



Vladivostok Sunrise Russia Mission



Mary Mother of God Mission Society: Reviving the Roman Catholic Church in Eastern Russia

Issue Number One Hundred Forty One May 2018

C.J.D. Sisters Become Official in Indonesia

Monday, February 12, 2018 Archbishop Vincentius Sensi Potokota of the Archdiocese of Ende in Indonesia heard the final vows of our Sisters Angel and Rosa at St Michael Parish in Kotabaru, Flores Island. More than a thousand people came to the Eucharistic celebration, including all the students from the government schools, elementary and high school. At the same service Sr Gabriela and Sr Marina renewed their vows before our Fr Inosensius Hetu. Also present were our priests and seminarians of the Maumere community, Frs Yohanes and Ferdinandus.

The archbishop, in his homily, taking a cue from the name of our order, said it is the way to follow Jesus more closely. By taking solemn vows or simple vows the sisters commit themselves to remain faithful to the Lord and serve Him wherever they go and whatever they do. He said that “As bishop I am responsible for your new community in my diocese.” Then Fr Inosensius thanked the archbishop for wanting to become the protector bishop of our new CJD sisters’ community in Indonesia. Fr Ino also thanked the St Michael Parish priest, the local government and all the participants, and the donors from Jakarta who paid for their flights from Jakarta to Ende.

So now our CJD sisters are officially present in Kotabaru, Archdiocese of Ende, just as our American CJD sisters are official in the Diocese of Kansas City-St Joseph”. Fr Ino says, “May God lead this small community according to His will.”



*Sisters in reception line.
Indonesian dancers*



Geared Up For Mission—But Wait!

By Br Kumud Chandra Nayak CJD

“...let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith...” (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Having a mission requires endurance, even patience when we have to wait. We will never understand the word “Wait” and its possibilities until we have had to wait.

Everyone is waiting for someone or something. As soon as we wake up in the morning we have a list of things to do, and we gear up for the first assignment, but if we are held up for some reason, our schedule gets messed up. In this situation we have two options, either get upset or re-organize our plan of action’.

Bro Kumud carrying the Blessed Sacrament on Corpus Christi in Vladivostok

The first option, ‘to get upset’, makes us aware of negative aspects of life and creates an unknown fear within us. The feeling of rejection and worthlessness control our emotions. It upsets us with all that is happening to us in our “can’t-help-it” situation. We can ourselves be overcome stress and get depressed. We get irritated with ourselves and with others, with the system, with the authority, with near and dear ones, with neighbors, and finally we get upset with our own life and existence.



The second option, ‘to re-organize the plan of action’, is a creative approach to the problem. One gets energy from within to have a constructive outlook on the bad situation. The feelings of worthlessness are transformed into a strengthening of the inner talents that God has given. We make a conscious effort to discover what we can do in the situation, and not brood over the impossible. This is a way of thanking God for all the blessings received and working with them for the good of others as well as for oneself. This is a time to have a positive outlook



Brother Kumud worked with the orphan children.

which opens up new horizons, new mission, and a plan of action. In the words of St Paul, let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith (Hebrew 12:1-2). Looking unto Jesus gives purpose in life. A sense of confidence to face the challenges that are ahead. The challenges remain no more a threat but a scope of action.



Working with Chinese students at the federal university in Vladivostok

Why am I speaking about this? While I had to wait for my plan to go to Las Vegas for my priestly ministry and to receive an American visa, I faced both options mentioned above. When I adopted the first option, ‘to get upset with what is happening’; I fell sick, and even met with a minor motorcycle accident. Hopelessness took control over me as most doors were closed for me. Though I am an adult many years already, I had to wait in my father’s house in India and depend on him for my daily food and necessities. In the village they questioned me as to why I was not yet ordained. I had to answer to the queries of all. One cannot avoid speaking to them. Very often I thought to myself, “Why can’t people mind their own business... ?”



