



Hundreds of low-income families in East Timor receive food aid from the Russian Orthodox Church



The Synodal Department for Charity and Social Service of the Moscow Patriarchate transferred funds for the purchase and supply of food aid to the needy in East Timor. The funds were raised at the website 'Anti-virus of Mercy'. The aid was received by 378 low-income families with children.

'Thanks to the financial help of the Synodal Department for Charity, an action was held for the second time in East Timor for distribution of foodstuff kits to the needy. With \$6000 allocated to the Parish of the Elevation of the Lord's Cross in Taipei, 10 206 kg of foodstuffs were purchased in Taipei. The aid was mostly given to large families; there are many of them in East Timor, but, of course, if low-income but childless families asked us for aid we did not refuse to help them', said Father Cyril Shkarbul, rector of the church of the Elevation of the Cross.

Each package for the needy contained 25 kg of rice and a two-liter bottle of sunflower-seed oil. The distribution lists were formed through the information about the needy, which came from missionaries in various regions.

‘It was difficult to get to many regions, especially during the pandemic, but we, in spite of the difficulties, came to each region where we organized distribution of foodstuff kits directly at the houses of the needy. For transportation the Synodal Department for Charity additionally allocated 123 thousand roubles. It sped up the distribution of the aid’, Father Cyril noted.

In July 2020, the Synodal Department for Charity and Social Service already helped needy families in East Timor.

With the beginning of the pandemic, a considerable number of people in Russia and other countries found themselves in a grave financial situation. In many dioceses requests for aid has considerably increased.

You can support the fund-raising for purchasing foodstuffs and necessities of life for those who found themselves in dire need through website **<http://eda.help/>**

Earlier, using the funds raised by the Synodal Department for Charity with the support of websites **<https://www.miloserdie.ru/>** and **<https://cerkpom.miloserdie.ru/>**, food aid was conveyed to dioceses of Barnaul, Bezhetsk, Birsik, Bishkek, Bratsk, Buzuluk, Velikiye Luki, Vyatsk, Gatchina, Ivanovo-Voznesensk, Kozelsk, Krasnoyarsk, Kurgan, Mariinsk, Michurinsk, Nakhodka, Neftekamsk, Nizhniy Tagil, Novokuznetsk, Orsk, Otrandnyi, Rzhev, Skopin, Syzran, Tikhoretsk, Tomsk, Feodosiya, Philippines-Vietnam, East Timor. Food aid was given twice to the dioceses of Salavat and Tver, In the Diocese of Uryupinsk, the needy received foodstuffs and hygienic kits.

Topical information about the Church’s aid during the pandemic is available at **<https://cerkpom.miloserdie.ru/>**

DECR Communication Service

With reference to the website of the Synodal Department for Charity and Social Service

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