



# Efforts to Support our Communities during COVID-19 Crisis – August 2021



## The third wave of Covid-19 and our efforts to support our communities and those who seek our help

It has been a very difficult 18 months, but we are now facing our most challenging time with the third wave which is highly virulent and the worst that we have faced. An indication of the crisis is that the Consulates are fearful that unless vaccine take up is dramatically improved, that a new variant will emerge that could then find its way into other countries. Germany, for example, recently brought a German Epidemic Preparedness Team that consists of top epidemiologists and members of the international development agency GIZ). They will also provide capacity building in how to tackle the disease and will shortly open a mobile hospital in the Sulaimani province in Kurdistan. They have also recently supplied 100,000 testing kits. Germany has so far given Iraq 80 million euros in support of Covid crisis.

## Covid-19 Statistics

There are 12,000–15,000 cases in Erbil alone. The Archdiocese's Maryamana hospital is receiving 40–45 confirmed cases daily with some of them in critical condition. The oxygen consumption at the Maryamana Hospital is on average at 40–50 bottles daily. This is not enough, and we need to purchase 50 new bottles at an average cost of around \$100 per bottles.



## THE ARCHDIOCESE HAS TO HELP THOSE WHO CANNOT AFFORD THE COST OF TESTING AND TREATMENT:

PCR testing \$45 per patient  
 IgM and IgG \$26 per patient  
 Laboratory Parameters testing \$50 per patient  
 X-ray/CT scan \$ 60 per patient  
 Medicines ( Favipiravir 1 pack or Remdesivir 6 vials, Enoxaparin either 4000 or 6000 IU 8 vials, Meropenem 12-20 vials ) that cost around \$350 per patient

In July we have spent around \$600 daily to cover the above for the third wave ; we expect this figure to increase due to the low vaccination rate and how quickly the virus is spreading throughout the region into our villages such as Shaqlawa.

A total of 25000\$ was spent as detailed in the below points:

1. 50 Oxygen bottles = 5000\$ (One time purchase).
2. COVID-19 PCR test = 3000\$/month
3. COVID-19 IgM and IgG test = 2000\$/month
4. COVID-19 laboratory parameters = 2000\$/month
5. X-ray/CT scan test for COVID-19 = 2500\$/month
6. Medication for COVID-19 = 10500 \$/month



All of this is amidst of over 80 per cent of unemployment in the villages since ISIS attacked in 2014, cuts/delays in government salaries and pensions. Our churches again have been in lockdown; this adds to the aforementioned pressures on the Archdiocese to help when our income is reduced in collections.