

HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

Michael Wurmbbrand, Director

A tax-exempt, non-profit corporation

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We help orphans and elderly Christians (many in their eighties, even 90s) who had been imprisoned for their faith in present or former communist countries. At this critical moment, we also help needy Christian refugees from Ukraine! Where needed, content and pictures are dated.



Late Reverend Richard Wurmbbrand with wife, Sabina

February 2026

"...for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name." (Matthew 6:8-9)

Late Reverend Richard Wurmbbrand spent 14 years in Romanian communist prisons. Mrs. Wurmbbrand was imprisoned nearly three years also for her Christian faith in some of the same prisons.

What do we need? From a Bible meditation by late Reverend Richard Wurmbbrand

To Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews of His time, Lord Jesus said, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know." (John 3:11)

We all have individual parents. The God who created heaven and earth is one father for all of us. The Lord's Prayer starts with the words "Our Father" and not the words "My Father." Humans are possessive. We cannot though monopolize God for individual needs. Therefore, we need trust God taking care of **our needs**.

Let us imagine for a moment a meeting of all the blind shown in the Gospels, having recovered miraculously their eyesight when healed by Jesus. One would have declared, Jesus healed me with one sentence: "Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole." (Mark 10:52) Two formerly blind persons would contradict him saying: "It could not be that simple. We are aware how Jesus placed His hand on our eyes." (Matthew 20:34) Another blind person would have asked, "How many times did Jesus touch you? If they answered, "Once" then the later would have replied, "Impossible. He had to heal me in two stages. When first He touched me, I saw men resembling trees but recovered full eye sight only after a second touching by Jesus." (Mark 8:24)

"Even this sounds hard to believe" another formerly blind in this assembly would have retorted. "Jesus healed me only by mixing a paste of His spittle and some earth dirt. Even after it was applied on my lids, I was sent to wash in a local pool named Siloam and then only I came to see." (John 9:7) The Bible describes many blind having been healed by Jesus and each one in a different way. Every one of us makes out of our individual experience a particular doctrine or think how God should act. In this way, we destroy our fellowship as Christians. Apostle Paul wrote that the breadth, length, depth and height of the love of Christ which passeth knowledge and the fullness of God may be comprehended only **with all the saints** (Ephesians 3:18-19)

An Indian king gathered around an elephant several learned yet blind persons. He asked their opinion of this animal. Those who touched the elephant body, opined he resembles an enormous log. Those who touched its legs, compared the animal to four tall poles while those who touched the tail compared it to a snake. Those who touched its ivory compared it to some bone material. Yet the elephant was more than its parts as it was just that, an elephant. Every individual point of view is a point of blindness as we hardly are aware that our vantage point limits rather than enhances total perspective. Therefore, the Bible talks about a new birth from water and the spirit. Neither water nor spirit has individual parts. They are homogenous elements. The Bible narrates of the wisdom of the King of Israel Solomon. There is an ancient Jewish legend that describes how the Ethiopian Queen of Sheba attended one of Solomon's court cases. Two elderly Jews came in front of Solomon with the following contention: One had sold the other a piece of land. The buyer discovered a buried treasure. He brought it to the seller but the seller did not want to receive it. The buyer explained he had bought in good faith this land and the price he paid for it did not cover any buried treasure, therefore the seller should have it. The seller explained how he had sold the land lock stock and barrel, with whatever was underground and therefore it would not be honest on his part to receive such a treasure. Each were shouting in front of Solomon: "yours is the treasure!" "No, the treasure belongs to you" retorted the other." In this unending shouting, none of the parties wanting to assume the treasure, the wise king Solomon asked the opposing parties: "do you have children?" "Yes, an unmarried son," replied one, while the other had an unmarried daughter. Solomon issued his judgment:" Then have your son marry his daughter and give them the treasure." The Queen of Sheba was in wonder at the nature of such a dispute. "In our land, the king or queen would have imprisoned both parties and had taken away the treasure." Solomon replied," Among the people of God contentions are like that: Everyone knows it is better to give than to receive!" Yes, the Lord's prayer starts with the word "Our." We need pray for **our needs!**



The Communist Jilava Prison.
Entrance to the underground cells.



