

Rome, February 25, 2022
Prot. TV/22.15 - MG 13/22

“Let us invoke Mary to obtain peace, and that Our Lady does not press on the heart of God as much as on the hearts of men.” (Don Orione)

Dear confreres, sisters, friends, benefactors of the Orionine Charismatic Family,
Peace and blessings from the Lord.

All of us are following with apprehension the dramatic news regarding the crisis in Ukraine. It is sad to see that through dialogue and political confrontation we are unable to find solutions to end this war.

We want to remain steadfast in hope and allow ourselves to be provoked by the invitations of Pope Francis who asks us to never tire of responding to evil with charity. This is precisely the purpose of this letter of ours: we ask you to join an Orionine charity initiative in favour of the people affected by this disaster.

Don Orione tells us: *“God loves all his creatures, but his Providence cannot but prefer the poor, the afflicted, the orphans, the sick, the afflicted in every way, after Jesus raised them to the honour of his brothers, after he showed himself as their model and leader, submitting himself to poverty, to abandonment, to pain and even to the martyrdom of the cross. Hence the eye of Divine Providence is, in a special way, turned to the most wretched and derelict creatures”.*

So the first aspect must be spiritual. We know that moments of prayer and Adoration have been organized everywhere: only the Almighty can work the miracle of touching hearts. We invite you, therefore, to continue to pray and to create moments of prayer in our communities, in our parishes, in our works and activities, and also through social media.

Then there is the aspect of concrete charity. In addition to the small group of disabled children who reside within our facility, our confreres in L’viv have been doing support work for many poor families in the area for some time now. Now, despite the difficulty of the moment, they intend to strengthen their commitment to meet the needs of the people that the emergency will bring to their door, even if this means hosting some of them.

Our sisters, on the other hand, are in Korotycz, near Kharkiv, together with more than 40 mothers and children. Unfortunately, they have not been able to move and are living this moment of great tension with them, sometimes even in rooms set up as shelters. They have shown, however, great trust in divine protection and have asked for our prayers.

To meet their needs, in the present circumstances the most immediate and direct help is to participate in the fundraising campaign organized by the Don Orione Onlus Foundation for the benefit of the two Orione realities in Ukraine. For our part, we will take care to keep you updated on the situation of our communities and the developments of this initiative.

We, therefore, ask all our religious communities to promote this charity campaign and all of you to refer directly to the Don Orione Foundation for your contributions. We enclose the bank references.

May Don Orione bless us and inspire us always to goodness and concord! Fraternally,

Father Tarcisio Vieira
Superior General F.D.P.

Mother Mabel Spagnuolo
Superior General L.M.S.C.

Bank references for the “Ukraine Emergency” contribution

Intesa San Paolo Bank

IBAN: IT57 S030 6909 6061 0000 0001 484

Made out to: Don Orione Onlus Foundation