

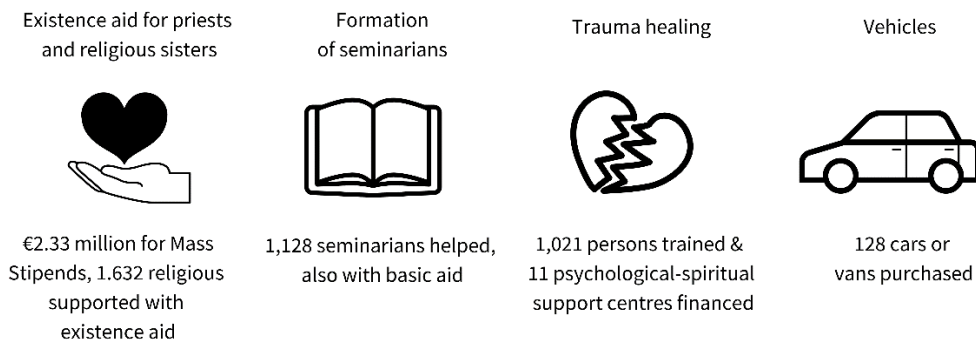
2 years of ACN's help in Ukraine



Overview

Two years after the full-scale invasion on 24 February 22, ACN has approved 630 projects (including 117 Mass stipend projects) amounting to over €16.5 million to support the Catholic Church of both rites all over Ukraine. Thanks to the generosity, prayers and sacrifice of ACN benefactors, both in 2022 and 2023, Ukraine has been the country most supported worldwide by ACN. ACN's benefactors have indeed reacted to the suffering of the Ukrainian people with an outpouring of love. More than 2,200 displaced people have benefited from direct humanitarian aid.

Objectives: The priority of ACN is to support the Church in Ukraine to strengthen and enable her to bring the healing and light of Christ to those under her care. The priorities can be summarized into 4 focus areas:



Existence aid for priests and religious sisters

Over two years, thanks to ACN's help, the priests **received 2.327 million in Mass stipends** and celebrated **266,000 Masses**.



ACN also supported 48 emergency aid projects—some of which were renewed several times—and helped 8,245 diocesan priests, religious sisters, brothers, and diocesan staff across all dioceses in Ukraine, including 17 dioceses of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (UGCC) and 7 dioceses of the Latin rite Roman Catholic Church. Furthermore, basic aid was provided to 1,632 religious (1,385 sisters and 247 brothers), an average of 816 religious per year.

Formation of seminarians, youth, religious and lay people

Forming the priests of the future, who will accompany the population during all these difficulties, is very important. Some seminaries have been involved in caring for displaced persons and helping to look after parishes. At least 584 seminarians in 2022, and 544 in 2023 were supported in their formation or subsistence.

→ 7,200 children and youth received pastoral care in holiday camps and pastoral activities for young people (5,505 beneficiaries in 2023, up from 1,712 in 2022).

→ At least 6,290 people benefited from formation or a spiritual retreat, including:

- 1,620 religious, priests and catechists over the 2 years
- 4,670 families and lay people involved in the pastoral care of the Church.

ALSO:

ACN contributed to the purchase of 130 liturgical Mass kits for priests to be able to celebrate Holy Mass, sometimes on the move, even at the battlefield and the publication of over 70,000 religious books, including 10,000 copies of the book: “Bible. Fragments that strengthen the soul” and 2,000 copies of Youcat for Kids. This is of great importance in the context of war and healing wounds.

Trauma healing

Healing the wounds of war has become a priority for the Church. To be able to help and support the population spiritually and psychologically, priests, religious and lay people committed to the Church need to be trained.







In 2023, ACN funded specific Trauma Healing training for 1,021 persons. ACN also financed 11 psychological-spiritual support centres, including the 7 "Centres of Hope and Life" tents, an initiative widely appreciated by the population.

Vehicles and other needs

128 cars and vans were purchased. These vehicles are used to provide pastoral care as well as to distribute relief supplies. The recipients of these vehicles are dioceses, Caritas, seminaries, religious orders and parishes, i.e. those directly involved in providing pastoral and humanitarian help to the faithful, especially the old and sick and the internally displaced, while also taking care of those on the front lines.

ACN's benefactors generously contributed to address winter challenges and energy shortages through various initiatives, including:

-  274 generators to ensure a continuous electricity supply.
-  72 heaters, insulation, or heating systems for monasteries, parish houses, halls, seminaries, and churches
-  58 construction or renovation projects to enhance, repair, or expand places of worship, Church buildings, or shelters, some of which were damaged due to the war
-  5 projects to install or replace windows and 11 projects to modernize kitchens and acquire portable ovens or household equipment, aimed at enhancing the capacity of parishes, monasteries, and seminaries to provide food and care for displaced individuals