

Our life at Anta Akhi

At the service of a life of dignity of the person limited by disability



December 2015



Yvonne Chami
Fondatrice Présidente



2000 years later!

Jesus, is the same yesterday, today and forever.

His promise Is kept the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

His faithfulness endures forever!

The savior is born, God is with us.

God became man to make us sons of God, his Beloved!

2000 years later, he triumphs over evil and death, over the erosion, the break of man and of humanity, for He came to our world, and He stayed there!

To those who seek Him in spirit and in truth,

He is revealed in the silence and privacy.

2000 years later, today, the battle is raging. We want to eliminate Jesus once again, thus eliminate what is human and divine in the man,

The reign of ugliness set aside to that of beauty, the reign of hatred, of violence, to that of love and peace, the reign of noise

to that of silence. The silence that opens the heart to listen to the harmony of hearts, and lives, the symphony of creation.

Despite what goes around us!

Merry Christmas !



Thank you Georges for adding
a note of morning beauty at the
Foyer of Tenderness

Jesus is born

Jesus is here among us, with us, he is present!

Do we believe it?

Do we believe it, despite what is happening in the world?

Do we see it, through the eyes of crying innocents who are suffering and dying?

Do we have the ability to scream announcing the good news?

Jesus was born. Our Savior is here, he is truly here.

Let's conquer our fear, our hatred, and our grudge. Why hold it when life with the Living will defeat death, and will triumph over the evil.

With him we will continue
to hope in counter of despair
to love in counter of hatred
to spread joy in counter of sadness
to pray even if lots have lost their faith,

because Jesus was born, he is among us,
because we were given Love and it became our responsibility.

Merry Christmas!

In the name of our young adults limited by disability, and the family of anta Akhi

Roula Najm
Vice président, G.M.

From dream to reality

Her dream was to visit Saint Therese's house in Lisieux Her dream was to troll under the rain ... Well!! The dream came true as she represented Anta Akhi Lebanon along with Sandra and Maya in a trip organized by Anta Akhi France for the benefit of our young adults limited by disabilities. Thanks to the association *Dunes d'Espoir*, Carole participated, with great emotions, in the race on a Joëlette one-wheeled all-terrain chair... Afterwards, it was time to visit Lisieux...



Carole talks about it until today! We are truly grateful to everyone who made this trip possible and pleasant, a special recognition to each member of the team Anta Akhi France. Your generosity and availability affected us! Naji, a Lebanese friend, who lives in France, said: "Your efforts are heartwarming. Your impeccable organization fostered a spirit of the most emotional communion among the participants. Hand in hand against disability awakens what is most human in each one well beyond the divisions and affiliations. Thank you for everything and again well done!"

Christams ... is everyday !

Christmas... The eyes of our youth shine just by evoking this holiday. Despite the charm that strings along the whole month of December, Christmas Eve always bears a special spark as it brings to the hearts a deep peace, renewed faith and a childish delight! We used to share with you every year our experiences throughout this period, however, this year we will share with you some moments of the daily life of our youth via touching stories that go to the heart.



In order to occupy her resting time pleasantly, **Samo** visited the office of Sabine and Layal who gave her a comic book to look at since Samo cannot read.

- Samo: no I don't want that one, I prefer the other. She pointed to the Bible.

- Sabine: but this one is beautiful, look, there are pictures in it!

- Samo: No I prefer the other ... For Jesus is present! ★★★

Barbara did not want to attend the Mass that day. Norma had taken her aside and said, "I understand, but would you be willing to offer the Mass for me? I need prayer. "Barbara agreed with much joy ... You should have seen her during the Mass! Barbara, thank you your great generosity and love. ★★★

Marcelle, despite her limited capacity, she manages to be understood. She always carries in her prayers the concerns of all those who are part of her life. In her prayer one day she said: "let's pray to be always united with Mary, Set El Beit, so that we will continue to love and to trust each other. Thank you Lord for every moment you give us in our life. Thank you because in your love, you have created each of us unique and different from the other. Lord, give our life companions the force to help us so we continue this journey together. Lord, unite us in prayers and firm our faith. ★★★

