



Vladivostok Sunrise Russia Mission



Mary Mother of God Mission Society: Reviving the Roman Catholic Church in Eastern Russia

Issue Number One Hundred Thirty Six July, 2017



Our new priest, Fr Jose Unlayao, C.J.D., receiving the chalice for mass from Bishop Pepe of Las Vegas.

Rejoicing in our New Vocations...

By V Rev Myron Effing, C.J.D.

May 31 was the ordination to the priesthood of our brothers **Jose Unlayao, C.J.D.** and **Luis Nguyen Van Dam, C.J.D.** in Las Vegas.

Fr Daniel Maurer, C.J.D., who attended the ordination and festivities had this to say: "The ordination was a most "ecstatic" religious service I have ever been to. Even the bishop was overwhelmed and in tears numerous times. The people not only clapped but cheered, whistled and shouted at the presentation of Fr Luis and Fr Jose!; and not only then: when they were ordained and vested and assumed their places on the left and right of the episcopal throne, the whole throng clapped, cheered and shouted again. It was electrifying.

"The cathedral was packed. The bishop had never seen it so full before. The ceremony was reverent and celebratory. There was an entire orchestra crammed into one side of the sanctuary, including a timpanist with 4 timpani! Songs were sung in English, Latin, Tagalog, and Spanish. The readings were read in English, Vietnamese and Spanish. The reception, held next door to the cathedral in the chancery, in the largest room and the large courtyard, was packed. They ran out of food

within 30 minutes.

"Fr Luis will move from our sister parish, St Joseph Husband of Mary, and go to the neighboring far Northwest Las Vegas city parish of Saint Anthony of Padua. It is growing, has lots of children. They blessed their new church one year ago. A new bigger church is "in the planning stages". Fr Jose is being transferred to St. Joseph Husband of Mary Parish.

"The pastor of St Joseph Husband of Mary Parish where Fr. Luis served as a deacon said that he has never met a more humble, more servant, more community-oriented religious than Fr Luis. The Pastor of St. Anne's Parish where Fr Jose was serving as a deacon was also very complimentary about Fr Jose. Before and after the ordination very many priests of the diocese came up to me and thanked us for sending them two such good servants."

Fr Jose has a master's degree in Moral Theology and teaches Theology at St Anne's School in Las Vegas. Fr Luis, besides the usual parish work, also works with the Vietnamese community in Las Vegas, as he did in Vladivostok.



Fr Jose, Bishop Pepe, and our new priest Fr Luis

We are so grateful to our benefactors who make it possible for our many vocations to study in the seminaries. The latest figure was that it takes about \$10,000 per year per seminarian. Ouch! (But it would cost even more in America!) We continue to get inquiries from men who want to join us! I have to say that I am so pleased with the quality of our seminarians! It is just that we can't afford their expenses, but we also cannot afford not to afford them!!—The Church needs priests. If you have any good ideas of where to find more funds for educating seminarians, please let me know!

More...



We've added more members to our religious family. On May 1 **Brother Pradeep Kumar, C.J.D.** took his first vows for three years. He is from Koilkuntla, India, from Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. Because he

lived near the parish, near the Catholic high school, and near the sisters' convent he was much in demand as an altar server and general helper in his home town. His parents were both teachers. His Russian language is excellent, and he recently won first place in the talent show at the university here for his interpretive dance. He will soon continue his seminary education in the Philippines. His hope is to work in Russia after ordination. Keep him in your prayers!



Brother Kumud at his first profession

And on May 28 **Brother Kumud Nayak, C.J.D.**, took his first vows. He is also from India. He has completed the seminary already several years ago, but was not ordained because of a medical problem. Instead he served as the parish administrator in Dubai, UAR, which has thousands of foreign Catholic members, but for which priests must fly in for Sunday masses in a variety of languages. Since then his medical problem has been solved, so now he hopes to finally be ordained. He speaks English, Russian, Italian, Hindi, and another local Indian language, and we believe he will be most effective working in Las Vegas. Keep him in your prayers, too!

And More...

June 23 was the joyful day of final vows for our parishioner **Sr Oksana Constantia Peretruchina, M.S.C.**, in the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. Sister is stationed in Italy, and the ceremony took place at Mother Cabrini Spirituality Center in Codogno. Sister Oksana is the third native Russian sister from our parish of the Most Holy Mother of God to take final vows in their religious orders.



Sister Oxsana visited us in May.

And Still More...

