



Yaroslava, Olga, Vallya, Jula, Marina & Irina



Orphans Anya, Vallya & Svieta

and littleness. And we find hearts such as these at the orphanages in the East. We are drawn to these hearts seeking love, consolation and healing. Our joy is that more and more we are finding opportunities to bring sisters and priests to these orphanages. At several orphanages now the directors allow us to bring the Byzantine Sisters and priests to do missions, where we sing and pray with the children and teach them about God and his Immaculate Mother.

When we left on January 9th a dear orphan girl gave us a sorrowful letter that wounded our heart. She wrote a letter of love, earnestness, gratitude and purity. She wrote, "I wish God will see you and help you in everything...I will cry when you will leave, because I will miss you so" and we all did weep when we finally had to leave. It is not easy to leave the hearts of the East, especially the hearts of the orphans we love so very much. But Mary brings comfort to these poor afflicted hearts. She will also bring us consolation and peace if we will look to her for her intercession and protection. All of the priests and sisters we know in the East have a great love for Our Blessed Mother. Now so do the orphans whom we have taught—the words to the *Hail Mary*, and who so often ask us to say prayers with them. **Help us to continue to bring hope and love to Mary's forgotten children!** ♥ ♥

Grants Jan. 2003 – Jan. 2004 to the Church in the East

Bishop Stas. Szyrokoradiuk	Kyiv, Ukraine	seminary/orphanage	\$8,500
Bishop Vitaliy Skomorowsky	Vorzel Seminary	purchase books	\$500
Queen of Apostles Seminary	St. Petersburg,	ongoing support	\$1,250
Family of Mary CoRedemptrix	Fr. Paul Sigl	Civitella, Italy	\$1,000
Fr. Michael Shields	Magadan, Russia	construction	\$500
Las Byzantinas Sisters	Ivano Frankivsk	several missions	\$4,775
Mother Marija	Carmelite monastery	Koritnani	\$1,000
Fr. Sergei Kosovski	St. Barbara's hospice	Kyivska oblast	\$500
Bishop Vasylyk Pavlo	Chernivtsy, Ukraine	catechesis	\$1,000
Fr. Radoslav	Oblates of Mary	Slavutych	\$500
Fr. Francisk Potwin	Obolon parish	Kyiv	\$1,140
Fr. Philip Andrews	Penza, Russia	parish needs	\$500
Shkola Internat	Smila, Ukraine	medical supplies	\$500
Ivan Kolodij, Rus. Marinuk	Seminarians, L'vov	tuition aid	\$760
Fr. Volodymyr Chychman	poor retired priest	Mass stipends	\$75
Fr. Stanislas Mouravsky	Zvenigorodka,	reconstruction	\$5,000
Fr. Stanislas Tanatarov	Sumy, Ukraine	catechesis	\$300
Fr. Anatoliy Monshaevsky	Uman, Ukraine	re-construction	\$500
Tatiana Belousova	Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan	orphan relief	\$150
Bishop Irinej Bilyk	Buchach diocese	Halychyna	\$1,000
Fr. Wieslaw Stepien	Kyiv, Ukraine	Borispyl, stipends	\$1,150
Fr. Joseph Chervonka	Annunciation parish	Kyiv	\$200
Bucha orphans	Shkola Internat	Ukraine	\$275
Fr. Dmitro Hryhorak	Lutsk, monastery	construction	\$5,000
Fr. Andrei	Yevpatoria mission	Crimea	\$130
Fr. Olexandr Houry	Cherkassy, Ukraine	construction	\$28,165
Vasilkov Uchilishche	Vasilkov, Ukraine	orphan relief	\$1,500
Stephan Cych	Khust, Ukraine	construction	\$750
Fr. Jacek Pyl, Oblates	Krivij Rig & Poltava	new construction	\$4,000
Dr. Gak Konstantin	Skadovsk hospital	feed orphan babes	\$300
Fr. Vasylyk Melnychuk	Otyynija, Kolomiskoho	construction	\$1,000
Miles Jesu	St. Petersburg	Boy's Town	\$1,200
Sr. Teresa Mary	Carmelite Monastery	Novosibirsk, Russia	\$150
Sr. Valeria Silva	Canossian Sisters	Vinnitsa, Ukraine	\$1,000
Shkola Internat	Tripillja, Ukraine	orphan relief	\$9,355
			\$83,825



