



Mary Mother of God Mission Society

Reviving the Catholic Church in Eastern Russia

Dear Benefactor,

March 15, 2024

A big “Thank You!” From all the poor children who received Christmas presents this year from MMOG donors. Here is just a few pictures!



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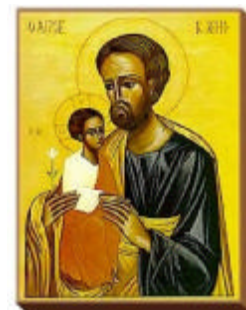
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God bless you during this season of Lent! It seems to me that the international situation does really call for us to repent and use our means and prayers to deliver people from their suffering and sins! And God bless you for your financial support! You keep us going, and we are happy doing our work here in eastern Russia.

Recently we’ve had requests to re-open a Women’s Support Center in Artyom, a suburb of Vladivostok, and to open one in the city of Ussuryusk, a two hour’s drive from here. And I’ve been dreaming of opening a new site in Artyom for St Joseph’s Parish. St. Joseph’s has existed for a long time already, but now Artyom is growing rapidly, and also is the whole area around Artyom because the Vladivostok Airport is there, located on the continent instead of on the peninsula like Vladivostok is (to avoid sea fog.) So land prices there are better than in Vladivostok, and many companies are locating there, so that the number of Russian parishioners is growing again. What I would like to do is to buy a commercial property on the first floor of a building in Artyom so that the Women’s Support Center could be located there, and on Sundays we could start having Holy Mass there, too. No use thinking about a church building until the parish grows significantly. So we’ll be looking for donors for the St Joseph’s Parish in Artyom to buy such a premises. Currently Mary Mother of God Mission Society helps support five parishes, and offers priestly support to about seven more (depending upon the season of the year), in addition to the Women’s Support Centers, and the seminarians who want to work in



St. Joseph icon from St. Joseph’s Parish, Artyom

Russia after their ordination as priests. My home parish in Indiana and Fr Dan's in Michigan were both St. Joseph's Parishes. And St. Joseph's Parish is our sister parish in Modesto where Mary Mother of God Mission Society's offices are located. And St Joseph is the name of our Russian diocese in Irkutsk. **It will be our Giving Day project this year on March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation.** We hope St. Joseph will pray for this project! We will need about \$33,000 to buy the premises, but we will also need temporary seating. Good, strong steel chairs cost \$34.11 apiece. They are manufactured in Artyom!

Thanks be to God that we have more priestly vocations, so I have proposed to our Bishop Kirill that we could take on more parishes now here in Russia. It also means we need more mass intentions and stipends.

We are expecting our bishop Kirill Klimovich to be here for the weekend. And he will celebrate a Chrism Mass here on Tuesday. All the priests from Far Eastern Russia will be here. It is an annual event. The bishop will celebrate another Chrism mass at the cathedral in Irkutsk, Siberia. Since he has the largest diocese in the world in terms of land area, he has two Chrism Masses. We will be very glad for his visit, and I want to ask him to ordain four of our seminarians to the diaconate for service in Russia when he can come again. They are ready and already speak Russian well. Priestly ordination could then be next Fall.

Thanks again for your great help! God bless you! Happy Lent! And get ready for a happy Easter a month from now!! Yours truly,



V Rev Myron Effing, C.J.D.

MMOG Giving Day: March 25, 2024
The usual date of the Annunciation

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

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

To read the January 2024 Vladivostok Sunrise 176, go here: <https://vladmission.org/s/176>

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