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News

Maciej Popowski's meeting with Melkite Greek Catholic Archbishop of Furzol, Zahle and the Bekaa

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Yesterday 3 April 2019, Deputy Director General Maciej Popowski received the visit of H.E. John Issam Darwish, Melkite Greek Catholic Archbishop of Furzol, Zahle and the Bekaa.

Archbishop Issam Darwish has been working with Syrian refugees in the Bekaa Valley since 2011, helping Christian and Muslim families. During the meeting he shared his view on the evolution of the situation of refugees along the Lebanese border with Syria. He was accompanied by two members of the “Aid to the Church in Need” which supports his actions on the ground. Aid to the Church in Need, a pontifical foundation, has been working with the archbishop for several decades in the Bekaa Valley. The cooperation increased with the conflict in Syria, as thousands of refugees arrived in Lebanon.

Since 2011, the archbishop and his team have tried to provide for the migrating families both in the refugee camps (where there is a majority of Muslim refugees) and the many Christian families who are dispersed in his entire archdiocese. The services offered have included not only basic humanitarian aid and shelter, but also schools, medical and rehabilitation (drug dependency) services.

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