

HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

A tax-exempt, non-profit corporation

Tel. (310) 544-0814, Fax: (310) 377-0511.

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“And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, ‘Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.’” (Matthew 18:2-6)

When a 6-year old was asked what he was doing with a piece of paper on which he was painting, he replied, "I am trying to make a picture of God." A grown-up scolded him: "Give up such a foolish attempt to paint God. No one knows what God looks like." The child answered calmly, "they will all find out, when I have finished my work!"

The stories in the Gospel, told through parables, are not one-time events, past examples, or old historical occurrences, requiring us merely to glean some wise teachings. For the good of our soul, we should try and understand how each parable or each story in the Gospel is present within each and every moment of our spiritual life.

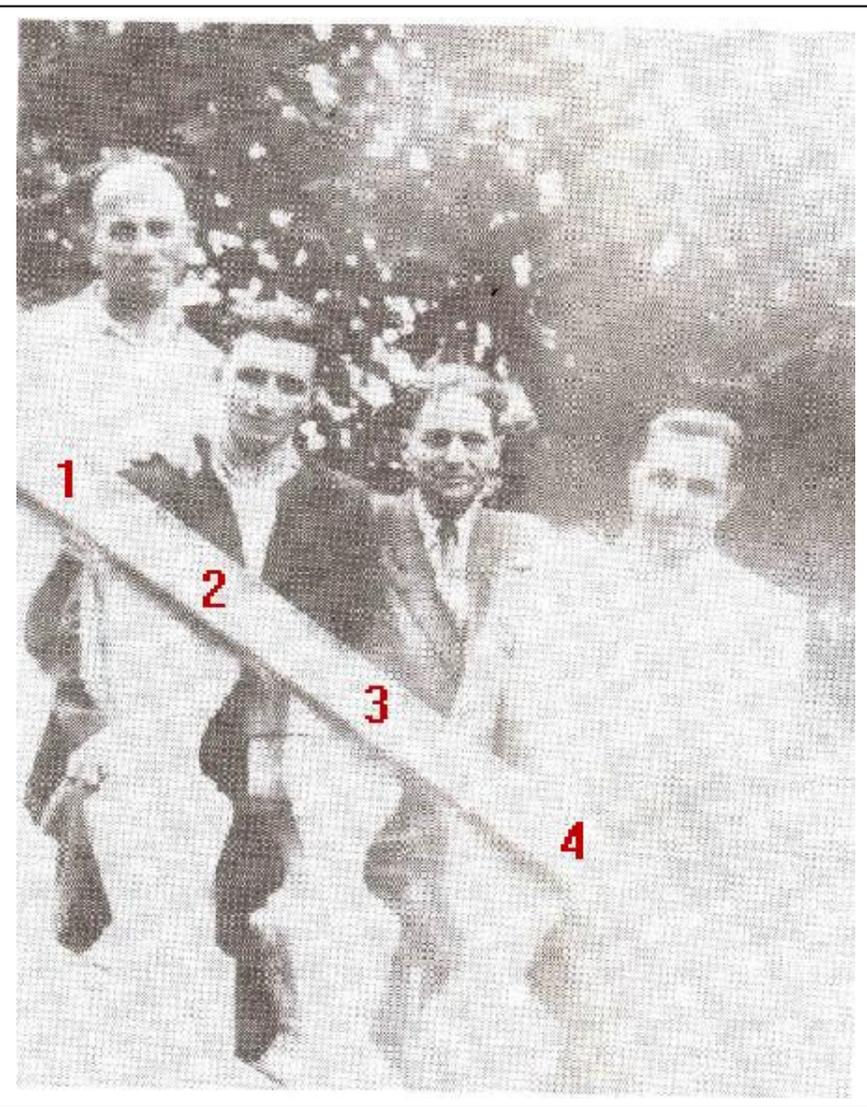
A little child is the symbol of humility, being totally dependent on outside help. Similarly, the Parable of the Good Samaritan presents the nameless man, nearly left for dead. This man does not act or speak during the entire parable. He depends totally on the merciful Samaritan, the generous innkeeper. Children and persons close to death remind us again and again of how, in humility, we do not own our next breath or heart beat. Moment after moment, we depend totally on, and need to implore, God's grace.

This summer, your gifts have allowed us to help financially both the Agape Orphanage in Pascani, Romania, which was started by my parents, Richard and Sabina Wurmbrand, as well as seventy-five elderly Christians (between 80-90 years old), who spent many years within communist prisons in Eastern Europe because of their Christian witness. Some of them were held in the same cell as my father, the late Rev. Richard Wurmbrand. The following pictures tell it all.

On behalf of these precious believers, thank you for all your prayers and gifts.

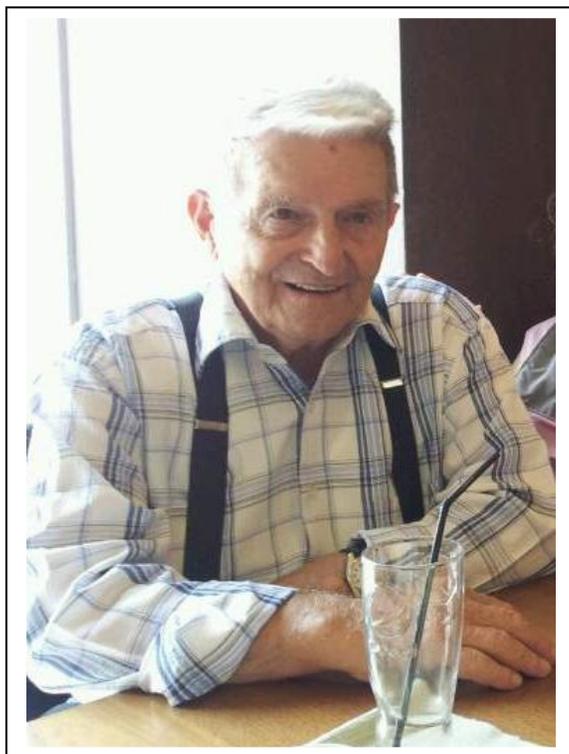
God Bless,

Michael Wurmbrand



Romanian Christians before their country fell under the communist grip. These four friends would all experience communist prison:

