### What does this cost?

We want to make it as easy as possible for you to host our speakers. Thus we seek to keep your costs low.

We do ask that the hosting parish or conference cover the costs of the speakers' travel and lodging. In some cases, it may be possible for the speaker(s) to stay at the parish rectory or even at a parishioner's home. We will work with you to find reasonable travel arrangements and accommodations.

**For Parishes**: We ask that a free-will offering be taken up at some time during the speaker's visit. A check for the amount of the offering will then be sent to the mission society.

**For Conferences**: We do not have a standard speaker's fee. But we will be happy to work with you whether you have a fixed speaker's stipend, can provide free booth space in exchange, or if you offer alternative forms of payment.

**For Everyone**: Our focus is always on rebuilding the Catholic Church in Russia, and educating listeners is a big part of this.

Therefore, we always bring brochures, newsletters, and DVDs for free distribution. We ask that a table be provided for our materials and that it remains available throughout our visit.

### Who do I contact?

For more information and speaker availability, contact our National Coordinator, Vicky Trevillyan at the mission office:

> 1736 Milestone Circle Modesto, CA 95357 209-408-0728 usoffice@vladmission.org

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To learn more about our work: <u>www.vladmission.org</u> <u>www.vladmission.org/video</u>

### **\* \* \***

Mary Mother of God Mission Society Incorporated in the State of Minnesota 501(c)(3) status since 1994 In the Official Catholic Directory since 2000

### **\* \* \***

We will never sell, lend, share, or otherwise distribute the names or contact information of any of our supporters.

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Our Lady of Fatima, Pray for us!

## Mary Mother of God Mission Society

## Reviving the Roman Catholic Church In Eastern Russia



# Speakers for Your Conference or Parish Event

### What is the Mission Society?

The Mary Mother of God Mission Society is an organization that exists to revive the Roman Catholic Church in Eastern Russia. We are in union with the Holy Father and the Magisterium.

Our members are individuals, families, parishes, and groups that prayerfully or financially support this effort, or who volunteer time or talent. There are no dues and no further requirements.

We support priests, sisters, and seminarians who are working in Eastern Russia. Our offerings of time, talent, and treasure also assist with their religious and charitable activities.

## Why Russia?

After the revolution of 1917, Russia became a showplace of the new Communist era, a land without churches and without God. Under Stalin, all Catholic churches were confiscated and many were then put to the most degrading uses imaginable.

When, in 1991, the Soviet Union ceased to exist, Russia and 15 other countries became independent nations, but with no Christian underpinnings at all. Because Christianity had virtually been wiped out, Russia was now prime territory for the New Evangelization. In late 1991, one of our priests, Fr. Myron Effing, CJD, visited Vladivostok to assess the general situation and the religious needs in the area. He soon returned with (then) Br. Daniel Maurer, CJD, and they began the difficult work of re-establishing a Catholic presence.

Today, our priests, sisters, and lay volunteers in Russia seek to "proclaim Christ to all peoples" while respecting their culture and maximizing the use of all forms of media. The mission society assists their work in a number of different ways.

### What has the society done?

The following are just a few of our accomplishments, all thanks to the work of the Holy Spirit and the generosity of our supporters:

- Established or re-established 11 Catholic parishes
- Opened 8 pro-life centers
- Created visiting and support programs for orphans, needy families, and the dying elderly
- Developed Russian-language catechisms, prayer books, and hymnals
- Began college outreach to the unchurched
- Restored the former cathedral of Vladivostok to its original beauty
- Developed vocations for future service in Russia
- Created liturgical music programs as a means of evangelization

## What topics do your speakers cover?

We have speakers who can cover the history of the Church in Eastern Russia; challenges to the pro-life message; the many problems created by communism; the Church's future in Russia; and other topics. We can also customize our talks to meet your needs. Please see our list of topics for more details.

### Who are your speakers?

We have a number of men and women who are happy to speak at local conferences and parishes, as well as at large Catholic events and meetings.

Every one of our speakers has been involved with the mission society for years. Most either lives in Vladivostok, Russia, or have seen firsthand the work being accomplished by the Catholic Church in the region.

Those who live in Russia do spend several weeks in the U.S. each year. Thus, they are available only at certain times.

Other society members are available for weekend conferences or speaking engagements and would be happy to offer a presentation at your event.

Some speakers have a special expertise with certain topics. So we will work with you to choose topics and develop the best presentation for your needs.