In Maumere, Indonesia, on May 10 Fr Daniel Maurer, C.J.D. heard the final solemn vows of our priests, **Fr Jacob Dambe, C.J.D. and Fr Yohanes Marinus, C.J.D.** Fr Jacob is Dean of Students at our seminary in Maumere, and Fr Yohanes is the Econome and Acting Local Superior for our community there.



Fr Yohanes signing his life away to God, with Fr Daniel Maurer, C.J.D., as witness



Fr Jacob signing his life away to God

Still not done...



Our Maumere community with postulants in the front row kneeling, candidates in black and white, together with our priests and brothers.

Meanwhile, these are only the folks now taking vows. Besides them, we have four seminarians studying in the Philippines, 18 studying in Maumere, Indonesia, 1 seminarian in Georgia, 1 in Vladivostok, and we are expecting 8 novices in Vladivostok this year from a variety of countries.

Hooray! Thanks be to God!

Hold the Presses! We just got word that our Brother Reminus Hambur, C.J.D. will be ordained deacon in Maumere on June 18!

Our Parish Youth Meetings

By Brother Nikita Kushnayev, C.J.D.

I'm happy to share with our readers just how it came about that we have organized special meetings with the student youth of our parish during this school year.

Why is that important for us? Of course the youth are the future of our church in Russia and the future of our parish. These meetings are a means of evangelization, so we prepare very well for a meeting every Wednesday evening on Russian Island near the Far Eastern Federal University at the convent of The Sisters in Jesus the Lord.

The plan of our meetings is very simple. We start with a little lecture about the various types of Christian spirituality. But our students don't have an understanding about how to differentiate, for example, the "Little Way" of St Theresa from the spirituality of St Dominic, or how the spirituality of St Francis differs from that of St Benedict. Talking about these things gives the students tools to use in their own evangelization of their peers. And many of our Catholic students who were maybe poorly catechized in our Russian parishes where there are few professional religious simply aren't aware that the Church gives us many way of preaching the Gospel. With the small number of parishes in Russia, we simply aren't equipped to give our youth any variety of experiences of "church". Thank God that the students often bring their friends or fellow students along to the meetings who are unchurched.

The second aspect of our meetings is our supper together. Students are always happy to eat, and especially those who are far from their families.

Our students are from Russia, Africa, Korea, U.S.A., Syria, Columbia, so we are like a living Pentecost which can become the beginnings of churches. We are hoping we can see the rebirth of the Gospel in Russia. When I attend these evening meetings I am always reminded of Jesus' supper with the disciples at Emaus, where the word of God is shared with supper. So thank you for your support, as our missionary hearts are not able to express our thanks and that of the students that you support us! Thanks to you we are able to experience the joy of the richness of the Gospel and be its witnesses.



The suppers are good for students far away from home.

News Notes

by V Rev Myron Effing, C.J.D.

- Mr Jim Graves of the *National Catholic Register* offered to put some recent news about our mission on their website. Here it is. Have a look!
<http://www.ncregister.com/blog/jimgraves/in-a-city-of-7000-martyrs-the-faith-comes-to-life-again>
- Our seminarian **Bro Edwin Intan, C.J.D.** spent a good part of the summer in pastoral work among the poorest of the poor near Cebu, Philippines. It was dirty, smelly work, but it gives the seminarians a sense of what real poverty means.



Bro Edwin visiting a family home.

● **Bro Patrick Napal, C.J.D.** has been working with the Missionaries of Charity (Mother Teresa's sisters) in Yerevan, Armenia, who have a home for handicapped children, and ministering to the foreign Roman Catholics in that city where most of the Catholics are of Armenian Catholic rite. He is a candidate for ordination to the diaconate this year.



Bro Patrick always has a big heart for those in need.

● The **Coronation of Our Lady Parish** in Grandview, Missouri, has for many years sponsored an annual sale for the Most Holy Mother of God Parish in Vladivostok. The combination plant sale, baked goods-sale, and religious goods sale which the members of the sister parish committee organized after each of the weekend Masses in May, the month of Mary, was a success again this year. There was a beautiful display with pictures from the mission, and many people admired the handmade items made from old vestments and old altar cloths by Barbara Fitzsimmons, our volunteer in Modesto, California. Most popular after the 10:45am Mass were religious books for children, as many parishioners wanted to know how to help their children and grandchildren learn the faith. Sr Stella Marie, C.J.D., and Sr Gemma Maria, C.J.D., who attended the event, were able to share about the Catholic Church in Russia with some of the children who stopped by the religious goods table. Bernard Lohcamp, who

raises plants all year for the sale out of his love for the parish in Vladivostok, also attended. Then, on Thursday evening, June 1, Sr Stella gave a presentation with pictures from Vladivostok to the Coronation parishioners. About 35 people came and said their enthusiasm for the mission was deepened and that they will pray even more for the Catholic in Russia. The parish served a borscht dinner with dark bread, salad, and cake for dessert after the event. Thank you, Coronation parishioners!



