



STIFTUNG KORBGEMEINSCHAFT  
HILFE FÜR SYRIEN

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! (Ps 107,1)*

**The Bakery of Grace is already in operation.  
May God bless you for your support!**

Dear friends,

It is with great pleasure that I am conveying the good news to you that the long hoped for Bakery of Grace in Maaruneh near Damascus has been put into operation. With God's grace and the help of many friends and supporters, the great gift from heaven has indeed turned into reality here on earth.

At this point I should like to express my deep gratitude to the numerous committed people who have helped to build the bakery by means of donations and advice, by establishing contacts, by prayers, advocacy and contributions in other ways. The greatest thanks are directed first and foremost to God, who continually gives us his inexhaustible grace, and to Jesus Christ, who sows love in us and tells us in our prayers what we are to do in times of need, and not to forget the Mother of God Mary, who encourages her "children" to get involved in this God-willed project. The first big support (in the form of a six-digit donation) came from the Medjugorje group from Switzerland that I accompanied a few times in Medjugorje, which was a great honour for me. I am not allowed to mention names here because the donors themselves insisted that this gift was brought about through the Mother of God.

It would go beyond the scope of this letter to mention by name the many parishes, dioceses and aid organizations in Austria, Germany, Hungary, Sweden and in other countries that have participated in this project. All of them have obeyed Christ's call "you give them something to eat" (Mat. 14:16) and have proved exemplary solidarity with the Syrian people. By doing so, you have certainly made a great contribution to the reconstruction of the country. Such a project gives the people of Syria new hope and confidence.

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The building of the bakery was indeed a miraculous process that clearly reveals the hand of God. The action of God, – in the midst of all the misery caused by the war. The miracle consisted in the fact that we managed to cope with all the difficulties caused by the Covid 19 pandemic, the increasingly dramatic economic crisis and all official and bureaucratic requirements. God's guiding and protecting hand was also clearly noticeable again and again, whenever financial resources became tight and new funds became available just in time. With every problem turning up, a helping hand miraculously appeared. It has been great to notice how all the good forces have joined together. Praise and thanks be to God!

The bakery is currently producing bread for the village of Maaruneh in a one-month trial period and the quantity will be gradually increased so that the surrounding villages that do not have their own bakeries can also be supplied with bread. 10 young employees are currently working in the bakery for 5 hours a day. Around 1,200 kg of bread are produced every day. The objective of the bakery is thoroughly Christian: to provide the poor and needy with good bread regardless of their religious affiliation.

The bakery is indeed the work of God carried out through our hands. This action of God on people in need will certainly continue. Other urgently needed relief and reconstruction projects will follow. The grace of God does not stop. I therefore ask for your continued prayers, your cooperative thoughts and your active help.

Once again I want to express my deep gratitude for your brotherly and sisterly support, which certainly makes a great contribution to peace in Syria in the spirit of Christ.

I remain united with you in prayer

Your

Fr. Hanna Ghoneim

Vienna, September 23, 2020

*Hilfe für Syrien*