

ASSOCIATION OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

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APRIL, MAY, JUNE, 2017

INVITATION TO THE SYMPOSIUM

Symposium with Pope Francis
October 12, 13, 14, 15 2017

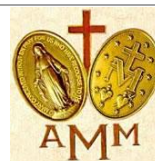
<http://famvin400.info>

Workshops in Paul VI Hall
Address by Pope Francis
Mass in St. Peter's Basilica
Vigil at the Basilica of St. Paul
outside the Walls

A Special Blessing:
The heart of St. Vincent
will be with us in Rome!

Pilgrimage • Film Festival • Symposium • Homelessness Initiative

INVITATION



In this edition of our Bulletin you will find news about the visit of our Sub-Director General, Father Carl Pieber, CM, to Russia and the Ukraine.



NEWS OF MARY'S MIRACULOUS MEDAL FAMILY THE SPREAD OF THE ASSOCIATION IN RUSSIA AND UKRAINE

By Rev. Carl Pieber, Deputy Director

This past May 9, 2017 to June 2, 2017, I visited the new Associations in Russia, that is now 2 years old, and the 4 year old Association in the Ukraine. Both are happily flourishing. I will speak about the visit to Ukraine in another article.

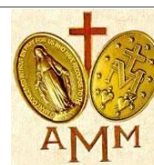
To enter Russia, I received an invitation from the Our Lady of Fatima Church in Nizny Tagil, Siberia. People from some countries need an invitation from a local family or organization to obtain a visa to enter Russia, unless they are on an organized tour.



1Sr. Kaia, DC, Myself, Sr. Tatiana, MSC, Sr. Theresa, DC

The goal is to visit every parish in the Diocese of the Transfiguration in Novosibirsk. This diocese has 72 parishes and is approximately the size of half of the USA. I met with Bishop Joseph Wirth, S.J., who was most welcoming. He is happy about the spread of the Miraculous Medal Association in his Diocese..

I was welcomed in Omsk, the first city of my visit, by Sr. Kaja Hekova, DC and Sr. Theresa and stayed at their apartment house that was put together from two separate apartments. The sisters in Russia are from



the Daughters' Province of Slovakia. They have houses also in Nizny Tagil and Magadan in Russias.

The sisters and confreres from Poland, Frs. Andrzej Ziolkowski, C.M. and Przemyslaw Nowakowski, C.M. preached about the Miraculous Medal Association in 6 parishes on a different weekend. After each they would have questions and answers and then a time to sign up. Thanks to your prayers, an Association was established in each parish with 15 - 25 members in each.

In Omsk, I spoke at the parishes of St. George and Presentation of Our Lord. After Mass I met with the Association and heard about their progress and happiness in the meetings.

I then went to Nizny Tagil, which is about 2 hours' drive north of Yekaterinburg, which is eleven hours west of Omsk. Yekaterinburg is the city that was made famous by the murders of Czar Nicholas and his family in 1917. In Nizny Tagil I stayed at the double apartment of the Confreres, Fr. Anton Ovtar, C.M. (Province of Slovenia) and Fr. Anthony Jedinak, C.M. (Province of Slovakia). Fr. Anton has two parishes about 4 hours north of Nizny Tagil and Fr. Anthony is pastor of Our Lady of Fatima, my host parish. The name "Our Lady of Fatima" is popular in

Russia because of her call at Fatima to convert Russia.

As the picture shows, the people are organized and enjoying Mary's love and protection at Our Lady of Fatima Parish. I was happy to be present there on the Feast Day of Our Lady of Fatima. The youth put on a little play about the Apparitions of Fatima.



2Miraculous Medal Assoc. at Our Lady of Fatima, Russia. From the right, Sr. Kaia, Anna, Leader of Assoc. at Parish, behind her, Fr. Anthony, Pastor, Myself, and Bishop Wirth.

It was enjoyed by all, even the Bishop. A bus full of parishioners (mostly members of the new MM Association) came from St Anne Church in Yekaterinburg, where I also preached and met with the people.



3Sr. Mary and I distributing Oil, Wheat Bread and Oatmeal

While I was in Nizny Tagil I visited the works of the Daughters and Confreres. The Association helps the Sisters and confreres. Sr. Mary visits the homebound and distributes food and clothing to them. Many are sick and have Tuberculosis. They need sister to take them to the doctors, hospital and get their medicine. She is well acquainted with all of

them.