Working with the dying at the Hospice

However, after a two-day sharing and talk with my seminary spiritual director Sr Francette MC, I got the strength to re-organize myself. I took the second option i.e., 'to re-organize the plan of action'. I started working on it once again. I took up different activities within my reach with the help of my superiors in Vladivostok. I found many possibilities to be involved in ministry in Russia and in the tribal areas of North East India. The area of Mission is vast indeed. To be with children in the orphanage, with youth in the summer camps, and with the elderly in the hospice, this is extending the healing ministry of Jesus. Giving an education in morals and values to the tribal children on the mountains of North East India is partaking in the teaching ministry of Jesus. And finally preaching the word of God to the poor and needy is my call to priesthood.



Retreat day for children in North East India

It was the worst yet best time of my life. A time to reflect on human behavior in helpless situations. Life teaches us many options when we focus our eyes on the Lord. The spirituality of the Canons Regular of Jesus the Lord has made it possible to accept the realities of life in a positive way. The formation that is given in Vladivostok helps to bring a win-win situation for each seminarian. Thank you, benefactors, formators, and well-wishers who make it possible!

News Notes

by V Rev Myron Effing, C.J.D.

- Here they are! Our **nine novices** who were invested on Palm Sunday! How wonderful it is to have vocations, and what a great group this is! Three from Indonesia, two from East Timor, two from Pakistan, one from India, and one from the Philippines.



Nine novices with us three of the Vladivostok community



- Thomas Clark from **Princeton University** was our volunteer last year and took photos of activities. This photo, showing novice Bro Rajnal working at the hospice, recently won first place in a photo contest sponsored by the Office of International Programs and the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, in the category of "Window on Eurasia".

- Victor Anisimov, our parish trustee, reports that the repairman said that **our printer is dying**, and we have to take steps to keep it going. We bought it in 2011 with a grant from Our Sunday Visitor, and it has been working like a charm ever since, even though the expected lifetime is five years. It has made 591,730 copies! These are parish bulletins, thank-you letters, hymnals, office copies, evangelization booklets, religious education materials, liturgy aids, and even AA booklets. But now the repairman says that we have already used up some major parts, so it is either do a major repair or buy a new printer. The major repair will cost \$3000.

- This past year was a terrible year for growing fruits in our part of Russia. We didn't have a single apple or pear

on the tree, and exactly one apricot! But it was a great year for **pumpkins and squash**. What can you do with so many? None of our cookbooks had a recipe for pumpkin other than pumpkin pie. Here is Brother Nikita's recipe which we all loved so much I decided to share it, just in case you still have last year's pumpkins around!

Brother Nikita's Pumpkin Soup

About 3 lbs of pumpkin, cleaned of seeds, strings, and skin, cut into manageable cubes

1 can of mushroom slices, drained

1 medium onion, chopped

1 carrot, grated

2 flavor cubes (mushroom, or beef, or pork).

Some oil or fat for frying

2 tablespoons of cream cheese, or sour cream or cream or plain yoghurt

1 small chili pepper (or some Tabasco to taste)

Black peppercorns

1 cup of croutons if desired.

Place the pumpkin in a pot to boil. Add just enough water to cover the pumpkin cubes. Boil on medium heat until the pumpkin cubes are soft. In a skillet with the oil, fry the onion and carrot until the onion is transparent. Add the mushrooms and fry until hot. When the pumpkin is soft, add the mixture to it. Then add the flavor cubes, and heat to boiling, and then remove from heat. Add the chili pepper and let it sit for some minutes. Stir up the soup with your blender, and add the milk product. Don't heat the soup further unless by microwave. Add the black peppercorns and do a few rounds with the blender. Let the soup stand a bit before serving. If desired, top the bowls with some green parsley. Serve with the croutons. Brother Nikita says, "The most important thing is to add a little love to your soup for those for whom you are preparing it!"

