



Outside of an industrial kitchen where kids sometimes go simply to SMELL the food that they can't have. Left to right, Pasha, age 10, Nicoli, age 8, & Peter, age 9.

What can you help us to do?...

- 1. Each meal for a child costs \$2.30, including take-home snack.**
- 2. A visit to the dentist by one child costs, on the average, \$70.00**
- 3. We need a new commercial washing machine, \$957.00**
- 4. We need a new commercial clothes dryer, \$929.00**

...can you help?

To contact us:

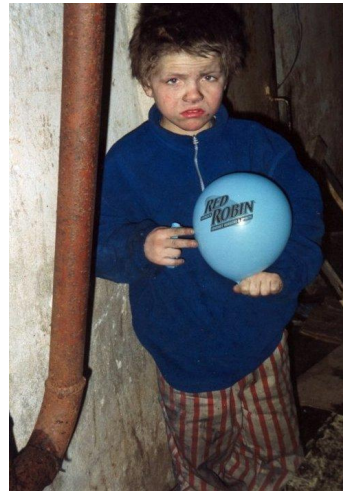
usoffice@vladmission.org
Telephone: 651-227-0208
Canada: 807- 597-6052
E-Mail Canada: gnivall@shaw.ca

Donations:

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Mary Mother of God Mission Society
1854 Jefferson Ave
St Paul MN 55105-1662

Mary Mother of God Mission Society
PO Box 868
Atikokan Ontario Canada P0T 1C0



Andrei, age 7, with his only toys.

**Catholic Parish of the
Most Holy Mother of God
Vladivostok, Russia
Coordinator of the Program:
Mr. Denis Bondaryev**

**Catholic Parish of the
Most Holy Mother of God**

Street Children



Rescue Program

Pasha, age 7

***Could you please assist
us so that we may
continue to help these
lonely and defenseless
children?***

The Children Need More...

Our parish has expanded its program for the many orphaned, abandoned, and runaway children living in the sewer systems and basements of Vladivostok and other cities of the Russian Far East.

Beginning in 2002, our parish brought food to these children in various parts of the city, cooperating with the Protestant organization "Living Hope." That program was effective for several years, but it became obvious that the children needed more help than that.

Birth of the "Rescue" Program...

In 2005, two American volunteers came to Vladivostok to invent and coordinate a new way of working with the kids. **Thanks to their efforts and to the help of our benefactors**, we have begun to "rescue" the kids. We now are the initiators of contact with kids, going to where they can be found, and proposing our help. We aren't simply waiting for the street children to come to us.

We have expanded our outreach, so that now we are able to feed the children in a warm, sanitary café where we are able to pay more attention to their personal needs, and discover how to help each child with personal problems.

We provide washing and drying facilities for their clothing, and bathing facilities and simple medical supplies.

We provide warm winter clothing, offer counseling, job and documents searches, financial support, and encouragement to return to school or, if possible, to family.

Most importantly, we are sharing the love and charity we as Catholics are called to give one another. **For the first time for most of these forgotten children, they are experiencing what it is like for someone to care for them.**



Sergei, age 9.

With the expansion of our program we provide much needed medical and dental care, with dental care being the most urgent need for nearly all of "our" kids. State-sponsored socialized dental care does not include painkillers such as Novocain, so the children are petrified to go to the dentist.

Invariably, the children need baths, and often disinfection. At times, they need medical treatment, especially the girls who have been physically abused or raped and used as prostitutes.



Dima, age 9. The facial laceration is from a policeman who abused Dima to make him afraid of being in the city center.

Our café and drop-in center have become neutral territory for the gangs of the city since we serve all who come to us. Therefore, more and more street children throughout the city are now more willing to cross gang territorial lines in search for food and other aid at our center.

Please, help the children?...

We hope to expand the program even further, to provide two meals a day, and to reach even more of the many more isolated street children. We can only hope to do this by your help.