



# Mary Mother of God Mission Society

Reviving the Catholic Church in Eastern Russia

Dear Benefactor,

July 31, 2023

I'm writing to thank you for your support. We are about in mid-summer with many folks on vacation, so your prayers and financial support are really appreciated! Now for the news!

Fr Vicky Samuel, C.J.D., led the annual kids retreat in Lesozavodsk again this year. The kids really look forward to it, and we do, too, because it is a good time to do some catechism with these poor children each year. Fr Vicky had to do it a little earlier this year because his Russian visa was set to expire. He has since gone back to Pakistan to get a new visa, and should be here by school time in the Fall.



We also had the joy on June 16 of celebrating the final solemn vows of Brother Jackson Malik, C.J.D., also from Pakistan. (See picture over) He is a seminarian studying in English in Pakistan, and plans to return to Russia after ordination. Yes, he was named for Michael Jackson by his father! His older brother is already "Michael". It is surely wonderful that we have these vocations from Pakistan working in Russia. We don't have any American vocations except Fr Dan and I. But the Pakistanis speak English as well as their native language, and they have good formation as Catholics. And it seems fairly easy for them to learn Russian. Fr Vicky says, "I learned Russian from the kids!"



Here it is! Our "Giving Day" microbus fresh from Japan. It is parked on church land so that we don't have to pay for a parking space in the port, but we still don't have the keys because we haven't paid for it yet! It is difficult to get money from America because of the sanctions. Working on it! I'm in the picture so you know the car is here!

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I have a new “temporary” helper, Brother Edwin Intan, C.J.D. from the Philippines. He is a seminarian ready for ordination to the diaconate and priesthood who finished the seminary in the Philippines *Cum Laude*. More recently he has been doing great mission work in the Philippine islands where there are still uncatechized Catholics among the native peoples who live on small, distant islands or in mountainous areas. His Russian language is great! (And so is his Korean, Japanese, Tagalog, Cebuano, Indonesian, and English!!) Here is his picture on his motorcycle.



Meanwhile we have more priests, and more coming, so we really are in need of mass stipends. You know, I presume, that mass stipends are meant for the daily support of the priest. We usually ask \$15 per mass, as I’m guessing that is about the cost of daily upkeep of one person. But since I currently have zero stipends to give our priests, any amount would be appreciated. We are grateful, too, for parish priests who sometimes send us their backlog, since they usually can only take one intention per day, and their parish supplies more than needed.

Our thanks to you for your kindness and prayers and for your donation! We need good vocations to do our work, but we need good benefactors, too! God bless you! We are **praying** for you every day! Yours truly,

V Rev Myron Effing, C.J.D.

*Bro Edwin on mission in the Philippines and his motorcycle supplied by an American benefactor.*



*Brother Jackson signing his life away for Christ!*

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

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**To read the July 2023 *Vladivostok Sunrise* 172, go here: <https://vladmission.org/s/172>**