Prison cell with bunk-beds with no mattress, prisoners were obliged to sleep on. Stove for show only, never heated in cold winters.



Mug shot of Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand when held in Jilava.

For the last 40 years, HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC. has extended financial support to Christian refugees from communist countries, orphans and Christians who had been imprisoned for their faith in present and former communist countries. Also helped is the Richard Wurmbbrand College, a state-approved high school in Iasi, Romania, where many children of disadvantaged families are able to study.

“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.” (Apostle James Epistle 1:27)

Christians helped with your gifts



Brother Rodoslavov Eugen Constantin

He writes: I was born in a family of believers living in the city of Odessa, Ukraine, (at the time a territory of the Soviet Union.) Our family church was intensely persecuted by the communist authorities, who conducted frequent house searches to discover and forcefully seize (smuggled) Christian literature and Bibles. When only thirteen, the communist police arrested the ministers of our church. They were sentenced to 8 and 7 years of prison. When 16, there was a large underground church meeting in a forest. After Rudenco Grigori Anton, an elder from the town of Kishinev preached, I was so impressed that I dedicated my life to God and promised God to serve Him to my last breath. Five men and 2 sisters were arrested later and sentenced to 15 years of prison for underground Christian activities. I remained then the youth-leader of the church. Again, 9 brethren in our church were arrested, among these myself also. Being only 19, I was the youngest among these detainees. The communist tribunal was very severe. We were all sentenced to 5 years of prison and 5 years being deported in the far-reaches of Siberia. The five years of prison I spent as a slave laborer in a coal mine in the Donbass region. Then, I was deported to the far end of Siberia, to the city of Khabarovsk. (About 5,500 miles away. Russian communist authorities placed Christians on purpose far away from families in harshest possible prison camps. NT)

Though in Siberian deportation, I could start a house church in the village of Bogorodsk (close to Omsk) a church still in existence to this day. In 1980 I returned to my city of Odessa. The communist persecution continued. One night the communist authorities came to arrest both our minister Nicolai Boico and myself. Fortunately, I was not home and so escaped being imprisoned again.



Sister Lyuba Lozinskaya wrote: I was born in the city of Tula. My mother, my sister and other relatives were all believers. My father was not a believer. I became a Christian when only 16 and was baptized when 17. (Being trained in music) I became the conductor of the church choir and orchestra and involved myself wholeheartedly in the Christian education of our children. Even some churches were legal we still were dragged to the police station, threatened with being arrested and slapped with high fines. The communist authorities conducted extensive house searches in order to seize as much Christian writings as possible. We were repeatedly obliged to appear in front of prosecutors and were interrogated. I ended up arrested by the communist authorities and charged under article 142 of the Soviet Penal Code. I was accused of forbidden religious activity (witnessing one's faith outside state-regulated church services.) I was told I will never come out of prison. I was sentenced to one and a half years of prison. While all this took place, I thanked my God for the peace and quiet I had in my soul. I remembered the verse 5 of Psalm 139, "Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid Thine hand upon me." It seems impossible to render into words my experiences of that time. I was mocked constantly by the communist prison authorities. The prison commander made me an example of how he mocked and disgraced me in front of other detainees. The hardest time for me was the period I was transported by prison wagon from the city of Tula to the city of Atyashevo in the Republic of Mordovia. When I reached the prison camp I had though the joy of meeting believing sisters. We were praying together and even could find a smuggled Gospel, we read together. Eventually the communist authorities found this Gospel and confiscated it. Other prisoners around us, were told by the communist prison authorities we should be viewed as dangerous criminals. Many women prisoners ended up very curious and asked us about our Christian beliefs and church activities. They inquired about our faith. We had many opportunities to witness our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. When freed, I was received with much love by my family and fellow church-members.

