

<http://www.carmesdumidi.fr/2016/10/nouvelles-du-carmel-dalep-9102016.html>

News from Aleppo October 9th 2016 here are extracts from a message sent by the mother prioress of the Carmel of Aleppo on 9th October 2016:

As you know through the news given in the West, the bombardments on East Aleppo are numerous. But the situation in West Aleppo is hardly any better although the media don't talk about it. This partiality of information really causes us pain because we are witnesses every day, directly or indirectly, through the news that we receive from priests or from persons near and dear to us of all the distresses that are experienced in the numerous neighborhoods west of the city: bombs, missiles, and arms of greater and greater sophistication -- without speaking of the total lack of water and electricity (cut off by the armed opposition groups) that creates more and more victims; the dead and wounded there also number in the dozens every day.

The other day a priest who says Mass for us once a week arrived in tears: he lives in Midan, a popular neighborhood which is without ceasing, for three years now, the subject of attacks. This priest for one week now has not stopped burying civilian victims in another very popular neighborhood, almost totally Muslim, near St. Louis Hospital run by the sisters of St. Joseph of The Apparition; the other day bombs killed roughly a dozen people and wounded more than 70. WE CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE and we demand UNCEASINGLY THE END OF THE FIGHTING, EVERYWHERE in the city, as well as a bit more OBJECTIVITY in the news, through simple respect for all these poor people who are suffering (because it's practically a matter of very modest families, if not the poor and even the miserable...)

That said, we want to hold on to trust and believe that one day the truth will triumph and that the evil, the lies, and the corruption on whatever side they may be found will be conquered by truth, reconciliation, and real plans for peace, in brief by our conversion to the Lord. We are the first to recognize this need for conversion in our own heart! (...)

Thank you for praying so that all that we are living in the obscurity of our hidden life or in our poor witness as contemplatives in the very heart of the violence and war might be lived in humility, peace, and truth.

In this month of the Rosary, I commend you all to the maternal protection, full of tenderness and mercy, of the holy Mother of God, our Mother: that she may lead us by her example and obtain for us [the gift] to love with her own heart.

Translated by Deb Thurston