Baby Talk

From the Women's Support Centers



I bet I can spit these pumpkin seeds farther than you can!

[Liza April 24, 2017]

- On February 23 **Fr Jose Unlayao, C.J.D.**, a member of our St Jose Luis Santos Community in Las Vegas, successfully defended his thesis *cum laude* at St Alphonsus Regional Seminary in Lucena City, Quezon, Philippines. The topic of his research was "Solastalgia and the Development of Eco-Moral Wellbeing", which was the study of psychological and moral aspects of the situation when people are driven from their homes or their own countries, by natural disasters, warfare, or terrorism. Congratulations, Fr Jose!



Fr Jose on the right with his professors at the defense.

- On May 1 our confreres Fr Jose Unlayao, C.J.D. and Fr Luis Van Dam, C.J.D., made their **perpetual vows** in Las Vegas in the hands of Bishop Joseph Pepe, D.D., who is now retiring. Thank you, Bishop Pepe, for your support and encouragement of our little community in Las Vegas! Meanwhile their classmate, Fr Ferdinandus Patval, C.J.D. will make his final vows in Indonesia during May also. Congratulations, Fathers! (And congratulations, benefactors!
- We received more good news from Indonesia: We have enough **sister vocations** there that there are now already four C.J.D. sister communities in Indonesia, and they are finding their support in Indonesia, so we do not have to be responsible for their financial security. Two of the sisters have been asked to work in a diocesan hospital on Borneo, so hopefully they will develop into a fifth community already! I so enjoyed Borneo when I was there. Huge aloe vera plants everywhere! It is a joy that our Russian mission is having its effects in other parts of the world already!
- **Easter Masses** were beautiful this year, with large numbers of parishioners, many altar ministers, and a great choir. There were three baptisms, reflecting the low birthrates of the '90's. Now the birthrate is improving— In fact, I was surprised on a recent flight from Seoul to Vladivostok how many Russian families with kids were on the flight!



Good Friday greeting of the relic of the True Cross which we received years ago from the Mission Office in St Paul, Minnesota

Fr Dan singing the Exultet



Fr Myron blessing the Easter water



Blessing of Easter foods to break the Lenten fast.

- Our parish worker of 26 years, **Igor Lukin**, died suddenly on Easter Saturday of heart congestion. He was basically still young at 47 years old. He had been our mail clerk all these years, beginning when he was a young man 23 years old!—the one who helped me always to get out our parish bulletins, mailings, and these letters, and the mail version of Vladivostok Sunrise to you.

He was born in Novosibirsk in 1970, and was baptized and confirmed by me on July 19, 1992, among the first to be baptized after the return of religious freedom to Russia. He was always a ready helper to anyone who asked. Eternal Rest grant to him, O Lord!

Igor serving mass (r) in the church before restoration



**Remember
Mary Mother of God Mission
Society in your will!**



A recent photo of Igor Lukin

From the Women's Support Centers

Lidia worked as a sales clerk in a store, as she didn't have the means for a higher education. But she was pretty, and a frequent customer started to pay attention to her. They began to meet, and she was pleased that someone was attracted to her. She got pregnant, and she was happy to tell the father, as she assumed that he would be the love of her life. His reaction was quite a blow! He revealed that he was already married, and decided to end his relationship with Lidia. Left alone with her pregnancy, she decided to have an abortion. The gynecologist told her not to be in a hurry, but to go to see the Women's Support Center representative, me, Julia. We discussed things, and I encouraged her to speak to her parents, who it turns out were in shock and told her to get the abortion. I showed them the ultrasound that was done with our machine, and they were fascinated to see their grandson. Ivan was born a bit weak, so we continued to help Lidia with medications and vitamins. She took lessons and became a manicurist, so she is better able to care for her child, and now a more honest man is interested in them.