Sr Stella, Bernard Lohcamp, Glenda Merten, and Al StGermain manning the tables at Coronation.

● **St John the Evangelist Student Center**, Russian Island, Russia. The Sisters in Jesus the Lord and Most Holy Mother of God Catholic Parish have been working to open a Catholic student center near the Far Eastern Federal University on Russian Island, part of Vladivostok. The Center will be on the first floor of the sister's convent building, and, according to Russian law, must be an official parish, to be named St John the Evangelist Catholic Parish. To prepare the space for meetings, lessons, and social events, we need to do the following:

1. Remove interior non-supporting walls
2. Repair the walls
3. Create new restrooms
4. Retile the entrance area
5. New floor
6. New doors throughout
7. 5 New windows and frames
8. Install radiators for heat
9. New lighting fixtures
10. Simple seating

Expected costs are:

Windows \$1396

Materials \$4832

Labor \$2060

Seating \$900

Total Expected Cost: \$9188

You can contribute to the St John the Evangelist Catholic Student Center Project.



The historic building where the St John's Center will be located

The campus of Far Eastern Federal University



**Remember
“Mary Mother of God Mission
Society”
in your will!
Help educate our seminarians!**

● **A Letter to Fr Inosensius Hetu, C.J.D**

To Our Lady of Vladivostok Community of the Canons Regular of Jesus the Lord in Maumere, Flores, Indonesia.
Date: 18 May, 2017

Dear Father Ino,

Thank you very much for receiving me warmly, extending to me fraternal hospitality and showing me all the progress that you have helped our order to make in the Maumere community, spending a lot of time with me in personal conversation. In general my time with you and all the brothers was a source of countless blessings and joy.

There are so many positive things to write, but I will limit myself to these 6 points: 1. I was very happy to experience the fraternal and joyful spirit of our community in Maumere, and I believe that your many talents, gifts, leadership and sacrifices have done very much to create the warm, active and natural community spirit that our brothers and candidates are living in Maumere.

2. The property, buildings and facilities that you have bought, built, and maintain seem very good. I know that our religious community does not have as many financial resources as others in Flores, but what you have accomplished already in 3 years is very impressive.

3. The general spirit of fraternal charity and communication among the professed brothers is good.

4. The liturgies are well prepared and well done.

5. The brothers who are studying at the seminary and writing their theses seem pleased with their progress.

6. The aspirants and postulants seem to be very good young gentlemen, who are happy to be “on the way” to membership in our order.

Fr. Ino, I want to thank you again for all you do for our order and for all its members. I am very proud of your work and of the spirit you have helped impart to our brothers. I promise you my wholehearted support and prayers in your continued help to our community in Indonesia.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr Daniel

Baby Talk

From the Women's Support Centers



Hey, Buddy! Could you spare
a dime for the Women's
Support Centers?

[Sophia November 9, 2016]

Opportunities

♥ Our **6 Women's Support Centers** continue to help families and women in crisis. Our long running **Adopt a Birth** program within the Women's Centers has helped **save well over 1600 babies from abortion**. Mothers can receive the help they need to keep their babies pre and post delivery. Your help of \$25 will pay for the medical supplies needed in the hospital to deliver the baby. Fr Myron will send you a picture of the newborn you helped save! \$125 towards the **Adopt a Mother** program provides help to the mother and baby in the first weeks supplying them with nutritious food, formula, diapers, baby clothes vitamins and medical aftercare.

♥ **Fr Daniel's summer visit to the USA** and parish speaking schedule. You can catch him at some of the parishes.

July 1/2 Fort Worth, TX- St. Mary of the Assumption
July 8/9 Nashua, NH- Saint Aloysius of Gonzaga
July 15/16 Long Beach, CA- St. Anthony
July 22/23 Wilmington, CA- SS Peter and Paul
July 25 Modesto, CA Friends of the Mission BBQ
July 26-29 Napa, CA- Napa Institute

♥ Julianne Immordino from New York has created beautiful **Swarovski crystal rosaries**, valued at \$100 for anyone who donates \$500 or more to our **seminarians' education**. Thank you for your generosity Julianne!