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDALL OF UKRAINE - PILGRIMAGE IN ZARVANYTSIA

For several years, the Members of the Association of Kiev City had planned to attend the pilgrimage weekend to Our Lady of Zarvanytsia. Since this year is the 150th Anniversary of the coronation of the Icon, when Father Madickeoski crowned the Icon of our Lady with the golden cover that appears around her and the two crowns sent by Pope Pius XI, the Association was able to attend.

On July 15-16 the Marian Sisters of the Miraculous Medal from Kiev and Zakarpattia, (Transcarpathia) members of Association of the Miraculous Medal of Kiev, and Fr. Michael Talapkanych, C.M. went to this sanctuary and celebrated the pilgrimage weekend.

The story of this icon, briefly, is that Our Lady appeared to a monk in Zarvanytsia. He was fleeing the Mongol invasion of Kiev around 1240 AD. Mary and Jesus appeared to him as in the Icon, where Mary was holding the Baby Jesus above the water flowing from a spring in the ground. The sight was venerated by the faithful, especially of the Greek Uniate Catholic Church. Many miracles were reported from washing in the water. In 1867, Pope Pius XI declared this to be a holy pilgrimage site. This is also known as the Ukrainian Lourdes - the largest sanctuary of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church.



1 Icon of Our Lady of Zaryanytsia

Yearly about 100 000 pilgrims from different parts of Ukraine come to Zarvanytsia to pray, and to ask for grace to heal their faith and illnesses. They donate their time and prayers while they are here to all the faithful who come.

This year's pilgrimage, dedicated to the 150th anniversary of the coronation of Zarvanytsia miraculous icon of Virgin Mary, the pilgrims prayed for peace and the integrity of Ukraine Country. They asked Mary to rid the Ukraine of governmental corruption. The Head of Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church Sviatoslav Shevchuk, the Prefect of Congregation for the Oriental Churches Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, the Apostolic Nuncio in Ukraine Archbishop Claudio Gugerotti and the Metropolitan Archbishop of Croatia, Ivan Devchich, all attended the weekend. They prayed to God together with the faithful.

After greeting all of the honorary guests, Fr. Michael read a message about the Immaculate Virgin Mary and her Miraculous Medal. During his 15 minute presentation on the Appearance of Mary to St. Catherine Laboure at the Chapel on Rue Du Bac in Paris, the pilgrims learned about the Miraculous Medal and the Association. People were very interested in the medal and there were a lot of people willing receive and wear it. Fr. Michael referred the over 100,000 pilgrims to the Miraculous Medal Association's booth where the members of the Association gave everyone a medal and a flyer to fill out to join the Association.

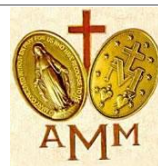
The members of the Association had prepared for this event for two months. The volunteers tied thread to each medal, so it could be worn immediately on the neck after receiving it.

Over these two days 48,000 medals were distributed. Also, many pilgrims came to join the Association. Many pilgrims took these little medals home giving great hope and grace to their relatives, friends and acquaintances.

The Miraculous Medal Association of Ukraine and especially of Kiev City, wishes to thank all the organizers who gave them such an opportunity to be together with the other pilgrims to Mary during these days. They are especially overjoyed to have distributed so many medals to Mary's devotees.

As we pray together "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee," let us ask Mary to help us with the Grace of her Son to spread her devotion and healing. It is our mission as the Miraculous Medal Association.

Maryna Krutko, volunteer of the Office of Vicentian Family in Ukraine.





THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

BRAZIL



We shared in the joy of the members during the celebration of the IV National Assembly that was held on May 19-21, 2017.

COLOMBIA

We received these beautiful photos that were taken during the First Marian Congress of the of the AMM in Colombia.



PANAMÁ

Sister Cilia Varinia, the National Advisor, informed us about the participation of the members in migrant ministry.



SPAIN

We received Bulletin #114 of the Association in Spain, an edition that corresponds to the months May-June 2017.

TAILANDIA

We received the January-April 2017 Bulletin from the members in this country.

