



NEWSLETTER JUNE 2022

Dear all,

Hereby you will find the latest newsletter of Fathers Prayers. Our movement has become even more important in these difficult times. We are happy that prayer meetings within the Fathers Prayers groups have continued and even have been strengthened all over the world. During the pandemic some groups have decided to temporarily hold their Fathers Prayers sessions online which proved a good alternative. We are also glad to hear that most groups now come together again physically for their weekly sessions. The annual national meetings in many countries are also continuing.

New Fathers Prayers websites

In December 2020 our new international website www.fathersprayers.org has been launched with the cooperation of Robert Proszenyak, national coordinator of Fathers Prayers in Hungary. We are very happy about this as this site is much more accessible and has a completely new modern layout. There is much more information available now for fathers all over the world. This new layout has also been used for new Fathers Prayers booklets in German, Dutch and Hungarian language.

We also gladly announce that a new Hungarian website has been launched in August 2021 and the Czech website has been totally renewed. We now have national Fathers Prayers websites in French, Slovak, Czech, Dutch and Hungarian language.

Fathers Prayers booklets

The Fathers Prayers international coordination team keeps sending Fathers Prayers booklets to existing and beginning groups all over the world. Not only English booklets but also booklets in French and German. We send them free of any costs. We even received a request for booklets from the republic of Mauritius! Recently the booklets have also been translated in Spanish.

David Romanos

Unfortunately, David Romanos from New Zealand has passed away on 13 April 2021. He was the former national coordinator of Fathers Prayers in New Zealand and he has done so much for Fathers Prayers. We remember him as a very friendly and amiable person with a heart for prayer. We miss him a lot and keep praying for his family.



Situation of Fathers Prayers in various countries

Below you will find a summary of the situation of the countries where most fathers prayers groups are to be found:

Slovakia

In Slovakia they started to work on regional meetings. They plan to organize them in five regions in Slovakia and we welcome this very much. The national coordinators of Slovakia plan to visit every group to pray together and encourage one another. This plan requires new regional coordinators appointments and we all pray that they make the right choices. This year there was already a regional meeting in Zilina and 50 fathers showed up. They all supported the idea that the two coordinators would visit all the groups throughout the year.

In the beginning of 2021 they organized an online retreat with St. Joseph from 19-21 March and on 22 October 2021 they organized their 16th annual meeting of Fathers Prayers.

France

In France there are around 50 groups of fathers prayers widespread all over the country. Due to the confinement measures it was not easy for the groups during the pandemic, but they were creative and decided to meet online. Some groups such as in Versailles, Poitiers, Rochecorbon, Boulogne sur mer, Crans, Bergerac, St Brieuc have even increased in number of fathers and they asked for new booklets. However, a few groups had to stop as the confinement measures made it difficult for them to meet.

Czech Republic

In Czech Republic they continued the national meeting of Fathers Prayers in Svatý Hostýn, usually on the first weekend in the fasting time before Easter. However, in 2021 due to the pandemic the annual meeting was not held before Easter, but in June. In autumn 2021 there was an advent spiritual renewing in Moravská Třebová. The Czech coordinators are happy to announce that new groups of fathers prayers have started. It is also good news that the national website of Fathers Prayers in Czech Republic has been renewed completely. It is much better now and more accessible. For example it is now easy to locate the 22 groups in the country and their contact details as they are clearly presented on the Czech map.

Russia

Below you will find a letter from our national coordinator of Russia of 28 February 2022, Andrew Letyagin:

“I am very glad that I can turn to you and testify about the “Fathers in Prayer” in Russia! This is not an easy time for all of us. The COVID pandemic has disrupted the usual way of life not only in our country, but throughout the world. I cannot say for sure whether there are more of us fathers in prayer. Prayer groups form and cease to exist according to the situation. Today there are groups of fathers in Moscow, St. Petersburg, Vladimir Kazan, Novosibirsk and other cities.



French monk brothers pray with groups in Uzbekistan. Priests from Kazakhstan are spiritual fathers for prayer groups of fathers in their country. There are individual fathers from the Orthodox and Protestant churches who are with us in prayer. Prayer petitions continue to be received for spouses and children who do not share the prayerful aspirations of the fathers in prayer. For us, this is a valuable experience. And we pray that the Lord will unite us in prayer and in life. We exchange letters and are in contact with who addresses us.

Our Lord, combining in himself the Divine and the human, gives an example for love, faith and action in our lives! We are all moving towards our salvation together. Therefore, our prayer has a special power to turn to the Lord and be heard. To be rewarded by His answer and testimony. We don't have the opportunity to gather for the national meeting of the fathers yet. We have a large country and it is difficult for the brothers to gather at the moment. But the desire is there. We had an on-line meeting with my assistants in the regions. But it had a working character and concerned the inner life of our movement. With modern technology, we can also hold a worldwide video meeting. Now the whole world uses this resource and very successfully.

I convey greetings from the brothers from Russia and the hope that we will be above all misunderstandings in this world, because our prayers are higher than the borders of states and harmful information that is pouring on us from all sides. Prayer is the only thing that invariably lives with us in any situation around us. Prayer is always about the main thing. For the salvation of us and our loved ones.

In prayer with you!

Andrew Letyagin

Coordinator of the "Fathers Prayers" movement in Russia"

The Netherlands

In April 2022 finally the Dutch national meeting of Fathers Prayers was organized and it was such a relief to be able to meet each other again and pray in unity. It was held in a beautiful monastery in the southern part of the Netherlands (Sittard).

The Fathers Prayers booklets new style were presented during this meeting. Two new groups have developed in the Netherlands and they are happy to announce that Father Prayers is now receiving publicity on the Dutch Radio (Radio Maria). Fathers Prayers meetings are now broadcasted regularly on this radio station.

New Zealand

Fathers Prayers in New Zealand consisted of just 2 groups for many years, the original group of elderly Fathers based in Wellington (members have all passed away) and the group that the national coordinator started in Auckland in 2015. Last year this group in Auckland has grown to 15 members and 2 of the fathers decided to start another group so they now have 2 groups in Auckland. In October 2021, their group was leading a 1 hour Rosary session as part of a 12 hour Rosary devotion initiated by the Auckland Cathedral. Some men from the Cathedral happened to be on their session and were impressed with the spirituality of this session and



have since been in discussion with the national coordinator to start a Fathers Prayers group at the Cathedral. This new group has started in 2022 under the spiritual guidance and support of the Dean of the Cathedral, Fr Chris Denehy. At the same time he was introduced to a father from Wellington who has started a group there.

We praise God for touching the hearts of so many men in the last 6 months and by God's grace they have 4 Fathers Prayers groups in NZ in 2022. We pray that the Holy Spirit guides and inspires them as they continue to build Fathers Prayers in New Zealand.

UK

New groups of Fathers Prayers have started in the UK. There were many requests for new booklets within the UK. During the lockdown some groups switched to online meetings (Zoom). Some groups also use a WhatsApp group as an alternative way to share between meetings.

Hungary

Several booklets were distributed upon requests and other christian men's events, so far only a few new groups of Fathers Prayers have started in Hungary so far. We have now a Hungarian version of the FP website up and running. We hope it will also help us in growing and spreading. We would like to ask your prayers for this purpose and for the Hungarian groups.

I would like to wish everybody a very good summer and please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions about Fathers Prayers.

On behalf of the international coordination team of Fathers Prayers

Willem Visser 't Hooft Chairman of the international coordination team of Fathers Prayers

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