This year the Source of Resources unit received the help of **Joseph, Marianne, Samo and Madona**, for two weeks during the afternoon. The unit was buzzing; Joseph was in charge of the wine packaging that will be a gift to express gratitude to our Lebanese benefactors, he did it with perfection. On the other hand, Marianne, who is very meticulous, was in charge of folding the sheets of our biennial raffle. Samo, acting as a good "secretary", noted all the office visits in the absence of Chantal, and never failed to properly transmit the messages... and ... well... Madona, when she was not pretending to sleep, she was the most enthusiastic to work! But we have to admit, it rarely happened! ★★★

Paul repeated helo helo ... (beautiful), **George** was eager to applaud, while **Jad** followed with his body the slightest musical nuances, they were all expressing their enjoy to hear such a beautiful music performed by William on the violin and Armen on the piano. Thank you Pro Musicis and thank you ESA for making such an exceptional moment in our Foyer of Tenderness, possible! ★★★

Who spreads laughter among our young adults? Well ... it is Philip? And yes, for those who do not know him, Philippe is a comedian and this year he overcame his shyness accepting with great enthusiasm to host the anecdote sessions with our young adults children. Because after all isn't everyone's aspiration to be happy and make others happy? ★★★

Georges, usually welcomes the team, in the morning, with a rose in hand, and it is him who stands by the door when schoolchildren are leaving. With this warmth that characterizes the Foyer of Tenderness, we say to all our readers:

we are expecting your visit, so we can spend together a month of festivities full of joy and beauty!

And if you are wondering if George will be greeting you with his red rose, well ... come and see !!!

Nos jeunes atteints de handicap vous attendent pour partager ensemble la joie de Noël

Fri 18 déc. 8 pm : Adoration followed by a Mass at Anta Akhi, at the Foyer of Tenderness – Ballouneh.

Mon 21 déc. 5 pm : Christmas Mass with the children and young adults of Sesobel and Anta Akhi at the convent ND de Louaizé – Zouk.

Wed 24 déc. am : " Itinerant Christmas, Jesus is coming home," home visits for our young adults limited by disability and their families .

Thu 24 déc. after 5 pm : Christmas eve followed by the midnight Mass at 11h30 at the Foyer of Tenderness – Ballouneh.

Fri 25 déc.: Our house is open to welcome all our friends!

Sat 26 déc. 6 pm : meet us in Harissa for the congratulatory Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Thu 31 déc starting 5pm: new year's eve followed by the midnight Mass at 11pm at the Foyer of Tenderness – Ballouneh.

Fri 1 jan.: Our house is open to welcome all our friends!

for more information contact: +961 9 230650

Members of the General Assembly Thank you!

On September 8, 2015, we celebrated the 22th anniversary of Anta Akhi . This beautiful anniversary, which corresponds with the anniversary of Mary, Set El Beit, Queen of the Impossible, is an opportunity to show gratitude for all the fruits of the Year, recognizing the part of Mary in the life of our Foyer of Tenderness and be grateful to all our friends. This year we paid tribute to the Veterans of Anta Akhi' s General Assembly.

Ms. Noha Najjar, Mr. Charbel Akiki , Mr. Nazih Mouawad , Mr. & Mrs. Hadi and Siham Rizkallah ,

Miss Joumana Bainei , Ms. Jocelyne Khoueiry , Mr. Berna Rehayem , Mirna Mouzawak ,

Miss Randa Njeim ... Thank you for your loving presence and confidence in the great project of Mary ...

Below are passages from few testimonies:



The project has faced many hurdles since its departure, and each time, Anta Akhi rose again with more force. How not, while "Set Beit El" wanted it from the start, we are all her children: She never rejects who take refuge in her, and Her Son denies her nothing!

Who visits our young adults and get to know them can only exclaim: "How beautiful it is to live together!" The joy and hope are the leaven of this house, and who comes in will come out with a spiritual package based on love and inner peace.

Thank you "Set Beit El," thank you for your Son Jesus, and to all your graces for us.

Bernadette

This mustard seed that I witnessed to its sowing by Yvonne at the dinner of one evening in Antelias, has become that beautiful tree that we call home...

And every time that God gives me the grace to participate in a Mass at Anta Akhi, He gives me the privilege to witness, with deep joy and a lot of emotions, what is already His Kingdom on earth.

Yvonne thank you, thank you Anta Akhi! ...

