

MISSION



RUSSIA

SISTERS IN *JESUS* THE LORD

Vol. 7, No. 2

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Fall, 2011

PERPETUAL VOWS



November 21, 2011

Feast of the Presentation of Mary in the Temple

Sisters in Jesus the Lord joyfully announces the profession of perpetual vows of Sister Catherine Marie Morse, C.J.D., and the entrance into the novitiate of postulant Erica Marie Goedken. The two ceremonies will take place on Monday, November



21, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. Most Reverend Robert W. Finn, D.D., will be the principal celebrant of the Mass of Perpetual Profession. The events will take place at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 7009 Blue Ridge Blvd., Raytown, Missouri 64133. All are welcome.

ABOUT OUR SISTERS IN MISSOURI



L-R: Sr. Maria Damiana, Bishop Robert W. Finn, Lynne and Leonard Conrick, parishioners at Our Lady of Lourdes.

SUMMER MISSION TRIP TO RUSSIA



Orphans from Baby Hospital # 3 in Vladivostok, Russia, with Hannah, lay volunteer, and Erica, postulant.

Sr. Maria Stella, Sr. Catherine Marie, and Erica, postulant, returned from three months in Russia on August 26. This summer we were joined by two lay volunteers, Katherine from Virginia and Hannah from Minnesota, and also a 16-member team from FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students). Two sisters will return to Vladivostok for three months this January.



Two boys from the summer camp we helped lead in Lesozavodsk, Russia, this July.

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Sister Maria Damiana, C.J.D., completed her three-year Catechetical Certificate this June, through the Kansas City-St. Joseph, Missouri, diocesan Bishop Helmsing Institute. The classes covered a wide variety of topics, such as liturgy and the sacraments, Church history, the documents of the Second Vatican Council, prayer, and theology. For more information, go to www.MyBHI.org. Sister Maria Damiana regularly brings Communion to the sick and homebound, plays the piano for Benediction, and coordinates Lighthouse Catholic Media-- a program of providing excellent CDs in a kiosk in the church—for Our Lady of Lourdes parish. This is part of the sisters' efforts to deepen the faith and parish life in Kansas City.

Sister Julia Mary Kubista, M.M., continues to be the primary formator of all our sisters, as well as team-teach the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) at our parish. Recently, she gave three talks on euthanasia in conjunction with the parish's pro-life ministry. The talks were well-received and well-attended. The topics were: how to recognize euthanasia, organ donation, and the dangers of living wills.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES IN MISSOURI:

- † *Living our community life with its prayer, work, and study to be missionaries*
- † *Studying the Russian language daily*
- † *Praying weekly outside an abortion clinic*
- † *Bringing Communion to the sick & homebound*
- † *Helping restart Rachels' Vineyard post-abortion healing retreats for our diocese*
- † *Accompanying the parish choir, singing, playing the flute, harp, organ or piano for weekend parish Masses, feast days, weekly Benediction, and first Fridays*
- † *Helping start a parish library*
- † *Assisting at a home for unwed mothers*

TO CONTACT SISTERS OR CANONS:

Sisters in Jesus the Lord

Canonissae in Jesu Domino (C.J.D.)

7049 Blue Ridge Blvd., Raytown, MO 64133-5679
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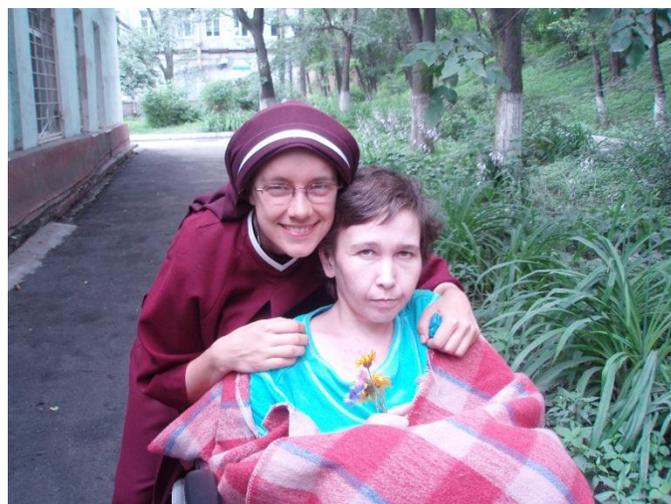
Sisters in Jesus the Lord is a Public Association of the Faithful – canonesses working toward the revival of the Roman Catholic Church in the Russian Far East--based in Kansas City, Missouri.
Jesus—Through Him, With Him, and In Him.

