

CHALDEAN SISTERS DAUGHTERS OF MARY IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Antoun Zabuni is the founder of the Congregation of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate. He was born into a pious family in Mosel, Iraq on January 17, 1883, on the feast day of St. Anthony of Egypt, the father of the monks. In the year 1895 he entered the minor seminary of St. John the Evangelist, in Mosel. As a seminarian he was devoted to his studies and lived a life of virtue and devotion. He was ordained a priest on May 15, 1907 by Patriarch Emmanuel II Toma.



Established August 7, 1922



"With Mary to the Highest."

Dedicated and Consecrated
to
Mary Immaculate



World War I broke out in Iraq and the consequences of the war, left many people hungry, in poverty and without an opportunity for education. Specifically, many people left the villages and fled to Baghdad, in order to find any kind of work. Here, women began to work various jobs, even if it meant abandoning their faith and converting to Islam in order to make a living and be able to work. This devastated Father Antoun and increased his desire to start a congregation for women. He wrote a letter to the Patriarch saying, "I had a lot of conviction that we need to start a religious congregation of women in our Chaldean Church."

"I understand that consecrated woman could help in this time of chaos. They can help the clergy with the great poverty, the homeless children, and even with pastoral needs of the community. I have a desire to begin this project and with much time spent before the Blessed Sacrament I see it is greatly needed."



After much prayer and discernment, the desire became a reality, and permission was granted to Father Antoun to begin the first congregation of women in the Chaldean Rite on August 7, 1922. Because of his great devotion to the Blessed Mother, the Congregation was dedicated and consecrated to Mary Immaculate.

Our Identity



The Congregation of the Chaldean Daughters of Mary Immaculate is an apostolic Congregation of patriarchal right. It was founded in Baghdad on August 7, 1922, at the time of Patriarch Mar Yousif Emmanuel II Toma, for the good of the Church and the world.

Our Mission

Our mission consists of striving with diligence and alertness to sanctifying our souls. Let us strive with diligence and alertness to sanctify our souls, "in order to perfect the saints for a work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ."

Our dedicated life is apostolic in essence. We offer ourselves as an individual with all different kinds of talents and tasks flowing together in community life. The community takes up our fraternal union with Christ, the unity of our life in it and the life in the spirit of our Congregation, and transform it into a testimony to our growth in the grace of dedication, and into a proof of the authenticity Christ's mission in the world.



*So let your light shine before men,
that they may see your
good works, and glorify your
Father who is in heaven.*

Matthew 5:16 (RJE)



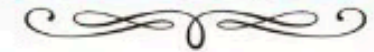
Currently the work of the Chaldean Sisters spans three continents (Europe, Australia, and North America). They continue to live by their calling - to share God's love and provide much needed care to those who are vulnerable in their communities.

They operate St Thomas Retirement Center in Turlock, CA and Good Samaritan Retirement Center in San Diego, CA, caring for the elderly with love, dedication and dignity.

They also work closely with children, teaching in Sharjah and Dubai (United Arab Emirates) and caring for the orphaned youth in Northern Iraq and Mosul, Iraq.

Churches and noviciate houses can be found all over the world in locations such as Michigan (USA), Chicago (USA), Australia, Rome, Lebanon, Dubai, and several locations in Iraq.

PRAYER FOR VOCATION



Almighty God,

You have made me to know you,
to love you and to serve you.

And thereby to find and to fulfill myself.

I know that you are in all things,
And that every path can lead me to you.

But of them all, there is one especially
by which you want me to come to you.

Since I will do what you want of me,
I pray you, send your Holy Spirit to me:

into my mind,

to show me what you want of me:

into my heart,

to give me the determination to do it,

and to do it with all my love,

with all my mind

and with all my strength right to the end.

Amen