



Christmas Newsletter 2015

Our Lady of Mercy in Romania

The months fly by so quickly, it is time yet again to update you since our last newsletter at Easter. Firstly, thank you to all our volunteers and donors for your tremendous support. Help has come from so many people both at home and abroad. May Christmas be a time of numerous blessings for each one of you.

Our projects with our seniors, families and children continue, as indeed does our outreach programme. A highlight for our seniors within our group setting was their fantasy visit to the "BALL". Laughter was in abundance, the perfect medicine to dispel anxiety and depression. Our families are continually helped and some have managed to find work through our support. Our children are more familiar with the English language and encouraged to develop their talents.



Our sick children receive ongoing support. Matei our three year old who suffered a stroke in the womb continues with intensive therapy. His progress is evident but he naturally needs constant encouragement to use his left hand. Hopefully this difficulty will be overcome. Denisa our six year old with autism continues to make progress. Her treatment has been changed to further the areas that need progression. Moira our eight year old with Krabbes disease seems somehow to be deteriorating. She has more frequent convulsions, is now blind and cannot communicate. Her mother had to return to work but fortunately one of our

parents that we support takes good care of Moira to enable her mum to work. Sadly five of our friends have gone to the Lord. Their ages ranged from 27 to 86 years. May they rest in peace

Our Expat community here in Bucharest continue to run our craft group. In the Spring they had a Cake/Craft sale which was a great success. We express our thanks to Annie who spearheaded such a wonderful team in their efforts for our poor. She is now sadly missed. We wish her every success in every aspect of her life. We are grateful to the management of the Crowne Plaza hotel for the use of the room to hold the event.





Our seniors and families had a wonderful outing at Mogosoia. This was sponsored and organised by American/British Tobacco. It was a day enjoyed by the young and not so young! Our seniors and parents enjoyed peace and friendship and the children had a variety of play. A tour of the museum was available for those who wished. The meal provided was indeed tasty and appetising. This coupled with the courtesy and dignity at every level made the day perfect.

American/British Tobacco also sponsored and organised the purchase of uniforms and school equipment for our children. This was a mammoth task. Our thanks to Irina from the firm who collaborated with Toni and Ana from the association.



The students from Nower Hill Comprehensive School graced us yet again with their presence, supporting our seniors and children with their time, talents and finance. The dignity and respect shown to each person was admirable. Their parents and school can indeed be proud. Alex Petrovici and Denis Ryan have recently donated a documentary interviewing some of our families. This can be accessed on <https://vimeo.com/133182308>. If you press CC the English subtitles will be evident.

We thank all our friends in Romania and abroad for their personal input in an effort to improve the quality of living standards for our people. Our friends from N. Ireland and Landon from the States helped with the repair work on a house that the association purchased for a family who had been living in a garage. (We wish Landon every success as he returns home). Our centre was also given a fresh look with coats of paint and new flooring by our Irish friends.

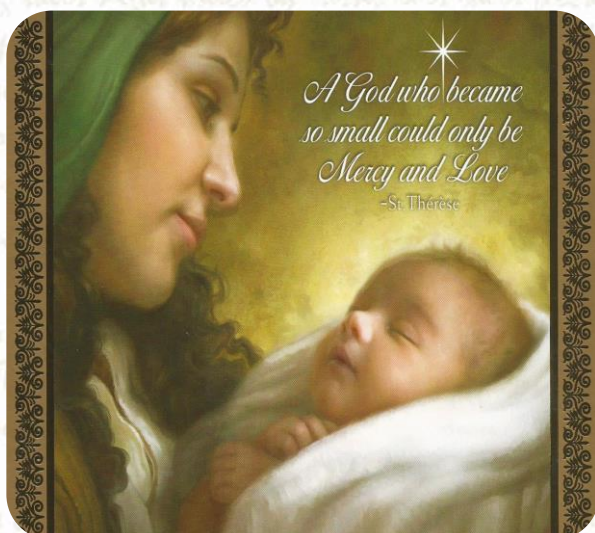


Our celebration of our 10th anniversary will continue throughout the year in our hearts. Friends from Ireland and England came especially for the occasion. The highlight of the celebration on 26th September was the Eucharistic liturgy. Archbishop Ioan Robu along with four priests concelebrated the mass.



The choir 'Coral St. Elena' seemed to open the gates of heaven for us as melodies and cadences abounded in perfect harmony. The celebration continued in the courtyard of the presbytery where we enjoyed a splendid meal prepared by our volunteers, were entertained with Irish dancing from the O'Brien family and guitar playing from

Peter Lee, enjoyed a fabulous cake donated by the Radisson hotel and lemonade from Ursus. Many people teamed together to make a perfect day for our people.



We wish each one of you a happy, joyful and blessed Christmas. May the Lord reward your wonderful support for our needy. We have a major future project in mind and hope to share the fruits of it in our next update. In the meantime may we pray for each other and thank the Lord for the wonderful people in our lives. May the Christ Child and his Mother remain with you forever.

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DETAILS Beneficiary: Asoc. Fec. Maria A Milostivirii in Romania

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