



Solidarity and support  
from Germany for  
Northern Europe

**2022**



**DIASPORA-KOMMISSARIAT**  
DER DEUTSCHEN BISCHÖFE/  
DIASPORAHILFE DER PRIESTER



Hilfswerk für den Glauben

**bonifatius  
werk**

## **What is the Diaspora Kommissariat?**

### **From priests for priests**

This is the guiding principle of the work of the Diaspora-Kommissariat of German Bishops / Diaspora Aid of Priests. It supports the pastoral care in the area of the Nordic Bishops' Conference by funding building projects, providing salary subsidies and offering motorisation grants. The financial means for this are provided by the priests in the German dioceses as every priest pays one percent of his personal salary to the Diaspora-Kommissariat.

Further information about the Diaspora Kommissariat can be found here:

➔ [www.diaspora-kommissariat.de](http://www.diaspora-kommissariat.de)

## **What is the Bonifatiuswerk?**

### **»No one should have to believe alone.«**

The Bonifatiuswerk of German Catholics helps where Catholic Christians live their faith in a minority situation in the diaspora of Germany, Northern Europe and the Baltic states.

With its commitment, it calls attention to a hardship that does not obviously catch our eye: Being alone in your faith, being alone among people who follow a different faith, who do not belong to any religion, or to whom the Christian belief has always been or become strange. The Bonifatiuswerk has supported projects in the diaspora since 1849, it promotes the propagation of faith and enables the faithful to live their faith in a community.

The President of the Bonifatiuswerk since 07/11 is Manfred Müller; Monsignore Georg Austen is Secretary General, Ingo Imenkämper has been Managing Director since January 2020.

Further information about the Bonifatiuswerk may be found here:

➔ [www.bonifatiuswerk.de/en](http://www.bonifatiuswerk.de/en)



## Diaspora Sunday 2022:

# “With YOU to the WE.”

**20th November 2022**

Each November, the Bonifatiuswerk prays for its fellow Christians in the diaspora regions. In 2022 the Diaspora Sunday takes place on the 20th of November.

This year's diaspora campaign has the motto “With YOU to the WE”. On the occasion of the Bonifatius Day celebrations, the Bonifatiuswerk presented the motto at the beginning of June.

It “reminds us how important the WE is and that this WE needs a YOU. Only through the other person do we become a community. In the diaspora, it depends on each individual, our faith lives on people who encourage each other, celebrate the faith and enter into dialogue. The WE is the brand essence of our faith, the relationship to each other and to Christ. We are not a national church, but a universal church which takes Jesus Christ as its model and which has an impact on the world of today,” says the Secretary General of the Bonifatiuswerk, Monsignor Georg Austen.

“For as in one body we have many members,  
and not all the members have the same function,  
so we, who are many, are one body in Christ,  
and individually we are members one of another.”  
(Romans 12:4-5)

# Aid of the Diaspora Kommissariat for the Northern European diaspora dioceses 2021



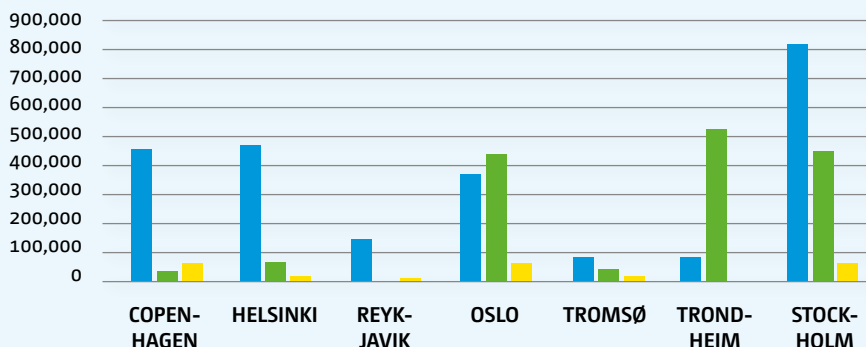
**DIASPORA-KOMMISSARIAT**  
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DIASPORAHILFE DER PRIESTER

## ICELAND

Inhabitants: 376010  
Reg. Catholics: 14.702  
Percentage: 3,91  
Priests: 16  
Parishes: 8



## Aid by type and diocese



Salary subsidies	457,800.00	468,400.00	144,000.00	369,600.00	78,000.00	78,000.00	820,800.00
Building grants	32,000.00	63,000.00	0.00	440,000.00	40,000.00	525,000.00	450,000.00
Motorisation grants	62,200.00	16,300.00	8,000.00	61,600.00	15,300.00	0.00	57,100.00