Due to tax laws inside Romania, some help needs be sent through the local nonprofits Misiunea Crestina Richard Wurmbbrand and Asociatia Caritabila Sabina Wurmbbrand. The financial support is distributed in turn to Richard Wurmbbrand College (a high school) the Agape Orphanage or to many Christians and their families, most of them now 70 to well into their nineties. Everyone endured many years of communist prison.

Orphans helped with your gifts



CONFIRMARE

Fundația Creștină pentru Copii "AGAPE" din Pascani str. Dragos-Voila nr. 23, Jud. Iasi, ROMANIA confirmă prin prezenta că a primit din partea Organizației Help For Refugees - PO Box 5161, Torrance, CA 90510, USA, în data de 23.06.2025 în contul bancar suma de **8461.00 lei** echivalent a **2000 \$** (două mii de dolari).

Banii se vor folosi în scopul susținerii copiilor orfani ocrotiți în Căminul AGAPE. Vă mulțumim! De asemenea, mulțumim și domnului Anthony Iametta care a contribuit la aceasta sumă. Dumnezeu să vă binecuvânteze!

The Christian Foundation for Children Agape from Pascani, Dragos-Voila street, number 23, Iasi, Romania is confirming through this document, that it received the sum of 2000\$ (8461.00 Lei) in 23/06/2025. This sum is representing a donation for the endorsed establishment's needs, from Organization "Help For Refugees" - PO Box 5161, Torrance, CA 90510, USA.

The money will be used in the aim of supporting the orphan children protected in Agape orphanage. We thank you! We also thank Mr. Anthony Iametta who contributed to this amount. God bless you!

Director,
Doina Gavril



Agape children singing in a Christian choir



Run-down house in which the three children Vasile, Elena and Maria D, shown below lived, before being taken into the Agape House.



Vasile, Elena and Maria were received into the Agape House when Vasile was 10, Elena 9 and Maria only 3. The Romanian Social Services found them begging on the streets and asked the Agape Foundation to take them in. They are dedicated Christians. Below: their late deceased grandmother.



Orphans helped with your gifts



Iulian stayed in the Agape House to the age of 19. He met his wife Daniela, an orphan also. At right, the orphan Iulian at ten, when living at Agape.



Above, Iulian and Daniela's wedding attended by other orphans at Agape. Pictured in front, Dorin and Carmen Gavril, the directors of the Agape Foundation.

Sign on the wall reads:

"Jesus the Light of the World.

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou and thy house shalt be saved!"

Ukrainian Christian Refugees Helped with your Gifts

April 16, 2022 (see update below*)

Dear contributors:

My gratitude to all who donated generously toward helping so many refugees from Ukraine, a true flood of displaced individuals. More than four million have escaped the current war and another three million are expected to come out. If one reads the daily news, one will be convinced easily these are not exaggerated figures. These are persons who flee from extensive bombing and continuing total destructions of whole towns.

