



# Mary Mother of God Mission Society

Reviving the Catholic Church in Eastern Russia

June 30, 2025

Dear Benefactor,

I am so happy that on the Feast of Pentecost we had more people in church than ever before for Sunday Mass! **Every seat was taken** at the Russian language mass, and 50 parishioners attended the Vietnamese language mass! Wow! The following Sundays the trend continues! There are several factors, it seems to me. First, the springtime weather made it easier for the elderly to come to church. Secondly, the work our brothers and sisters are doing at the university is attracting foreign students, especially Catholics from Africa and Columbia—medical students! And maybe thirdly, the war in which even men from our state are dying. Maybe we will need to consider having two Sunday masses in Vladivostok soon! What we need most of all is priests! Thank you for supporting our seminarians! We are eagerly awaiting the ordination of our three deacons to the priesthood!

## Board

Bishop Cyril Klimovich DD

Rev. Joseph Fessio SJ

Rev. Joseph Illo

Rev. Robert Stoeckig

Mrs. Terrence Kopp KCHS

Mr. & Mrs. David Sonnen

Miss Mary Jo Peyton

## Officers

Chairman and President  
Very Rev. Myron Effing, CJD

Chief Financial Officer  
Rev. Daniel Maurer, CJD

Vice President  
Mr. Terrence Kopp KCHS

Secretary  
Mr. Tyler Kolden

Board Member  
Rev. Doug Grandon, PhD

Board Member  
Rev. Steven Bauer

Board Member  
Mrs. Lynn Grandon

Board Member  
Mrs. Susan Gray

Board Member  
Prof. Robert F Moran, PhD

Board Member  
Mr. Jeffrey Lang

National Coordinator  
Mrs. Jessica Trevillyan



*Maybe the new Romanovka church can look something like this? If we outgrow it, it could become the rectory or a family home and we would still have room on the land to build a bigger church next door.*

June 15 was the parish feast day of **Holy Trinity Parish in Romanovka**. I hope you had a chance to contribute to the 2025 Giving Day whose purpose is to raise money to build a small new church in Romanovka so that we can leave the chapel in the apartment building where the parish has been located so far. We simply need our own building there to increase our capacity and to make it easier to work with noisy children. If you didn't get a chance to help with Giving Day, it isn't too late. Just mark your donation **"Giving Day"**.



*Recent photo of parishioners in Nativity Parish in Ussuryysk*

I am also happy about results at the **Nativity Parish** in Ussuryysk and **Annunciation Parish** in Arsenyev, too. The new pastor, our Fr Vicky Samuel, C.J.D. has made a huge difference! Church attendance is more than tripled! And people are so happy with his beginning "Tea After Mass", so that parishioners can get to know one another.

They just had a parish talent show, too, and Fr. Vicky did a solo on some kind of a Pakistani musical instrument. I didn't even know he was a musician! This is the first time he has been named a pastor,

and earlier—you may recall—he ran the children’s retreats in Lesozavodsk. He mentioned to me that the Ussuryisk parish car is nearly junk, so he’ll need a new car soon, as the distance between his parishes is a two hour drive. His work shows that it can be done, so we are hoping it will be a new day also for the Holy Trinity Parish in Romanovka once we can build its church!

Soon in late July we will hold the 27<sup>th</sup> **Far Eastern Catholic Youth Conference**. It will be in Khabarovsk this year, and we expect 30 “new adults” and 10 clergy to attend. The topic will be “Evangelization and St Paul”. The participants will study the history of St. Paul’s evangelical work with a view to encouraging our youth to also be evangelizers of their peers. Of course, we will also deal with Christian marriage and NPF and other topics. You can look forward to a report about it in *Vladivostok Sunrise*!

Thanks for your help! Thanks be to you for your **donation**! Be assured we will use your donation for the purpose you intended.

Wishing you grace and good health, and a happy summer, 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/>

**P.P.S.** In America we have a **new postal address**! Same office space, but now a post office box instead of a street address for mail. Mail is safer that way!

To see *Vladivostok Sunrise* 183, go here: <https://vladmission.org/s/184>



*Spring campus cleaning at Nativity Parish in Ussuryisk*