



Mary Mother of God Mission Society

Reviving the Catholic Church in Eastern Russia

Dear Benefactor,

March 15, 2018

We appreciate your help so much! Thank you for your donation! I know there are lots of charities looking for funds, so we try to be frugal, in fact, maybe sometimes too frugal! We will continue **our daily prayers for you**. I'm 77 years old now and Fr Dan is 67! We've worked here for 26 years already, and we are so grateful for our young vocations, most of whom are still in the seminary, which means we have a big financial burden now with paying for their education at a time when they don't have incomes.

The **new novices** have arrived! So we have nine novices this year! I'll try to get some pictures for next time, and for the Sunrise. Let's pray that they will all make good priests! We hope so, but, as the Russians say, "Count your chickens in the Fall!" They are busy getting adjusted to their new home and their first time in Russia (and the first time to see snow for most of them!) They have already begun to study the Russian language at the Far Eastern Federal University. I think they are a fine group! A dream come true.

We just got some good news from Indonesia: We have enough **sister vocations** there that there are now four communities in Indonesia (They are finding their support in Indonesia, so we do not have to help them financially.) Two of the sisters have been asked to work in a diocesan hospital on Borneo, so hopefully they will develop into a fifth community already! I so enjoyed Borneo when I was there. Huge aloe vera plants everywhere!

Victor Anisimov, our parish trustee, told me that the repairman said that **our printer is dying**, and we have to take steps to keep it going. We bought it in 2011 with a grant from Our Sunday Visitor, and it has been working like a charm ever since, even though the expected lifetime is five years. It has made 591,730 copies! These are parish bulletins, thank-you letters like this one, hymnals, office copies, evangelization booklets, and even AA booklets. But now the repairman says that we have already used up some major parts, so it is either do a major repair or buy a new printer. The major repair will cost \$3000. I gave him \$730 already, so I can get these letters printed for you.

My health seems to be holding steady for now. The Russians say "Health is the most important thing!" but I usually correct them to say that grace is more important. After Easter I'll have to be in Seoul, Korea again, probably for a small operation. We'll see what the doctors at St Mary's Hospital in Seoul have to say. It is so good to be able to attend a Catholic hospital, compared with the formerly atheist hospitals here in Russia, which still haven't gotten far in observing Christian values, even rudimentary courtesies. Thanks, benefactors, for providing the means for my medical needs! My flight to Seoul and back is usually paid for by a Russian benefactor.

This past year was a terrible year for fruits in our part of Russia. We didn't have a single apple or pear on the tree, and exactly one apricot! But it was a great year for pumpkins and squash. But what can you do with so many? None of our cookbooks had a recipe for pumpkin other than pumpkin pie. Here is Brother Nikita's recipe for **pumpkin soup** which we all loved so much I decided to share it with you, just in case you still have last year's pumpkins around! (See the back.)

God bless you! Have a happy Lent and Easter! Yours truly,

V Rev Myron Effing, C.J.D.

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Brother Nikita's Pumpkin Soup

About 3 lbs of pumpkin, cleaned of seeds, strings, and skin, cut into manageable cubes

1 can of mushroom slices, drained

1 medium onion, chopped

1 carrot, grated

2 flavor cubes (mushroom, or beef, or pork).

Some oil or fat for frying

2 tablespoons of sour cream or cream or plain yoghurt or cream cheese

1 small chili pepper (or some Tabasco to taste)

Black peppercorns

1 cup of croutons if desired.

Place the pumpkin in a pot to boil. Add just enough water to cover the pumpkin cubes. Boil on medium heat until the pumpkin cubes are soft. In a skillet with the oil, fry the onion and carrot until the onion is transparent. Add the mushrooms and fry until hot. When the pumpkin is soft, add the mixture to it. Then add the flavor cubes, and heat to boiling, and then remove from heat. Add the chili pepper and let it sit for some minutes. Stir up the soup with your blender, and add the milk product. Don't heat the soup further unless by microwave. Add the black peppercorns and do a few rounds with the blender. Let the soup stand a bit before serving. If desired, top the bowls with some green parsley. Serve with the croutons. Brother Nikita says, "The most important thing is to add a little love to your soup for those for whom you are preparing it!"

To read Vladivostok Sunrise 140, go here: <https://vladmission.org/s/140>

To make a donation or order a Mass using your money card, go here: <http://vladmission.org/get-involved/donate/>

To watch our new video, go here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dwiQLQzvDPY&feature=youtu.be>

Parish Christmas music programs adv: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YjSNg1OOEAE>