KEEPING FAITH WITH OUR LADY OF FATIMA

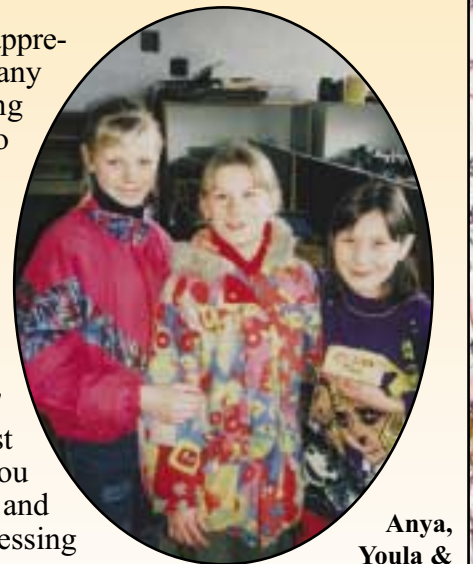


1st Quarter 2004 Issue: Volume X, Number 1

Mary, Comforter of the Afflicted:

Thank you so much for keeping this Marian Apostolate in your heart, and thank you for your continued generosity. It is a great encouragement to all of us to know so many humble people around the country who keep close to the **Immaculate Heart of Mary**. Here's an update on missionary activity in the former Soviet Union. We recently spent 2 months in Ukraine, staying in quarters in Kyiv which Bishop Szyrokoradiuk provides us, but for the most part we either slept at the orphanage or we were traveling with priests visiting their parishes, praying Rosaries and realizing that we are unworthy and inadequate servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Nevertheless she protected us and granted many blessings and consolations.

Consoling words are very much appreciated in this mission, and many of you write us heartwarming letters which encourage us to continue with this work. Especially consoling are the words spoken by the priests, parishioners and orphans in the East who plead with us to come back more often and to stay longer. In Tripillja the children often say "stay here always, don't go back, seriously!" (Tanya Kolisnik) But we must return, in order to share with you their humble and earnest hearts, and to tell you what are their most pressing needs.



Anya, Youla & Ina.



English class at Kyiv Public School #196



Orphans Vitalic, Denis, Zhenya, Andrei, Jura & Jura



With Marina Yuschenko & Olga Cxap

QUEEN OF THE APOSTLES MISSION ASSOCIATION

Supporting Catholic Priests & Religious at numerous needy mission outposts in the former U.S.S.R. with more than \$1,000,000 since 1994.
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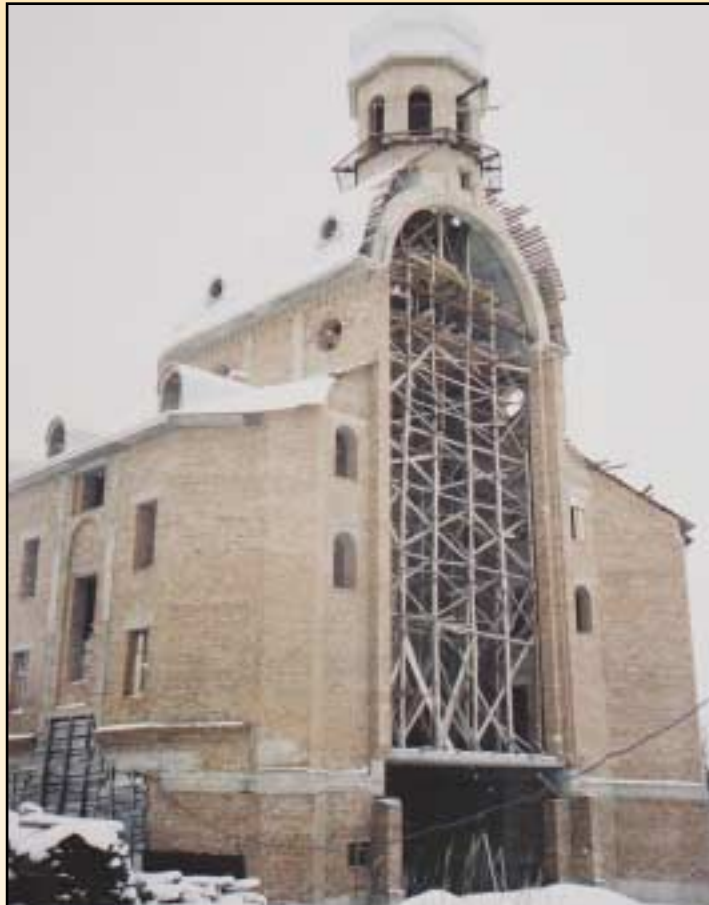
Fr. Dmitro Hryhorak & Lutsk parishioners