--Julia, Women's Support Center, Vladivostok

1	Item Description	Sq Ft	Cost \$
2	2 Main Sanctuary wall: Last Supper	48	7062
3	3 Main Sanctuary wall: Semeon on the Mount	48	7062
4	4 Transept Window: Pentecost with St. Mary	97	26972
5	5 Transept Window: Holy Family with St Joseph	97	26972
6	6 Midsize nave Windows: St Theresa of Lisieux	48	7062
7	7 Midsize nave Windows: Ss Cyril and Methodius	48	7062
8	12 Main Façade Window: Resurrection	\$1	11170

♥ *Unfunded Windows In the Nakhodka Church*

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Opportunities

♥ **Priest and lay speakers** needed to help with giving mission talks at parish assignments in the USA. We give you all the information and the mission covers travel and meals. Bi-lingual in Spanish especially needed. Contact the mission office.

♥ Can you **sponsor a seminarian** in his journey to priestly ordination? In a few short years we have seen seven priests ordained in the order of Canons Regular of Jesus The Lord. We currently have 39 seminarians in various levels of education and formation in the Order. They need your help to continue their journey. Might you or your apostolate prayerfully consider sponsoring a seminarian? Please contact the California mission office for information.

♥ Julianne Immordino from New York continues to create beautiful **Swarovski crystal rosaries**, valued at \$100 for anyone who donates \$500 or more to our **seminarians' education**. God bless you for your generosity Julianne and seminarian benefactors.

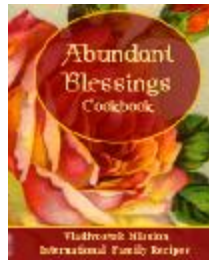
♥ Masses celebrated in Russia may be requested for loved ones, living or dead. **Mass stipends** support Fr. Myron and Fr. Dan. Please send your special intentions or Mass requests to the mission office. Mass cards will be sent to you or designated persons. Suggested stipend is \$15 per mass.

♥ Our **Women's Support Centers** provide babies and families with food and clothing, medical aid, counseling and family life education. Donations from individuals are, for now, keeping the centers open from month to month. We're praying for more assistance so we can continue our work developing healthy families and saving children

from abortion. To meet increasing cost, it takes \$916 per month, or \$10,992 per year to keep each one of our six centers open. Can you help?

♥ Our long running **Adopt A Birth** program within the Women's Centers has now helped **save well over 2500 babies from abortion**. The number of babies saved continues to grow as long as our center doors can remain open. Mothers will receive the help they need to keep their babies pre- and post-delivery with your donation of \$50 to the **Adopt A Birth** program. You will pay for the medical supplies needed in the hospital to deliver the baby. Often times, the cost of these supplies is the deciding factor for a mother to have an abortion or let her child live. Fr. Myron will send you a picture of the newborn you helped save! \$125 to the **Adopt A Mother** program provides help to the mother and baby in the first weeks supplying them with nutritious food, formula, diapers, baby clothes vitamins and medical aftercare.

♥ FREE copy of one of several **Vladivostok Concert CD's** with your purchase of our mission's **Abundant Blessings Cookbook**. 494 International recipes included! Proceeds from our cookbook go to our **seminarians' education fund** and our **Women's Support**



Centers to help pregnant women and families. **\$30 per cookbook** covers cookbook, CD, and shipping in the continental USA.

♥ Do you know of a **Catholic conference** in your area? Please let us know! Catholic conferences are one way we spread the news of our work in Russia. Here are some of the conferences we are attending or looking for representatives to help us. If you would like to help out at one of these conferences contact our Modesto office.

