



Archdiocese of Anchorage

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Dear Friends in Christ:

This week our archdiocese will take up the National Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe (CCEE). We will retain half of the collection in support of the Archdiocese of Anchorage's Mission to Magadan, Russia. **Thus, 50% of contributions to this collection will go to support the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe and 50% will go to support the Mission to Magadan.** I ask for your support to this important mission.

The Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe supports the Church in more than 20 countries that are still struggling to recover in the aftermath of communist rule. From 1922 to 1991 the Ukrainian people lived under a repressive communist government that restricted both religious and cultural practice. The Catholic faith was illegal or restricted, so atheism grew stronger and family values deteriorated. Today the Church is working to rebuild these values. In Kharkiv, Ukraine, women who find themselves in unplanned pregnancies believe that abortion might be their only answer. Your generosity to the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe has made it possible to create two homes for single mothers where they receive help with child care and employment. For more information about the collection and who it supports, visit www.usccb.org/ccee

The Archdiocese of Anchorage's Mission to Magadan provides support to the Church of the Nativity of Jesus in Magadan, Russia. The mission provides counsel, clothing, health support and many other necessities for the community of Magadan, Russia and the surrounding villages. Mission to Magadan teaches the Word of God to parish members and helps them in their daily lives; to support Pro Life activities in Russia and helps those still suffering the aftermath from imprisonment in the Stalin Camps.

Please support the important work of these two good causes in this collection. Remember, half the proceeds support the Church in Central and Eastern Europe (CCEE) and half support the Archdiocese of Anchorage's Mission to Magadan. Thank you for your help to restore the Church and build the future in Central and Eastern Europe and in our Mission in Magadan, Russia. With gratitude, I remain,

In the Heart of Christ,

†Paul D. Etienne, DD, STL
Archbishop of Anchorage