



Mary Mother of God Mission Society

Reviving the Catholic Church in Eastern Russia

October 31, 2025

Dear Benefactor,

It's almost **that time** again! How would you like to help **St. Nicolas?** His feastday is December 6. I mean St Nicolas Parish in Kazakhstan! Kazakhstan is

Russian speaking and part of our mission area where three of our priests are working. I guess St Nicolas needs some coal. (Doesn't he put it in the socks of kids who have been bad??) The parish is asking for help to buy coal for the winter. Coal is comparatively inexpensive in Kazakhstan. The name of the city of



Karaganda, which is the diocesan seat of the parishes where our priests are working, actually means "coalville". But the small parish still can't afford it. They will be awfully cold this winter without some help. The need is for about 7 months of heat at about \$30 per day including labor. I've been there and have seen the Siberian winds driving the deep winter snows! Here is a picture of the church, and some young parishioners, mostly of Russian, German, and Ukrainian heritage. If you mark your donation "COAL", that is where it will go! Ho! Ho! Ho!



Thank you for your donation! We are really grateful for your generosity because a mission is an expensive operation, and so we need faithful benefactors!

October 12 was a record day for our Vietnamese parishioners in Vladivostok! Sixty Vietnamese attended the Sunday mass, and a party afterward for several parishioners who are moving to another city! Fr. Peter Cao, C.J.D., had the mass, but now he has returned to Vietnam himself, so we are really hoping that another Vietnamese priest will be arriving to minister to these parishioners, many of whom don't speak Russian yet. We've noticed an increase in Filipino parishioners recently, too. Russian mass attendance also continues strong.



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We've just got the news that the second car we ordered and you paid for on Giving Day has arrived. Here is a picture for you. It is a Toyota Passo made in Japan, so the steering wheel is on the wrong side, but we are used to that here—Almost all the cars here are Japanese! We sure need good cars, as we are now taking care of all seven Catholic parishes in this state the size of Wisconsin, and also several parishes in Kazakhstan. Thanks for your prayers for us, too!

For this Holy Year the Catholic church in Russia was invited to send a delegation to Rome, and somebody (??) paid a lot of the expenses. From our parish in Vladivostok our parishioner Vladimir Alexeyev was able to go, and also his mother from the Arsenyev parish. Here is a photo of Vladimir's personal greeting with Pope Leo XVII. It was a great once-in-a-lifetime experience for the Russians from the Far East. Vladimir said that the representatives from our diocese were the most friendly and holy.



Wishing you grace and good health, and a happy “get-ready-for-Christmas” season. Happy St. Nicolas Day! God bless you! 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 see *Vladivostok Sunrise 185*, go here: <https://vladmission.org/s/185>