With deep gratitude,

Joumana

Anta Akhi is University of life, whether by the existential training headed by Yvonne, or by the institutional and relational daily life. It is an environment of "humanization of work" in the sense that the humanizing task is the forefront of any type of internal or external activity, thus providing the base platform for all decision making.

Being part of the family of Anta Akhi is a commitment to be an actor of values advocated by the experience of our young adults any time, any place.

Being part of the family of Anta Akhi it's mostly to live and share the importance of Mary's presence in our life, a Mother "Set El Beit" who accompanies, watches and guides each one of us to her Son.

Anta Akhi is my family, my home that welcomed me without conditions or interests.

Mirna

Dear Yolande, Thanks

Yolande, before you, we ignored and underestimated a world that looked different and that frightened us, the world of disability ... Nevertheless, this world was like ours and with time he taught us a lot. He taught us that we are all sons of God, brothers in the Living Jesus. He taught us that we are all members of one body, each member is unique and equal to the other, and it can't replace the other however must, if possible, support and help his brothers' needs.

In particular, we were witness to the magnificence of the power of love, and the effectiveness of the bond of brotherhood. This love and brotherhood were the pillars on which Anta Akhi was founded to answer the question asked by parents who will take care of our children after us?

Thus, Anta Akhi was the manifestation of the biblical verse: "Faith moves mountains."

Our fraternity was sculpted by the effort, throughout these 30 years. We wish prosperity for years to come, with Yvonne, Roula, the administration, the general assembly, the working team, volunteers, young adults and all the brothers and sisters.

You deserve all the honor because you taught to each of us to say, "You are my brother and I love you!"

Siham and Hady



*Merci Melle Joumana Medawar,
de partager ce moment de joie avec nous !*

Members of the Team of Anta Akhi... Thank you!

October 1, 2015, launch of the year in Anta Akhi and tribute to all those who said "yes" to the mission, 15 years ago: Claire, Jeannette, Samira, and 10 years ago: Elie, Theresa K. Danielle, Danielle F.

Thank you because through your commitment, your loyalty, your affiliation, and your love for our young adults, we are able to ensure them every day a life of dignity, a mark joy despite the difficulties.



I knew I had a big family which is part of my life. It made me forget my sorrow and my problems. I was convinced that being part of this "house" is not a job; it's a great mission that I carried in my head and in my heart. **Claire**

At Anta Akhi I learned to respect every person as he is, starting with the person limited by disability. I learned to find the love of God in every person, and to listen to others. With you I continue my journey, under the gaze of Mary, Set El Beit, who watches over this house the Foyer of Tenderness. **Jeannette**

What could I tell you, my dear children of whom I am proud to be a mom? There are no words that express my love for you. You taught me to accept whatever comes and to be patient before the difficulties. You taught me transparency because you don't know how to lie. You taught me to thank God for all His gifts and His love for each of us. **Samira**

After 10 years of being a member in my second family, during which I lived with the young adults, my brothers, I can say that they gave me strength: Whenever I face difficulties in my life I exceed them with strength, hope, faith and perseverance. **Elie**

I learned to pray without being a duty. I learned to see and accept the truth, even if it is difficult. I learned to be patient when dealing with problems, to wait and see life as a gift for which we thank and praise the Lord. **Thérèse**

When I arrived to to Anta Akhi I knew no one, it was a new world for me. I cried, I laughed, I prayed, I stayed and learned to love life despite the difficulties. **Danielle K.**

Many ask me what binds me to Anta Akhi. I tell them that here we live difference without disputes. Here I realized that the cure for suffering is patience, to weakness is faith, to assault is charity, to failure is repetition, and the remedy for all, is to say "O Mary, you are the Queen of House, you are our support." **Danielle F.**



Call

Dear friends, as we are grateful for your generosity, we would like to share with you our prayer in this time of grace: we pray for all your intentions, entrusting each of you with your families to the incarnated Love.

May we never cease to recognize the wonders that the Child Jesus continues to make in everyone's heart.

Best wishes for a very Merry Christmas! The Christ is born! Alleluia!

How to help Anta Akhi :

1. Sponsor a share of the cost of the accompaniment of the life course of a young person with disability starting from \$ 10 (or € 10) per month, \$ 120 (or € 120) per year.
Bank Audi - Iban: LB07 0056 0001 6520 8465 0440 1605
2. Make a single donation possibly specifying the need that you want to support.

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