



# Mary Mother of God Mission Society

## Reviving the Catholic Church in Eastern Russia

July 15, 2025

Dear Benefactor,

Fingers crossed! This week begins the **Far Eastern Catholic Youth Conference**. This is a very important time for all of us parishes of the Russian Far East when our young adult parishioners meet and have discussions and retreat. It will be held in Khabarovsk this year. 30 youth are signed up, and ten priests, deacons, and sisters will also attend. The theme this year is "In the Footsteps of St Paul." We will study St Paul's life and his method of evangelization, hoping that the young folks get the idea of how to work with their peers. On Sunday just two weeks ago we celebrated the Feast of St Peter and St Paul, the founders of the Church of Rome. So you can pray to St Paul with us for the success of the Conference! We also speak about NFP since most of the participants will be nearing marrying age. Just about every year, after the conference, somebody will think to become a sister or priest, so we pray for them, too!

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*Our new seven passenger Toyota Wish*

Here is the first "new" car that you helped us to buy. A generous foundation has offered to buy another one if donors will buy the first one! So this is the "first one" that you bought! Our "state" of Primorye is as big as Wisconsin, and Mary Mother of God Mission Society takes care of all the parishes in the state, together with our CJD priests and deacons. That's why our cars are so important! We were getting to the point where every trip we took involved some problem with the car or car repairs. These "new" cars we buy are great, slightly used Japanese cars imported from

Japan. They are sturdy and well made. This one is a Toyota Wish. **Thanks for your help**, and thanks to all the donors who donated to our car fund! Be assured we will use your donation for the purpose you intended.

I've been busy! I was the only priest here in the state for nearly a month for seven parishes! Two deacons were helping me. Russia is requiring foreign priests to leave every three months, so the rest were gone to renew their visas. Fr Dan and I are residents, so we don't have to leave, but he was in America for fund raising. Now Fr Vicky and Fr Nikita are back, thank goodness! Fr Sebastian is also here, but he has been in and out of the hospital for two months already, and needs blood work every other day. As usual, because of the war, there are problems to solve. And now is the time when we have to get ready for the new school year, and help with the brothers who want to be ordained priests (documents, etc.) Also, the bishop's secretary died, so we've had more paperwork to do with the new guy. And I'm working on our

building project in Romanovka. Luckily, we have our good lay helpers to count on, Nicolai, Viktor, Vladimir, Andre, and Nadezhda. Of course, I have to meet and work with them, too:

Nicolai, helping with the Romanovka project.

Viktor, handling all the finances.

Vladimir, handling all the legal and medical stuff.

Andre, managing the building and grounds and cars.

and Nadezhda, our cook—who tries to overfeed me every day. I have to resist. (She has been our cook for some 30 years!)

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 to order a Mass using your bank card, go here:** <http://vladmission.org/get-involved/donate/>

P.P.S. If you didn't get a chance to help with Giving Day 2025, it isn't too late. Just mark your donation "**Giving Day**".

P.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* 184, go here: <https://vladmission.org/s/184>