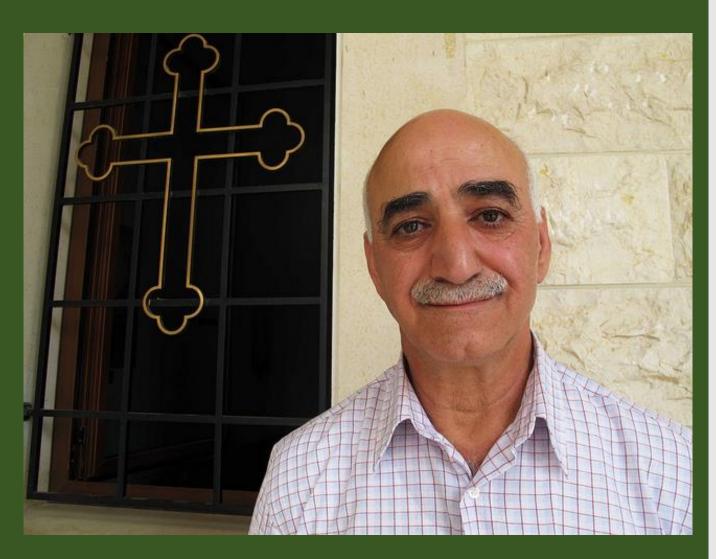
"GOD"

"Silence in the presence of the Lord God!" Zephaniah 1:7

We Pray for the women, men and children who have died during the war in Syria



### The Body of Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross



Sanharib Ephram, who was forced to flee his home in Syria. Leaving their home was the worst moment of their lives, but Sanharib and Taslasaliba Ephram knew that not leaving might mean the end of their lives. He was even born in that same village.

They had a good life in Syria but then came the war and everything collapsed around them. Between the two sides fighting in the conflict and the armed gangs looking to profit out of the chaos, life in their village became too dangerous. "We owned a shop, two of our children were at university, the third was at school," says Sanharib. "Now, they do nothing. There is no work here, not even for Lebanese people."

They dream of being able to return to their home but do not know when, or even if, that will ever be possible.

We Pray for all who are persecuted because of their faith

(Photo: Nick Harrop / Cafod)

#### Jesus is Laid in the Tomb



"There is nothing to fear. I am the First and the Last and the One Who lives. Once I was dead but now I live forever and ever. I hold the keys of death and the nether world." Revelation 1:17-18

We Pray for world peace and for strong, moral and ethical leaders to bring about this change

NAME: BUSHRA AL-ALI

AGE: 16

FROM: DEIR EZZOR

"I WANT TO LIVE IN PEACE, ENOUGH BLOOD THE MARTYR HISHAM EL-ALI, RIP"