Aid to the Church in Need

ACN IRELAND

General Information

Aid to the Church in Need Ireland is a Pontifical Charity dedicated to providing pastoral and humanitarian care to suffering and persecuted Christians around the world. ACN Ireland is also founded upon and committed to defending, the Catholic Faith.

acnireland.org/donate

PONTIFICAL FOUNDATION

PERU: A schoolboy listening to the stories of Sister Fatima Guzman during Religion class.

Aid to the Church in Need

ACN was founded in Germany in 1947 as a Catholic aid charity for war refugees. The charity has evolved over the years and today has national offices in over 20 countries. ACN Ireland was established in 2009. ACN was re-founded as a Foundation of Pontifical Right by Pope Benedict XVI in 2011.

Each year, ACN supports over 6,000 projects in over 150 countries. The charity receives no public funding and relies solely on the good will, prayers and generosity of individuals.

Our Mission

The mission of Aid to the Church in Need is to help bring a light of hope to some of the darkest parts of the world where people are persecuted because of their faith in Jesus Christ.

Our Vision

- We envisage a world where Christianity can thrive without fear or persecution.
- We endeavour to stand by those who suffer violence and oppression for the sake of their Catholic faith.
- We help alleviate extreme poverty, especially where it is a factor in hindering the pastoral life of a community.
- We help the Church in Her mission of proclaiming the Good News.
- In the Middle East, in those lands that are the cradle of civilisation, where now only a remnant of Christianity remains, we support the strengthening and renewed presence of Christians.
- We venerate the testimonies of modern Martyrs.
- We aim to educate our supporters about the suffering Church and to inspire a spirit of Christian solidarity amongst them.

Save Lives, Save Souls, Save the Faith

The Work of ACN Ireland

AID TO REFUGEES We assist refugees and persecuted people, by providing material help and pastoral care to victims of war, violence and religious persecution. From assisting orphans in Sudan, to helping Christians under siege in Iraq, we help keep Christianity alive in today's troubled world.

FORMATION We support the formation of priests, religious and lay missionaries, providing basic necessities such as food, clothing and education materials for their training so that they may grow in faith and lead others to God. Every year more than 15,000 seminarians and religious receive our help.

BIBLES AND CATECHETICAL RESOURCES We provide and distribute bibles, rosary beads and catechetical materials to impoverished Christian communities so that they may receive spiritual nourishment and grow in their faith.

CONSTRUCTION OF CHURCHES We help to rebuild churches desecrated by war and we construct new ones giving fresh hope and sacred buildings for the faithful to gather and worship in.

TRANSPORTATION We provide cars, trucks, motorcycles, bicycles and even mules to help clergy and other pastoral workers reach remote areas of the world and minister to the spiritual needs of their faith communities.

MASS OFFERINGS We forward 100% of your Mass stipends for Masses requested for your loved ones - living and deceased - to priests working in impoverished areas of the world, helping to support and sustain them in their pastoral work. Every year over 40,000 priests receive the benefit of your Mass offerings.

CARE FOR PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS We financially assist both contemplative and active religious sisters offering pastoral support to those who have devoted their lives to serving God. Every year approximately 20,000 religious in poor and persecuted communities receive our help.

acnireland.org/donate

Aid to the Church in Need invites you to join us in our mission to provide a lifeline to Christians who are struggling to survive persecution, oppression and discrimination.

You can support the work of ACN Ireland...

- **By praying, fasting and attending Mass regularly** for an end to persecution and war wherever in the world there is division and strife.
- **By blessing yourself in public, when having a meal, passing a Church, or a graveyard**, for all those around the world who cannot bless themselves in public for fear of their safety.
- **By asking our elected public representatives to defend the rights of those who suffer discrimination and persecution because of their faith**.
- **By subscribing to our *Mirror* magazine**, published monthly, and by donating or volunteering from time to time to support and promote the work of ACN.
- **By asking to receive our free weekly electronic newsletter from info@acnireland.org**
- **By contacting us to have a Mass offered** for a loved one - living or deceased - and having your offering go to support priests working in impoverished areas of the world.

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Please scan QR Code to donate online

PONTIFICAL FOUNDATION

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