



### **Syrian Family Update April 16, 2017**

It is with deep sadness that we inform you that Mohammad, the only son of the Syrian Refugee Family that our Parish is sponsoring, is currently missing and is presumed to have died by drowning. He is only 17 years old.

On Sunday, he was with four of his Syrian friends, enjoying a picnic at the beach. They decided to go into the water and apparently got caught in a strong rip current. One boy was rescued by the life guards. Two boys got back on their own, but Mohammad was gone. The life guard believes he was swept out to sea.

Many rescue teams have been trying to find him but to no avail. His picture is being posted throughout San Diego in the unlikely event that, after all that he had been through, he may have panicked and fled into the city and is lost.

Members of the Life Guard Rescue Team and Coast Guard who were at the scene, as well as the police, and staff from Catholic Charities met with the family to explain what had happened and what they would continue to do to try to find him. Our Parishioner, Patrick Attardo, who has become a good friend to the family, especially the father, was also present at the request of the family.

Please pray that if Mohammad has died that his body can soon be returned to the family. His mother is inconsolable. Let us be grateful that this family is surrounded by a good support team!

We will continue to keep you informed.

May our God of all Consolation draw near to this family!

Sr. Maureen  
Lisa and Patrick Attardo  
Fr. Mike