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fundforassistance.org

VESTNIK

Fund for Assistance to the
Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia
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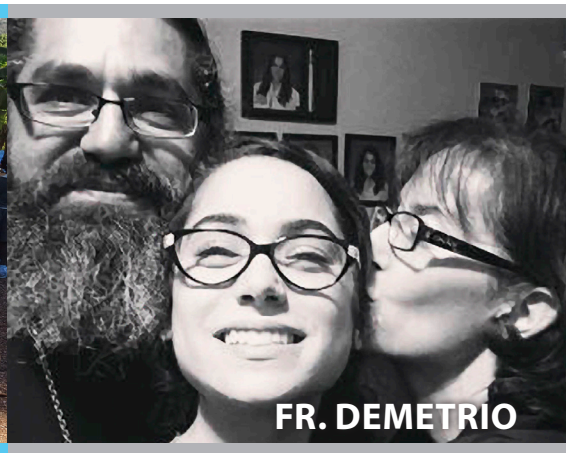
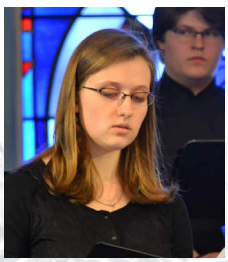
The mission of the Fund for Assistance is to support the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, specifically, the moral-spiritual education of youth, aid to its clergy and distribution of emergency relief to its missions.



LONELINESS

How you solved the main problem of ROCOR youth

By supporting youth events like St. Herman's conference, you helped Orthodox kids forge lasting friendships – a letter…



"Most Orthodox kids feel so lonely in our faith, because it is hard to live a real Orthodox life surrounded by today's secular world. St. Herman's conference gives us an opportunity to meet other young people, who face the same daily struggles and are looking for spiritual guidance and support from our priests. Making new Orthodox friends is not easy because of the small number of youth in each parish.

St. Herman's conferences bring us all together and help us make friends and create strong bonds with people from all over North America. The donors to the Fund for Assistance to ROCOR play such a big role in making this happen, because the conferences are held in different cities every year and the costs are often so high that without the FFA, we wouldn't be able to get to the conference and participate in all its beneficial activities and workshops.

Thanks to the donors to the Fund, I was able to go this year and I had such a great experience making new friends and learning more about my own faith.

The workshops and Q&As give us so much knowledge and also give us the chance to have our own questions answered.

Thank you all, who supported us spiritually and financially to help us grow in our faith!

I feel so blessed to have had the chance to be a part of this conference. I want to thank the people who donated, in order to make it all happen and give me the chance to be a part of it."

- Katya Matenina, Canada

*Check out our video: "The kids say: **"Thanks!"** on our Facebook, YouTube and website.*

Haiti:

Thanks to you, children now have a classroom to study in!

Your support allowed a group of volunteers to build a schoolroom in Jacmel

Thanks to generous donors like you, a group of eight volunteers went to Jacmel to build school furniture and a classroom for students of the school at the St. Augustine parish in Jacmel.

Nearly every ROCOR parish in Haiti has a school for kids from toddlers to 6th grade – not only for the children of the parishioners, but for anyone in need.

"If it hadn't been for these schools, some of these kids would have been living on the streets," said Archpriest Alexandr Antchoutine, who visited Haiti with the group.

Thanks to kind people like you, the children at the St. Augustine school now have a roof over their heads when they come to classes. They no longer study in a tent. Thank you!

Thank you for supporting our suffering brethren in Haiti!

5 WAYS YOU HELPED HAITI THIS YEAR:

1. Built a classroom for school children in Jacmel
Your generosity allowed a group of volunteers to travel to Haiti and help the St. Augustine parish with a difficult construction project.

2. Provided food and clothing to students in ROCOR parish schools
Nearly every ROCOR parish has a school for kids from toddlers to 6th grade. They not only provide free education, but also feed them lunch (it is the only daily meal some kids are sure to have), and provide them with uniforms, so the destitute can come to school, even if they do not have any clothes.

3. Gave much-needed moral support to mission members
Very few Orthodox Christians visit mission members. Sometimes they feel very far away from the rest of the Orthodox world. When a group of volunteers headed by the First Heirarch, His Emminence Metropolitan Hilarion came to pray and to provide fellowship with the local mission, they were truly happy.

4. Sponsored clergy to serve their flock
Hundreds of parishioners depend on our clergy in Haiti. Every day someone comes to them for help: be it with advice, a chore, or to borrow food. If it hadn't been for your assistance, the highly-educated priests would have probably be forced to set up vegetable booths at the local market to make a living.

