

## PRESS RELEASE

**The Endowment Fund of SOS Chrétiens d'Orient finance the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church reconstruction in Mosul.**

*On April 5, 2024, a delegation of SOS Chrétiens d'Orient participated in the re-consecration of the Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Mosul, Iraq, destroyed 10 years ago by the jihadists of the Islamic State. The church, full of bullet marks and shell fragments, is completely rebuilt by the SOS Chrétiens d'Orient Endowment Fund, thanks to the generous legacy of two of its benefactors.*

Violent fighting devastated Mosul, Iraq's second largest city, between June 6 and 9, 2014. On June 10, the entire governorate fell into ISIS' hands. The liberation of the city became a reality on July 10, 2017, after three years of jihadist occupation. The city is smashed and nothing has been spared. In the western part of Mosul, on the Tigris's right bank, the fiercest battles were witnessed.

It is here that Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church is located as well as the adjoining Christian school. The building was full of bullet marks and shell fragments, additionally to an unexploded rocket penetrated one of the domes. The school itself, was destroyed.

In this context, and responding to Mgr Najeeb, Chaldean Archbishop of Mosul and Aqra, call, SOS Chrétiens d'Orient has committed to rebuild the church and its school. Works started in 2022 financed entirely by the SOS Chrétiens d'Orient Endowment Fund and thanks to the generous legacy of two of its benefactors.

By bequeathing to the SOS Chrétiens d'Orient Endowment Fund for the reconstruction of this church, our benefactors are thus contributing to the return of Christians to Mosul, the biblical city with a historical and civilizational heritage, one of the cradles of Christianity.



SOS Chrétiens d'Orient's teams are at the disposal of journalists to bear witness to this delightful event.

### PRESS CONTACT

Pauline Visomblain  
06 40 27 88 27

[pauline.visomblain@soschretiensdorient.fr](mailto:pauline.visomblain@soschretiensdorient.fr)

*Founded in 2013, SOS Chrétiens d'Orient is permanently present in 3 continents, 9 countries: Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt, Jordan, Pakistan, Armenia and Ethiopia. It also carries out occasional missions in Ukraine in 2022 - 2023. In 10 years, SOS Chrétiens d'Orient has sent 3000 international volunteers to the missions in order to help 400 000 beneficiaries, and to participate in 2000 projects with 50 employees. There's still so much to do! In the Middle East, Caucasus and North-East Africa, Christians suffer violence and discrimination. Instead of indignation, SOS Chrétiens d'Orient prefers to take action thanks to its expertise based on its 6 pillars of action: emergency aid, construction and rehabilitation, economic and social development, cultural and patrimonial development, education and youth, and medical care.*