05/25/18 NCRC, Santa Clara, CA
05/29/18 Catholic Social Service Guild, Modesto, CA
06/01/18 Eucharistic Congress, Atlanta, GA
06/01/18 Home Education Conference, St. Paul, MN
06/08/18 NCSC Singles Conference, St. Paul, MN
07/28/18 Catholic Women's Conf, San Antonio, TX
08/03/18 Midwest Catholic Family Conf., Wichita, KS
08/12/18 Catholic Women's League of Canada, Winnepeg
08/31/18 SCRC Annual Convention, Anaheim, CA

♥ **Bequests – A Lasting Legacy**

A will is the easiest and most effective means to ensure that your assets are distributed as you wish. Bequests, or gifts by will, both large and small, provide long-term support for the ongoing work of Mary Mother of God Mission Society and the mission in Eastern Russia.

(Continued from Page 8) Most Reverend Myron Cotta, Bishop of Stockton, CA, and Fr Mark Wagner, pastor of our sister parish of St Joseph, Modesto. Once Br Kumud receives his parish assignment in the Diocese of Las Vegas in the next few months, he will join Fr Jose and Fr Luis in the plan to begin the religious community of Canons Regular of Jesus the Lord in Las Vegas where we have long had a wonderful sister parish of St Joseph Husband of Mary. What a blessing to us in the USA to have this order and these wonderful priests and brother here. In the meantime, Br Kumud will stay in Modesto but is available to come to your parish to speak about the CJD order and mission. Ask your pastor if he would like a visit, and let us know!

The fruits of everyone's prayers and gifts to support more vocations can now be witnessed in Las Vegas. All thanks and glory to God! But, we all know we can't slow down. Many more good priests are needed and more seminarians are joining the CJD order. We have had, at times, to turn away highly qualified young men who wish to join the order due to lack of money to support them. Please consider sponsoring one of our seminarians to help them to the priesthood. Most of our seminarians attend noteworthy seminaries in their home countries and travel to Russia for further formation in the CJD order. Therefore, education and living expenses amount to just under \$11,000 per year, less than one third of the cost to educate seminarians in the USA. Can you help, please? Any gift within your means will make a blessed difference.

Your support for future priests in the CJD order has made an impact in not just the foreign countries but now in ensuring more priests in the USA. Please prayerfully consider becoming a Guardian Angel for one of our seminarians. You will receive personal communications from "your" seminarian. You can donate by credit card or Pay Pal by calling our office or through our website www.vladmission.org with your smart phone using Venmo or Square apps, or by sending a check to the mission office.

We are deeply grateful to all of you -- our Vladivostok mission family -- for your prayers and gifts.

If you would like more information about our seminarians or have questions about our work, please feel free to contact me at the USA mission office. God bless you.

Sincerely, Vicky Trevillyan Mission Coordinator
usoffice@vladmission.org or [209-408-0728](tel:209-408-0728).

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From the development desk...

Dear Friends,

More Canons Regular of Jesus the Lord (CJD) novices arriving in Vladivostok from all over the world, more CJD priests being ordained, and new CJD communities developing! Is your head spinning?

God is truly blessing the CJD order founded by Fr Myron and Fr Dan with an ever growing number of vocations. It's hard to keep up on all the news about the fast growing communities. We are all aware the world needs more priests. It's what we pray for in earnest. While we keep up with the wonderful news about the many qualified, holy men from around the world answering the call to the priesthood, did you realize Fr Myron has already sent CJD priests to serve in the USA?

Fr Jose Unlayao, CJD and Fr Luis Van Dam, CJD have been serving in the Diocese of Las Vegas for nearly 2 years. We are very grateful to the Most Reverend Joseph Pepe for welcoming our CJD order to his diocese.

In March Br Kumud Chandra Nayak, C.J.D. arrived to the USA mission office in Modesto, CA while he awaits an assignment in the Diocese of Las Vegas. Br Kumud has finished all his studies in preparation for the next step –



Br Kumud (behind altar servers in black and white CJD habit,) marches in the Good Friday Walk For Life in Modesto

the Sacrament of Holy Orders! Br Kumud has been busy in the Diocese of Stockton, CA in parish activities and volunteering his help to the pastors. We thank the kind hospitality of the *(Continued on Page 7)*