

## “Love never fails”

*“Love does not measure,  
it just gives.”*  
(Mother Teresa)



### News from our diocese – Taraz

The long term dream of the community in Taraz is about to come true. After receiving a permit from the local government the works on the soup kitchen where finalized and the community is planning to open it in May. This will be the first operational project for Caritas Taraz. It will involve one person working as a cook and a nun, and the congregation will serve as volunteers whenever possible. The Taraz community has decided to start with this project, since they noted that in their town there are many elderly people on retirement who cannot afford to eat well, and don't experience enough human care and communication. Mother Teresa said: *“The most terrible poverty is loneliness and the feeling of being unloved”*. With these words in mind the Taraz community decided to provide people with food and human warmth. The soup kitchen in the beginning will work 3 times a week, serving 20-25 people. They will also organize trips (initially once a week) to feed the homeless.

February 2019 News from our diocese – Taraz

XXVII World Day of the Sick

WhatsApp Chat to support parents with children with Down Syndrome

Sustainable agriculture in Kazakhstan



## XXVII World Day of the Sick

For us it was a great honor to represent Kazakhstan at the XXVII World Day of the Sick which was held this year in Kolkata, the city known all around the world for the testimony of life and charity of mother Teresa. Mother Teresa's life was the central topic of this World Day of the Sick. Not only was it emotional to be near her tomb, but it was also moving to feel and see her presence through the service of sisters whose service is the living proof that her mission continues. It was impossible for us to remain indifferent while witnessing the drama of more than two hundred residents – people who the sisters gather mostly from the area of the train station, sometimes in conditions that are hard to imagine, and then take them to their center to take care of them and make them feel loved (by the way, this is the same element that our friends from Taraz are talking about). It was equally important and useful to listen to the testimonies of numerous organizations that serve sick people, the heart of the human experience, who sometimes live in truly difficult conditions.

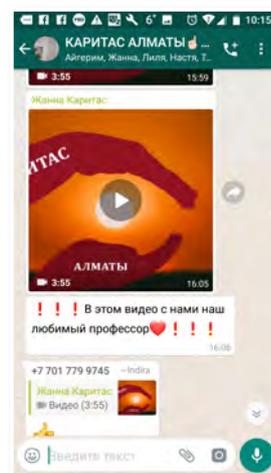


It's inevitable that experiences like these make us ask ourselves: "What about me? What about us?" Obviously there is no need to go to Kolkata to find someone who needs care, attention, and love, to answer with your service to the needs of people.

With this in mind we started to communicate our plans to associations and private professionals both at regional and national levels, to organize courses of domestic care training for the elderly and the sick. This would provide skills necessary for such work, both for healthcare professionals in our local organization and for volunteers who could become an important asset especially for small centers and villages where there is a lack of healthcare services.

## WhatsApp Chat to support parents with children with Down Syndrome

A very important part of our work on the project of support to parents with children with Down Syndrome is the constant long-distance communication between parents and members of our team. This is extremely important for parents who feel supported in their everyday commitment of upbringing and rehabilitation of their children. In addition, it's important for "new" parents who join the existing group to learn about the main principles of our work. Thinking about both groups we decided to launch a WhatsApp chat which unites parents involved in the work of the Caritas center. From time to time we upload video tutorials in Russian and Kazakh languages where our team, with interventions from professor Sangalli and his colleagues, answer most common questions that the parents ask us.



## Sustainable agriculture in Kazakhstan

The construction of the two greenhouses in Almaty and Talgar is finished, which means that we are launching the operational phase of the project. The first aspect is the organization of work with a view to sell the agricultural product. One part of the produce will be used to support the beneficiaries of Caritas, while the proceeds from the sales of the remaining part will be used to sustain our projects. This includes finding employees for packaging and distribution of products.



Another aspect involves our plan to use the greenhouses as a site for training courses for different categories of people who remain in contact with Caritas. In this sense the agreement reached between Caritas Kazakhstan and Caritas India to collaborate on the exchange of knowledge and skills in the field of agriculture is of great importance. This means that the two greenhouses could become a field of experimentation for the future projects both for the region of Almaty and for other regions in Kazakhstan that will be interested to work in this area.

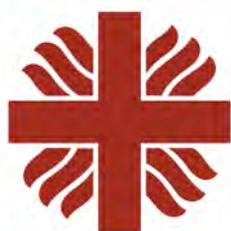


### How to help us

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 "Bank of New York", NY, USA  
 SWIFT: IRVT US 3N  
 CHIPS: 0001  
 (account in USD)

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 (account in KZT tenge)

*Thank you  
 for your support*



**Caritas  
 Almaty**

We accept applications for those people who are in need or who wish to join the group of volunteers of Caritas Almaty.

For any questions related to the activities of Caritas Almaty, you can contact us at: [director@caritasalmaty.org](mailto:director@caritasalmaty.org) or by phone +7.727.2969773 or +7.708.2388455

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