Mary Mother of God Mission Society

1736 Milestone Circle, Modesto, CA 95357

(209) 408-0728 www.vladmission.org

A lay mission organization supporting the Canons Regular of Jesus the Lord, our brother community in Vladivostok, Russia.



Sr. Catherine Marie with Lena, one of the residents at the nursing home for the poor where we regularly help residents who cannot feed themselves.

We need your continued financial support and prayers to finance our new convent in Russia and to send well-trained, Faith-filled sisters to Vladivostok to work with the Catholic parishes and university students.

To donate specifically toward the cost of the new convent, please write "Mary's House" in the memo line.



Adults (back row) L-R: Katherine, Jenna, Nadja, Sr. Catherine Marie, Erica, Marnee. Visit to Catholic pro-life center in city hospital, Lesozavodsk, with children from summer camp.

We are eager to return to Russia to lead another Rachel's Vineyard retreat this winter, help in the orphanage and nursing home, and continue with music ministry at the Catholic parishes.+

PRAYER, COMMUNITY LIFE, THE WEARING OF THE RELIGIOUS HABIT, AND EVANGELIZATION PART 2

By Sr. Catherine Marie Morse

As a religious community, we live our life in the sight of the world. People see us wearing our habits, striving toward oneness of mind and heart, looking for ways to serve each other and the wider community, assisting at Holy Mass, praying the Liturgy of the Hours, adoring before the Blessed Sacrament, and together living our vows.

We strive to adore God and pray reverently the above-mentioned prayers with the laity in the parish as much as possible. This can be a powerful means of evangelization. People see us praying and are reminded that they, too, are called to pray. We use music to encourage reverence in prayer. Singing the Liturgy of the Hours helps all to realize the beauty of the Psalms and to keep a pace that promotes reflection. We have found that adding special instruments and vocal harmony to the music of the Mass and to the singing of the Liturgy of the Hours has the same effect. It brings out the underlying messages in the readings and creates a heavenly atmosphere, drawing people deeper into communion with the Lord.

Creating a sacred atmosphere also promotes reverent behavior in church and reminds people that the Mass is the re-presentation of the Last Supper and the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Our Lord. Presenting the Mass in a more aesthetically beautiful way helps people to understand the depth and truth of what is happening and to strive to come more frequently. As individuals fall in love with communing with God in the Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours, they often speak to their loved ones of this new-found treasure and invite them to come to church. These individuals become happier, more loving persons as they develop their relationship with God. Their co-workers, friends, and family see the change and are attracted to come back to church. As more people grow in their relationship with God, they in turn attract new people to do the same. Thus a wildfire of evangelization has begun.+



L-R: Sr. Catherine Marie, Sr. Maria Stella, Erica at Mass at the Catholic Church, Vladivostok, Russia

Good News & Special Guests by Sr. Julia Mary Kubista

We are so grateful for all God's blessings. On September 23, we received a new postulant, Beth, from Oklahoma.

Many of you know that we pray daily for unity between the Roman Catholic and Orthodox Churches. The last week of October, we were happy to host two members of the Orthodox Sisters of St. Elizabeth from Belorussia, a country between Poland and Russia, while they spoke at different parishes to raise money for their work. They serve the sick and suffering, especially the mentally ill and homeless. They are starting a village for orphans, and make beautiful vestments, wood-carvings, and icons. They joined us for Morning Prayer, and we were able to share with them about our work in Vladivostok. Praise the Lord! Join us in praying for the day when the schism between East and West can be resolved. +



L-R: Sr. Julia, Sr. Julia, Sr. Olga, & Sr. Maria Stella

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A Blessed Advent

~ HOW CAN I HELP? ~

▪ **BE A PRAYER PARTNER**
WITH THE SISTERS IN JESUS THE LORD!

We send a list of prayer intentions by email or regular mail (if no email) each month to our prayer partners.

To become a prayer partner with us, please email us at cjdprayerpartner@gmail.com, or send us your mailing address.

Could God Be Calling YOU to Be a Sister or Priest for Russia?

In Russia, we are serving in a diocese the size of the continental United States and Canada combined, with fewer than 100 priests and sisters. Could you be called to give your life to God to help Catholics in the Russian Far East? Please pray with us and ask God how you can help most.

▪ **SEND A SISTER TO RUSSIA**

No gift is too small! All donations are tax-deductible.



Our new postulant, Beth.

Make donations online:

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Sisters in Jesus the Lord

Send to:

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WISH LIST:

Frequent Flier miles: Capital One, any amount. Other types, preferably 25,000 miles or more at a time.

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