



Mary Mother of God Mission Society

Reviving the Catholic Church in Eastern Russia

Dear Benefactor,

June 15, 2022

Thank you for your donation! We are so glad that you continue to support us during these difficult times. God bless you and yours for your generosity!

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Rolf Greyling showing the plans to Bishop Slivovsky and Fr George Jurkewicz, the last pastor, with Chinese workers busy in the background. Here is an actual photo of the church in scaffolds at that time.



I was so surprised when a young artist, Alexander Knelnitsky, brought us a **painting** that he did for his graduation from art school. The teacher's assignment was to pick a building in Vladivostok, and paint an important event in the history of that building. He picked our church, and now brought us the painting as a gift! The event he painted was the dismantling of the scaffolding that had surrounded the church for years, waiting for funds and personnel to finish it. It was finished (except for the steeples) by architect and WWI German prisoner of war Rolf Geiling, who left a secret letter in the bricks of one of the towers which we found when we repaired the church roof! Here is a copy of the painting! It is a wonderful addition to our collection.

When Bishop Cyril was here for **my 50th jubilee** mass, they asked me to "say a few words" I told them that the highlight of my 50 years as a priest was the mass I said on November 11, 1991, on the front steps of the archive (past and future Catholic church) here in Vladivostok—the first public mass in 60 years in this big Communist city! Later I had to tell the brothers that the funniest mass I ever said was in Cloquet, Minnesota, when a cat wearing a bell entered the open front doors of the church and began walking down the aisle.

The men on the end of the pews jumped out to catch the cat, but the cat outdid them and arrived in the front. The whole aisle was full of men laying down who didn't catch the cat!

While the bishop was here he also ordained two of our brothers to the **diaconate**. Deacon Marcus David, C.J.D. from Pakistan wants to work in an English speaking country, but we haven't decided which yet. Deacon Vincent Pham, C.J.D., from Vietnam wants to work here in Russia, and we sure need Vietnamese speaking priests in Russia, as there are many Vietnamese here, especially in the bigger cities. I'll include the deacons' pictures, too. The bishop said that it was the first time he could ordain two men at one service!—vocation shortage. The bishop said that we have more vocations in Vladivostok than in all the rest of Russia!

«MailName», we are wishing for your good health, and praying for you every day—not just today! Thank you so much, and God bless you! Happy Feast of Corpus Christi! Yours truly,

V Rev Myron Effing, C.J.D.



New deacons Brother Vincent Pham, C.J.D., and Brother Marcus David, C.J.D. Vincent is from Vietnam and Marcus from Pakistan. Brother Vincent wants to continue working in Russia, and Brother Marcus wants to attend a semester of Clinical Pastoral Education at a Catholic hospital in the Philippines. They will be eligible for ordination to the priesthood in six months. Stay tuned!

To make a donation or order a Mass using your bank card, go here:

<http://vladmission.org/get-involved/donate/>

To read the May 2022 Vladivostok Sunrise 165, go here: <https://vladmission.org/s/165>

To watch our Russian Sunday mass, (8:00 pm Central Time Saturdays) go here:

<https://vk.com/public211190633>. We plan to continue broadcasting our Sunday Mass indefinitely, as many people live far from Catholic churches in Russia.