



Mary Mother of God Mission Society

Reviving the Catholic Church in Eastern Russia

September 30, 2025

Dear, Benefactor,

“Lift High the Cross!” On September 14 was the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Our **steeple crosses** which fell to the ground last winter were blessed on the Feast, and prepared for installation. Here is a photo of them laying

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before the altar with our relic of the True Cross between them. They were installed on September 23! Here is a photo of one of them! What a process to put them up! Two men in a box on a long crane did the job! They were hampered by winds, and by the remains of the old crosses which still lay on top. But Done!





Here is a photo of the crane:

We are sure grateful to those who have donated to our **“Priests Health and Retirement Fund!”** Fr Dan Maurer wound up his time doing fundraising in America by having an operation for kidney stones in Stockton, California when he was there. Fr Marcus David has been in the hospital for three weeks in Vladivostok for pancreas problems. Fr Sebastian is doing better after having a pacemaker put in in Nakhodka. Providently, our Fr Nikita Kushnaryev has been here for the summer from his studies in Rome, and Fr Vicky Samuel has also been here, so we three have been able to carry the load of seven parishes, with the help of our deacons. We need more vocations! Prospective seminarians write us, but seminary takes time and money. (and prayers!)

Meanwhile our deacons are again on vacation, and expected to return in November for ordination to the priesthood. Deacon Peter Nsamba is from Uganda, and

while he is there he was given the task of helping his pastor catch up on infant baptisms! Here is a photo in a crowded place of the moms and kids lined up for baptism!



Thank you for your donation! And thanks to all the donors who donated to our car fund at Giving Day!! Wishing you grace and good health, and a happy Fall season, Yours truly,

V Rev Myron Effing, C.J.D.

P.S. Our relic of the true cross was donated many years ago by the Mission Office of the

Archdiocese of St Paul and Minneapolis. It was among the effects of a Father True who had died. Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord!

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 see *Vladivostok Sunrise 185*, go here: <https://vladmission.org/s/185>