It happens that my birth country, Romania, and the Republic of Moldova (also a Romanian language country) have together the longest common border with Ukraine. At the same time, Romania is one of the poorest countries in the European Union and Moldova is economically worse. Between Romania and Moldova so far, one million Ukrainians have sought asylum already. **Refugees come at times at the rate of 10,000 every 24 hours.*** Most of these refugees are women with 3 to 8 children. Fortunately, many other countries in Europe and North America are accepting to resettle these refugees if they can arrive there. Many churches outside Romania, have sent transportation means, like buses and even chartered flights. These refugees speak Ukrainian and Russian. Here and there, the communality of the Romanian language is of help, since some closer to the border localities like the university town of Czernowitz (name in German, Cernauti in Romanian) where my mother was born, used to be part of Romania before WWII. Some of the younger generation might have a little knowledge of English. Through many dependable contacts of many years in Romania, we concentrated on helping with local Romanian currency of US \$200 to \$2,000 per family of **Christian believers**-refugees. Many came out with hardly more than the shirt on their back. There were miles-long lines at the border. Through the local Christians who deserve all praise, we provide pocket money given in hand for food and believers' lodging for a few days, until there is a partial resolution as to near-future plans of settling some place somehow or moving-on further to other countries. \$2,000 seems to be a large sum for an elderly couple who could escape but most couples come out with larger groups of 10 to 15 children and grandchildren. Just as one example, we paid for a Victoria village home, \$6,000 for a one-month lodging and food for three adults and twelve children. Most of these refugees entertain the illusion of taking refuge out of their native country and their lodging and work, for a brief time but the way the news comes out on this prolonged war, I doubt this will be the case. I believe these refugees will remain refugees for many years to come. We publish in our newsletters testimonies and some receipts documenting what I wrote above.

***Update:** (Ukrainian refugees still entered Romania more than 6,000 daily, at start of 2025.)

Michael Wurmbrand

409	Власенко	Валентин	Медведевич	1958	Украина
410	Вольф	Андрей	Норвичевич	1958	Казахстан
411	Журин	АЛЕКСЕЙ	ЯКОВЛЕВИЧ	1958	Россия
412	Лавен	НИКОЛАЙ	ВИКТОРОВИЧ	1958	Казахстан
413	Романки	Владимир	Николович	1958	Украина
414	Тиссен	Давид	Давидович	1958	Россия
415	ТУРНЕВИЧ	Василь	Тарасович	1959	Украина
416	Бачков	Степан	Павлович	1959	Украина
417	ДРИСВЯЧНИКОВ	АЛЕКСАНДР	АЛЕКСАНДРОВИЧ	1959	Россия
418	СВБОРЦОВА	ЛЮБОВЬ	НИКОЛАЕВНА	1959	Россия
419	Варанен	Виталий	Федотович	1959	Россия
420	Дубицкий	СЕРГЕЙ	АДАМОВИЧ	1959	Россия
421	Лазанко	Борис	Владимирович	1959	Украина
422	Темченко	ИВАН	ИВАНОВИЧ	1959	Казахстан
423	МАРЧЕНКО	Станислав	Павлович	1960	Украина
424	Донченко	Александр	Максимович	1960	Украина
425	Отмахов	Вениамин	Александрович (Валерианов)	1960	Узбекистан
426	Сораченко	Михаил	Михайлович	1960	Эстония
427	Фадеева (ШВЕЦОВА)	ДИНА	ВЛАДИМИРОВНА	1961	Алания
428	ШВЕЦОВА	АННА	ВЛАДИМИРОВНА	1962	Алания
429	Богородинов	Александр	Валерьевич	1962	Эстония
430	Минькова	Павел	Дмитриевич	1962	Эстония

Above, a **sample only** of a lengthy list, our mission was able to compile beside other lists, of over 480 elderly Baptist Christians most of them still alive, who suffered for the Christian faith in the former Soviet Union. The prison sentences amounted from 2 years, to as many as 18 years of communist prison. If considered together, their years of prison-sentences shown in our **abbreviated** table, would add up to over 2,000 years of prison. The 4th and 5th column together, show year of birth and the most recent country they live in (like Ukraine, Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus, etc.) We try obtaining exact addresses, so we may be able to send encouraging help to those still alive. We were able to send repeated help to about 120 such elderly Russian-speaking Christians and over 110 speaking other languages. Many of their testimonies you can read in the monthly newsletter. Testimonies available also on the internet. **Look up third column at the website:**

<https://helpforrefugees.com>

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Gifts are US tax-deductible. Help for Refugees is listed in Publication 78, Cumulative List of Nonprofit Organizations described in Section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Service. For IRS nonprofit status you may use this link: <https://apps.irs.gov/app/eos/allSearch> and enter EIN: 953064521.