



Mary Mother of God Mission Society

Reviving the Catholic Church in Eastern Russia

Dear Benefactor,

August 31, 2024

“Dear Fr Myron, My old **washing Machine** broke down. It is more than 17 years old. I need to buy a new washing machine and dryer. Yours Truly, __Fr. Sebastian Marian D'Silva, Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady of the Pacific, Nakhodka, Russia,”
Anybody want to help with this??

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Monday is the first day of the **new school year** in Vladivostok, so tomorrow we have the blessing of students and teachers after the noon mass. I'm usually amazed that we seem to have more teachers than students in the parish! I always give them—students and teachers alike—a big red apple (I guess it is the “American” in me.) (Hello, Johnny appleseed!) I suggest to the teachers that I hope each student will be as attractive as that apple, and to the students, that each subject is as attractive as that big red apple, too!

Meanwhile, we've renovated two **new classrooms** for our children's catechism classes. They were storage rooms earlier, but I guess we have less to store there since all the public stores are full of stuff these days.

A wonderful benefactor has offered to match donations for the **cars** that we need, as the old ones are getting to the end of their useful lives, and, of course, Russia is big and the parishes are far apart, so we use the cars a lot! In fact, we will need them even more soon, as we are expecting to take over three more parishes: Arsenyev and Ussurysk, as the priests who have been working there are leaving Russia. And a yet undetermined parish where our Father Patrick Napal, C.J.D. will be serving—yet to be decided by the bishop. If you want to donate for this purpose, just mark the check “For Cars.” I just noticed on one of the cars how rusty is the trunk lid, and rust is all around the bottom of the doors and chassis—It already had an engine change. The other one, our “long distance” Toyota Wish, is really on its last leg, and now the air conditioner went out, and we are told by the mechanics that it can't be repaired because the car is too old and there are no spare parts for it. I tell the priests who are leaving for parish work to take some cash along, in case they have a breakdown and have to be towed!

September is the month when **new men join us** to be priests and members of our order, the Canons Regular of Jesus the Lord (CJD). This year we are expecting six new members here in Russia. (Even more in Indonesia and Vietnam!) In December, the three who joined us last year can take their first vows, and then move on to their final seminary preparation for priesthood. Currently we have five brothers waiting for ordination to the diaconate here in Russia. So we continue to need your help by prayer and financing for all these seminarians. More guys are writing me asking to join us here in Russia, and more dioceses are writing asking for priests! And more young men are writing to me hoping to discern their future!

And of course I have to say “Thank You!” to all the folks in America who attended masses and programs for our mission through **Fr Dan Maurer's** presence in America for this past month. He has now returned to us. It will be my turn in October. See you there?

God bless you, and **God bless you** again for your financial and prayer support! We'll use it as wisely as we can!

Yours truly,

V Rev Myron Effing, C.J.D.

P.S. Here is a photo of the washing machine Fr Sebastian wants to buy.

P.P.S. Here is a photo of the last stained glass window to be installed in the Nakhodka church. (The vigil light chain is visible in the photo.) This window is above the main altar. It is the Holy Spirit coming down on the bread to make it the Body of Christ! (As the priest prays at every mass: “May your Spirit come upon these gifts to make them holy so that they may become for us the Body and Blood of Christ.”)—called the “epiclesis”.



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

To read the July 2024 *Vladivostok Sunrise* 178, go here: <https://vladmission.org/s/178>