

St. Paul's Orphanage Video Transcript

Damascus is an ancient city. In the neighborhoods of Bab Sharqi, Bab Kisan is a sacred place.

It became the Church of the Apostle of Nations, St Paul the Apostle. St Paul the Apostle set out from here to preach Christianity to the world. In this church there is a message from the year 1963.

It is a home for children who have lost their parents or one parent, or who belong to a separated family.

The first initiative was from the late Patriarch Maximus IV. He was called to establish this convent, and the white hands of the parishioners rolled in under the auspices of a committee based on the needs of this house and with the presence of the Aleppine Basilian Sisters. This convent, during its long career, took care of many children.

Today, we are a united family.... Children, educators and social workers, striving for a comfortable and safe atmosphere for our children to be the stones of this convent, shouting out the aspirations of the youth and the dreams of the children, their songs, their ideas, their goals, and laughs. We receive children from the age of five within a religious, educational, fun, and calm cultural atmosphere. It includes educators specialized in teaching and educators residing permanently with the nuns. Our prayer today is from the heart of this Holy Church, and from the heart of these children. We thank all the committee and everyone who contributes financially and morally to this holy message. We cannot continue faithfully except with the intercession of St. Paul. Blessed are the poor, for they have the kingdom of heaven, and those who seek peace, for they will be called, the children of God.