



Mary Mother of God Mission Society

Reviving the Catholic Church in Eastern Russia

February 15, 2025

Dear Benefactor,

Thank You for your **donation and your prayers!** Be assured we will use them for the purpose you intended. Now that we have seven parishes to support, the Women's Support Centers, and the work with university students—plus the novitiate and seminarian programs—you see that we can't do it without you! I want to tell you the news, so you know how things are going.

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Two recent events were surely fun for me! The first was our seminarian novice from Canada who loves hockey! He asked to go visit the Spanish sisters in their work with kids in Romanovka. When he was there, he found out that there was an ice skating rink not far away, and the town boys skated there daily. So he went to meet them and to skate with them, and **it caused a sensation!** The kids know that Canada is right behind Russia in skating championships, so they were just ecstatic to meet a real Canadian who skates! I encouraged

him to go again, when he can. After all, the girls are impressed with our sisters who go there regularly. Now the boys can be impressed by a believing adult guy who prays and loves God.



The second event was my **84th birthday** on February 7. Our Vietnamese parishioners surprised me with a cake and gifts, including a new winter coat which I needed but didn't tell. They must have noticed.

I hope you have heard what we are planning for the **Romanovka Parish of the Holy Trinity** which Fr Dan established 30 years ago. Our Sisters of St Anne have been working with the children there, daily, for 15 years, in an after-school program called “Trapinka” (“pathway”) which the local population appreciates very much, since there are many single parents who don’t get home from work until late for the kids from school. We own two apartments there where Sunday Mass is said. But it is now against government policies that chapels be in apartments. We also have a grassy field where we could build a church. So we have decided that funds for a church in Romanovka will be our **Giving Day project this year**. It looks like we will need about \$60,000 to build the little church. Our Giving Day is March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation. So please remember Romanovka on Giving Day 2025! Simply mark your donation “Giving Day”.

Another piece of Good News! Our Bishop Kirill Klimovich has expressed his idea of having the Lenten **Chrism Mass** here in Vladivostok again this year. And he has agreed to **ordain three of our C.J.D. brothers to the diaconate** to work with us here in Russia. That will take place on April 6! And that means that next year in April they can be ordained priests! Hallelujah! They will be Brother Edwin from the Philippines, Brother Peter from Uganda, and Brother Pradeep from India. Brothers Edwin and Peter finished the seminary in the Philippines, and Brother Pradeep in India.

Wishing you grace and good health, Yours truly,

V Rev Myron Effing, C.J.D.

P.S. We need more mass intentions, too!

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

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

To read the January *Vladivostok Sunrise* 181, go here: <https://vladmission.org/s/181>