

NEWS FROM UKRAINE

Dearest Sisters and friends!

I would like to share some of the latest news received from our Sisters and our confreres in Ukraine.

It is very serious and worrying news that invites us to strengthen our closeness, especially with prayer, so that God, the only one who can transform and convert hearts and consciences, may transform this violence into peace.



In Ukraine there are currently 4 Polish sisters: Sr. M. Sabina, Sr. M. Lidia, Sr. M. Renata and Sr. M. Kamila. They wanted to remain close to the poor and the mothers and children who serve in the two structures in Korotycz, a few kilometers from Kharkiv.

Sr. M. Sabina and Sr. M. Lidia, together with 4 Sisters of another Congregation, have been traveling for almost 24 hours, along secondary roads to avoid heavy traffic, towards the city of Gròdek, in the west of Ukraine, to get away from Kharkiv, where the situation is very serious and dangerous, due to the continuous Russian attacks in this area, very close to the border with Russia.

Instead, Sr. M. Kamila and Sr. M. Renata, have remained in Korotycz together with more than 40 people, including more than 20 little children, using some underground areas of the two houses as a refuge. They have had difficulties in leaving from there, due to the number of people and the scarcity of means that they are suffering for: petrol, transport, etc. Yesterday afternoon there were two bombings very close to their house and they had to spend many hours in the shelter. They had the grace of being able to celebrate Holy Mass.



Despite everything, they are calm and have great trust in the Lord, hoping that this conflict will end as soon as possible. We don't know how the situation will follow and how long they can safely continue in this place.

They ask to pray a lot for them and for there to be peace.



On their hand, our SDP confreres, in addition to the small group of disabled children who reside within their structure in L'viv, continue to support many poor families in the area and, today, they have begun to welcome families who require shelter and hospitality.

I also thank some Sisters who informed me of their availability for a nursing service in emergency places. At the moment, it is impossible to think of displacements, but if necessary, we will certainly count with their Orionine generosity, in this dramatic situation.

Let us pray intensely for our Sisters and for the Brothers who find themselves in the midst of this difficult situation, and let us trust in God's Providence which is powerful on the hearts of men.

Sr. M. Mabel Spagnuolo
Rome, Feb 26th, 2022