5. Took care of the missions' most vulnerable members
You allowed mission members to take care of the mentally and physically disabled in their community. Thanks to donors like you, they are slowly turning the tide of prejudice against the disabled.

School children at the St. Augustin parish in Jacmel, Haiti recorded a song to thank donors like you. Take a look at the video on our Facebook, Youtube or website: fundforassistance.org

Fr. Demetrio and Matushka Hanna: 3 months later

Their situation was desperate, but you helped

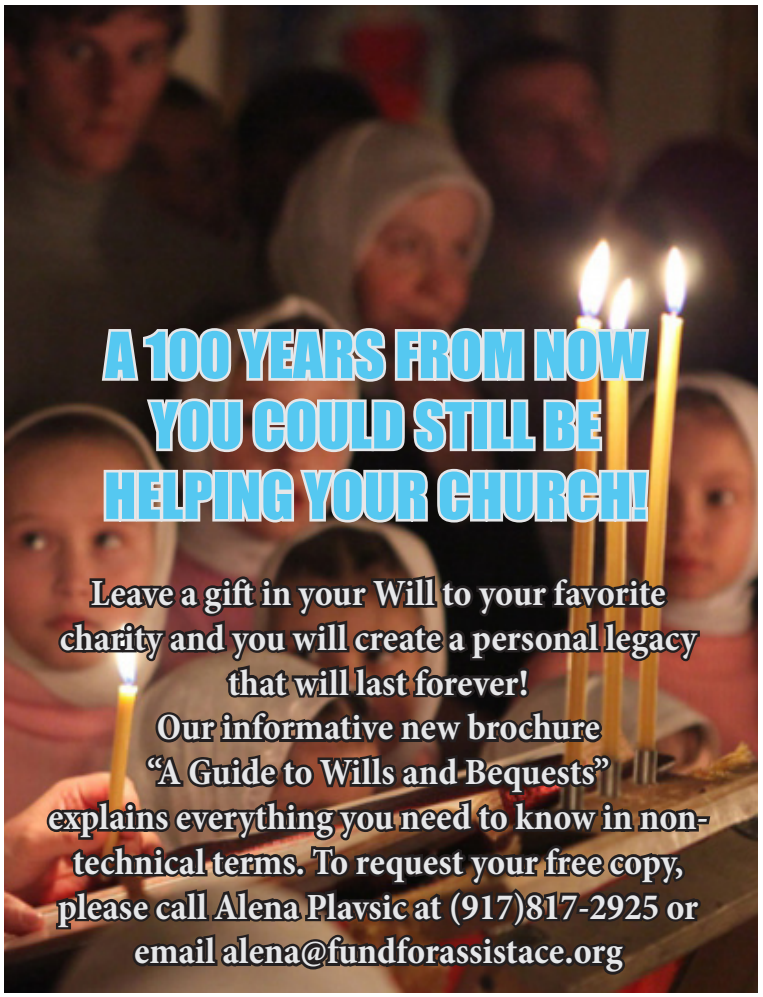
Recently we wrote to you about Matushka Hanna, whose work allowed her husband Fr. Demetrio to serve his parish full-time… until she got cancer.

Fr. Demetrio has devoted two years of his life and all of his considerable energy to serving for free as a chaplain and teacher at the St Luke the Blessed Surgeon chapel at the Paideia Classical Academy in Coconut Creek, FL.

This is a school that accepts any children, not just the Orthodox, and teaches them according to the doctrine of our Church. Many teachers either work on a much-reduced salary, or volunteer their time completely like Fr. Demetrio.

The small chapel, where Fr. Demetrio serves, had only six parishioners when he first started serving there. Today they have around 25 people on Sundays.

Fr. Demetrio's wife, matushka Hanna, was the family's only provider, as she encouraged Fr. Demetrio to devote all his time and energy to the service of God and His Church. But a few months ago, she was diagnosed with cancer.



She was no longer able to work and single-handedly support the parish.

We asked you for help. You allowed us to collect over $40K for the family.

Your incredible generosity will enable Matushka to continue cancer treatment and cover some of the family's living expenses, as Fr. Demtrio continues his pro bono work at his parish and Orthodox school, and Matushka concentrates on getting better.

Thank you so much!

Our Promise

Your money – your decision: 100% of all donations directly fund the cause indicated by the donor.
Stay updated on how your kindness supports the Church you love: subscribe to our email newsletter on our website: fundforassistance.org

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Help us save money on paper: sign up for our e-mail updates on our website! Thank you for your support!