In early January we climbed aboard an overnight train to visit Fr. Dmitro Hryhorak and the parishioners in Lutsk, Ukraine where they proceed with the construction of the Monastery of St. Basil the Great. They have so far spent just \$110,000 building this edifice, and Fr. Hryhorak told us that QAMA is the largest benefactor to date, having given 35% of the necessary funds. Other large contributors are Aid to the Church in Need and the Archdiocese of Munich. Fr. Hryhorak told us that with just another \$60,000 they can finish off the first two floors and begin to live in the monastery and celebrate Divine Liturgy there. In Lutsk we shared with the youth group a joyful Sunday morning, where you noticed they have a great devotion to Mary Immaculate.

These photos show you the progress and life of the church in the East. The priests are so very grateful for the financial support you have been providing. With honest, humble and sincere countenances they clasp your hand in deep gratitude, and they say that they will pray for their benefactors, and they do. Fr. Francisk Potwin was overjoyed that you gave him enough money to buy a computer, printer and fax for his new parish in Obolon district. Fr. Stanislas Mouravsky who speaks almost no English always is so dear with his broad smile and "Thank you very much" when we give him money. With the \$5,000 we just gave him in December he can proceed with the reconstruction of the church in Zvenigorodka which has been used as a bus terminal for forty years.

Your heartwarming generosity these past several years has allowed us to send more than **one million dollars** to many poor remote mission stations in Russia and Ukraine. What are small amounts of money for us in America are huge sums in the East where we have seen two churches built for **\$10,000** or less—and several others for from **\$25,000** to **\$60,000**. We continue to receive updates and reports which we will now share.

One continuing project which gives us joy is that the Byzantine sisters (*The Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matara or Las Byzantinas*), for the purchase of whose monastery you provided the necessary funding of **\$38,000** a couple of years ago, are continuing with the annual Christmas retreat for the orphans of Vasilkov. Forty orphans travel by overnight train to



St. Basil the Great Monastery in Lutsk

the sisters' monastery and spend a week with them, learning catechism, singing songs, playing games, going on excursions, and having their sins confessed by a priest! The children are filled with joy and tell of their resolve to avoid the sins which deprive their souls of grace. These missions are all funded by QAMA through your generous hearts devoted to Mary.

In Vinnitsa you continue to support the missionary activities of the six Canossian sisters who serve the poorest residents of that city. Fr. Jacek Pyl is very grateful for your continued help for the Polish Oblates of Mary delegation to Ukraine who are nearly finished with the construction of two new churches in Krivij Rig and Poltava. We will be sending further aid to Fr. Stephan Cych In Zakarpatya who asks us to help him restore an old and dilapidated church. At the very poor orphanage in Vasilkov the director Ludmilla Mikolaevna was so very grateful not only for the \$1,500 you gave her, but especially because she said that she knows that this money came from the heart. With your gift she purchased a needed hot water heater for the orphanage's laundry facility.

Fr. Alexander Hoursky will now build a church in Cherkassy to replace the small cramped chapel in his little brick house. Last year you gave him \$28,000 for this project. But his joy went away with the death of his mother two months ago. On December 2nd we drove to Cherkassy to bury Valentina Hourska who succumbed to cancer at the age of 53. Numerous clergy and religious converged upon the city for the midday funeral in Father's little chapel. After a beautiful liturgy we all climbed into several busses and drove to the cemetery on the outskirts of town, where there was much singing and praying in the chill air. Clouds of incense ascended to heaven begging God's mercy and commending her dear soul. We then carried her simple wooden casket to the deep hole in the earth just recently dug by sturdy men and their shovels. Six men lowered her remains into the grave by means of three ropes slung under the pine box. Fr. Alexander stood at the head of the grave holding up a crucifix on a long staff. Tears streamed down his cheeks as we sang one plaintive hymn after another.

Central to this mission is devotion to **Mary's Immaculate Heart**, a heart of purity and simplicity



Divine Redeemer Sisters work in Uman



Fr. Mouravsky's church in Zvenigorodka



Lutsk Youth group after Divine Liturgy



Tripilja orphans of the third grade class



Bishop Stanislaw with Canossian sisters in Cherkassy



With English class at Vorzel seminary