1. **Traian Dorz:** Romania's foremost Christian poet. Was sentenced to AND did endure 16 years of communist prison mainly for versifying the Psalms of David. Now deceased.
2. **Valer Irinca:** A lay preacher of the Army of The Lord Christian movement. Endured 5 years of communist prison for courageously preaching the gospel. Now over 89 years old. (See below)
3. **Rev. Richard Wurmbrand.** Lutheran minister who countered the communists with the gospel message in Romania's parliament. Spent 14 years in communist prisons. Author of "Tortured For Christ" Now deceased.
4. **Nicolae Moldovanu:** Romania's foremost Christian music composer. Spent 5 years in communist prisons for composing very widespread Christian songs. Now deceased



Valer Irinca, in 2014, 89 years old (No.2 above).

Valer is still an evangelist of the Army of the Lord, an incredibly strong Evangelical movement numbering many tens of thousands inside the Romanian Greek Orthodox Church. Under communism, he spent more than 5 years in prison for his Christian witness. He described how, while imprisoned together with Rev. Richard Wurmbrand, in Cluj, Romania, they witnessed through prison walls using Morse code knocks. Valer was punished in the heavy winter month of December and placed in a stockade-type cell for seven days, with broken, open windows allowing wind and snow to blow inside the fatally cold cell. Before going to the stockade, Rev. Wurmbrand gave him his frayed, shredded coat and the advice to walk nonstop to avoid falling asleep in the low temperatures. While inside, his only food was 3 oz. of bread and water. With very short breaks, he walked day and night, trying not to freeze to death. Like the prophet Elijah on his fifth day, when he thought he could survive no longer, an anonymous guard threw him half a loaf of bread. He ate only ¼ of the loaf and, once back inside the cell (built for 25 prisoners but crowded with 104), he brought the rest of the bread to Rev. Wurmbrand, who was very sick, sharing a true gift of God: his Christian love and the miraculously received bread. Valer still travels preaching through different villages of Romania. We try to help an entire network of elderly believers all having had a similar history of persecution.

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Children lunch at the Agape Orphanage, Pascani Romania

One of the orphans with a milk ("Lapte" in Romanian) container. Due to shortage of funds, the orphanage must rely on local donations of food-packages, cans and containers, and it even encourages some grown-up kids to work in the fields. When started by Rev. and Mrs. Wurmbrand in 1993, the running expenses amounted to about \$25,000 per year. Now, due to new requirements of the European Union and inflation, the orphanage needs over \$120,000 per year to function properly. *Please share this newsletter with all your Christian friends list, church lists or send us their addresses (with their permission) so we may send them this newsletter!*



Agape Orphanage children with the Wurmbrands. Left and right, Carmen and Dorin Gavrilă, present directors of the orphanage.



Christian Testimonies

Autobiographical Note on Ioan Prodan,
a Christian who suffered in Romania's communist prisons

I was born in 1923 in the Poiana Tapului, Sibiu County, Romania. I was sentenced to prison while in the army, as I refused orders given against my Christian conscience. I was sentenced to 6 years of prison by the military court of Constanta. I was court-martialed in 1951. After a while, I was transferred from the Constanta prison to the infamous Danube Canal prison camp, and my sufferings are described on pages 164-169 by the writer Varadi Josif in his book (not available in English) on communist persecution (of Christians.) I completed only 3 years of prison and was freed in 1954.

As to the Danube Canal prison-camp "Calvary" I should describe here only how the dead were thrown naked into shallow graves as due to the freeze the other prisoners could not dig deep. In the Spring, dogs were uncovering the graves and eating up these corpses. This was the communist inferno. I can only thank God for having survived and that I was freed. I live the last years of my life in the hope that all suffering will cease in this world destined to perish and what is stated in the "our Father" Prayer will take place, "Thy kingdom come" where life and youth will exist without death and old age.



Christian Testimonies

Autobiographical Note on Szekeley Balint
a Christian who suffered in Romania's communist prisons

I was sentenced in my youth by the (communist) Military Tribunal in Timisoara, Romania to 7 years of prison, on the account of my faith and God's Law. My docket was No. 28 in 1952. I spent only 2 years in prison. In my docket it is falsely written as follows: "The sentenced Szekeley Balint, while hiding under the guise of Christian faith, became a faithful tool of the American and English imperialists... This is the reason for him being sentenced to 7 years of prison." Where I was kept in the Danube Canal Labor Camp the death of a person was considered of no more importance than the death of a fly. At one time the head guard hit someone with a shovel so brutally that he broke his hand. The (communist) commanding officer at the "Five Ridges" Colony at this Canal Prison Camp would force detainees to stretch on the ground and he would dance on their body similarly to the dancing of a bear as he was 200+Lbs. The writer Varadi Joseph in his book (not available in English) on communist persecution of Christians pages 312-313 where he writes about me also describes this commander as a true monster. In these last days of my life, of frail health and having a heart sickness I thank God for His help in preparing me for the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who according to his promises will transform by His grace our dying being into a glorious and eternal being. All sinners may profit of this promise. This is our ideal.