



Mary Mother of God Mission Society

Reviving the Catholic Church in Eastern Russia

March 16, 2020



Dear Friends:

Lenten blessings to you.

We're all concerned about the spread of the Coronavirus. It's almost all you hear about these days, and rightly so. To ensure the health and safety of our volunteers and staff, we have postponed our attendance at Catholic conferences throughout the USA until further notice.

Conferences play a key role in educating Catholic communities about our efforts to revive the Roman Catholic Church in Eastern Russia, our charitable work, and the development of our ever-growing vocations program. In light of current events, we now focus on other ways to inform US Catholics of our work. But we need your help! You can play an important role by serving as a mission helper right where you live. It costs only a small amount of your time. Below are 3 suggestions.

1. Our bi-monthly *Vladivostok Sunrise* newsletter offers updates on program activities and humanitarian needs, highlights people of our mission, presents historical milestones, and offers stories of hope and joy regarding the celebration of the blessed sacraments. Funny and heartwarming stories are also included!

How you can help

- Ask your pastor if you may place 5-10 issues of the *Vladivostok Sunrise* at your parish. Newsletters would be sent only every other month.
- Distribute newsletters to parishioners at ministry or apostolate meetings.
- Ask fellow Catholics if they would like to personally receive the *Sunrise* by mail or email. I've enclosed a sign-up sheet for you to use and return to the mission office.

2. Our **mission website**, www.vladmission.org, details our work and the people who help make it possible. All past newsletters can be found on our website, so readers can enjoy the rich history of our mission's humble beginnings to the present day. Means to donate to the mission are also found on the website.

How you can help

- Ask your pastor if you might post a link to our mission website on the parish website. We can include an introductory paragraph about the mission for you.

3. **Mary Mother of God Mission Society Facebook** has current news, announcements of special events, the latest *Sunrise* and a link to our website.

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How you can help

- Share our Facebook page with your friends. Post a link to the mission website on your Facebook. LIKE US! on Facebook.

We would love to hear your questions or suggestions on developing mission awareness in the USA. Contact us at 209-408-0728 or email usoffice@vladmission.org

We humbly pray for your donations to continue the very important works of the mission. Three of our programs are profiled below.

- Our **6 Women’s Support Centers** help hundreds of families each year by providing family counseling, assisting moms in crisis pregnancies, collecting and distributing used baby clothes, and much more. Our centers have helped save over 3,000 babies from abortions! One center costs \$700-\$900/month to run, depending on the number of people helped. Programs include Adopt A Birth where a \$50 donation saves a baby from abortion, simply by covering the mother’s hospital needs; and Adopt A Mom where \$125 provides pre- and post-natal care for a mother and clothing and supplies for her newborn.
 - “Glory to God!” is the only way to respond to our **booming vocations**. Our vocations are in Russia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, India and now the USA! All religious are supported by our mission. There are 29 Seminarians, 3 Deacons, 10 new Priests and 3 Brothers. The annual living and education expenses range from about \$6,200 to \$10,700 for one seminarian, depending on the country and need for air travel—a fraction of the cost in the USA. However, with so many seminarians, the expenses are sometimes overwhelming. Can you help?
 - **Project Hope** helps individuals who are facing medical crises. The Project has helped cover major surgeries, cataract surgeries, medications to prevent stroke, biopsies for cancer detection, and diabetic supplies. Beneficiaries submit verifiable documentation from their medical prescriber.
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YES! Here is how I can help the Vladivostok Mission.

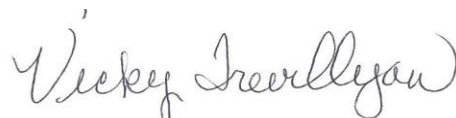
- _____ Send me _____ (how many?) bi-monthly newsletters for my parish/ministry/apostolate.
- _____ I will share my *Vladivostok Sunrise* with fellow Catholics and pass around the sign-up sheet.
- _____ I will ask my pastor to post the mission website on the parish web. Send me an intro paragraph.
- _____ I will share Mary Mother of God Mission Society’s Facebook.
- _____ I can give \$_____ to help families at the Women’s Support Centers
- _____ I can give \$_____ to help educate Seminarians to the priesthood
- _____ I can give \$_____ to help with medical needs of the poor

Thank you for your love, prayers and support for the mission. The work continues only with your help. We pray for you and for the victims of the Coronavirus, for the first responders and medical staff, for an end to the spread of the virus throughout the world, and for a vaccine to be created soon.

God bless you.
Gratefully Yours,



Fr. Myron Effing, C.J.D.



Vicky Trevillyan, National Coordinator