♥ Fr Myron and Fr Daniel request **Mass stipends**. You can give an eternal gift to your loved ones through Masses celebrated in Russia. Please send your special intentions or Mass requests to the mission office. Mass cards will be sent. You'll be supporting our priests too! Suggested stipend is \$15 per mass.

♥ Ask your pastor to place a few copies of our bi-monthly **Vladivostok Sunrise** at your parish to share the news of the important work of the Catholic Church in Russia. We'll be happy to send them.

♥ Want to know more about how you can fit in with the mission? **Volunteer?** Fundraising? Attending conferences? Parish speaking? Mission program needs? Graphics design? Contact the California office! We need you! usoffice@vladmission.org

♥ Families with more children often come to our Women's Support Centers for help, even though it is not a matter of pregnancy. For example, a family which gave birth to triplets came asking for food and medical help, a family with six children where dad died of leukemia and mom is trying to keep the family together came for food aid and "back to school" needs. You can contribute to the **"Big Family Fund"**.



♥ Try these super cool and cooling summer recipes from our **Abundant Blessings mission cookbook**. *Chilled Gazpacho Soup – Spain or Shrimp Ceviche, Familia Espinosa – Ecuador*. Proceeds from our 594 cookbooks sold so far have gone to our **seminarians' education fund** and our **Women's Support Centers, helping pregnant women and families**. Excellent idea for gift giving! The cooks in your life will love choosing from our 498 mouth watering recipes. Many repeat orders have come in as buyers discover the diverse and beautifully arranged collection of recipes. Our cookbook is tab divided into 8 int'l geographic areas and submitted from the many cultures and countries of our priests, seminarians, sisters, and mission families in celebration of our abundant blessings. Interesting reading for your coffee table too! **\$25 per cookbook** covers cookbook and shipping in the continental USA.

♥ **Fatima 100th Anniversary suggested reading**. *Fatima For Today* by Fr. Andrew Apostoli, CFR
The 2nd Greatest Story Ever Told by Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC. \$14.95 each, plus \$2.75 S/H. To order, please contact our USA mission office 209-408-0728, or usoffice@vladmission.org.

(Continued from Page 8) must be experiencing right now! Many thanks for your prayers and financial support, dearest Guardian Angel.

Great or small, whatever your means, you too can be a seminarian's Guardian Angel. Please contact the mission office in California, usoffice@vladmission.org, 209-408-0728, for information. Fr Myron can pair you with a seminarian today!

Thank you, Bishop Pepe, and the many parishioners in Las Vegas for your love and care to Fr Jose, Fr Luis and our Vladivostok mission.

Very Gratefully Yours, Vicky Trevillyan, Mission Desk

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From the development desk...

Dear Friends, Peace to you.

All glory and honor to God! Two more priests in the Order of Canons Regular of Jesus the Lord (CJD), and ordained in the United States!

Jessica Hoke from our mission office in Modesto and I were blessed to witness the ordination of Fr Jose and Fr Luis, and two of the diocese's deacons in the Archdiocese of Las Vegas. You'll be reading more about the ordination in this issue of the Sunrise, and I wanted to add how special this celebration was not only from the perspective of bearing witness to it but what a momentous event it is for the Order.

Welcomed to the Diocese of Las Vegas by Bishop Joseph Pepe, D.D., J.C.D., Fr Jose and Fr. Luis are the first two ordinations in the USA of the order founded by Fr Myron and Fr Dan. While awaiting priests for Russia, the order is able to send priests to the United States! The plan is to send another seminarian, Br Kumud, later this summer to serve in the diocese with Fr Jose and Fr Luis.

The order is growing rapidly, thanks be to God. The world needs more priests. Fr Jose and Fr Luis are the 7th and 8th^h CJD priests including Fr Myron and Fr Dan. With over 30 seminarians at various levels of formation in the wings, and the annual expense for each seminarian between \$10,000 and \$11,000, you can do the math the

necessity for seminarian financial support is critical and at the top of the list of needs for the mission. Fr Myron has had to turn good candidates away due to the inability to support more education expenses.

We've made the Guardian Angel program available for each of the seminarians where a benefactor may sponsor one of them. A Guardian Angel to the seminarian will be able to correspond directly with them and follow their journey to the priesthood. Fr Jose had a Guardian Angel who corresponded with, encouraged, and helped support him for 3 years enabling him to be ordained. What overwhelming joy Fr Jose's benefactor (*Con't pg 7*)



Fr Luis and Fr Jose are first and second (from the top) lying prostrate.