Figures: Diaspora Kommissariat, 2021



## NORWAY

Inhabitants: 5.547.052  
Reg. Catholics: 167,856  
Percentage: 3,0 %  
Priests: 112  
Parishes: 40

## FINLAND

Inhabitants: 5,638,621  
Reg. Catholics: 16,352  
Percentage: 0.29 %  
Priests: 28  
Parishes: 8

## ESTONIA

Inhabitants: 1,220,042  
Reg. Catholics: 5.900  
Percentage: 0.49 %  
Priests: 14  
Parishes: 5

## LATVIA

Inhabitants: 1,862,687  
Reg. Catholics: 363,224  
Percentage: 19.5 %  
Priests: 150  
Parishes: 269

## DENMARK

Inhabitants: 6,003,448  
Reg. Catholics: 52,230  
Percentage: 0.87 %  
Priests: 74  
Parishes: 40

## SWEDEN

Inhabitants: 10,452,727  
Reg. Catholics: 126,478  
Percentage: 1.21 %  
Priests: 172  
Parishes: 44

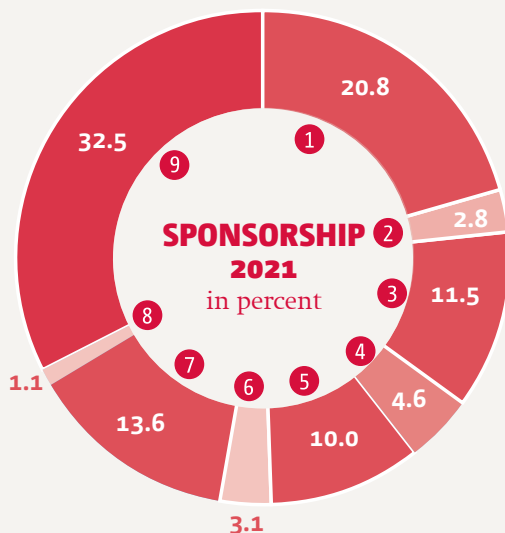
Figures: <https://www.nordicbishopsconference.org>,  
Figures Baltic states: [www.renovabis.de](http://www.renovabis.de),  
Map: [www.freevectormaps.com](http://www.freevectormaps.com), 2016

Helsinki/  
Finland

Copenhagen/  
Denmark

Trondheim/Norway

# Sponsorship with funds provided by the Bonifatiuswerk in 2021 – by types of aid



Project Type	Subsidy Amount
1 Building aid	2,724,725.00 EUR
2 Transport aid	368,366.46 EUR
3 Aid for children and youths	1,502,366.22 EUR
4 Faith aid	603,982.41 EUR
5 Earmarked funding / Sponsorship for specific purposes	1,316,144.83 EUR
6 Project support and monitoring	406,833.31 EUR
7 Education and campaign work	1,783,929.80 EUR
8 Support for pastoral care	149,434.75 EUR
9 Project sponsorship from the funds of the Diaspora Kommissariat	4,258,330.00 EUR
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,114,112.78 EUR</b>

Of these funds, the following were allocated specifically to Northern Europe:

FIGURES IN EUR

COUNTRY	TOTAL	BUILDING AID	AID FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTHS	FAITH AID	TRANSPORT AID
<b>DENMARK</b>	234,500.00	168,000.00	66,500.00	—	—
<b>FINLAND</b>	143,700.00	125,000.00	18,700.00	—	—
<b>ICELAND</b>	74,000.00	74,000.00	—	—	—
<b>NORWAY</b>	774,150.00	766,650.00	7,500.00	—	—
<b>SWEDEN</b>	200,000.00	50,000.00	20,000.00	130,000.00	—
<b>ESTONIA</b>	150,422.22	115,000.00	—	32,000.00	3,422.22
<b>LATVIA</b>	251,310.83	155,000.00	11,000.00	44,000.00	41,310.83

For further information, please read the annual financial report on the homepage of the Bonifatiuswerk:

➔ [www.bonifatiuswerk.de/werk/zahlen-fakten/](http://www.bonifatiuswerk.de/werk/zahlen-fakten/)

You can find the most important information about the Bonifatiuswerk of German Catholics in english on the homepage of the Bonifatiuswerk as well: ➔ [www.bonifatiuswerk.de/english](http://www.bonifatiuswerk.de/english)

The application forms for project support you can find here:

➔ [www.bonifatiuswerk.de/en/en/application-details](http://www.bonifatiuswerk.de/en/en/application-details)



# Sponsored projects in Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden

\* Sponsored by the Bonifatiuswerk (BW)

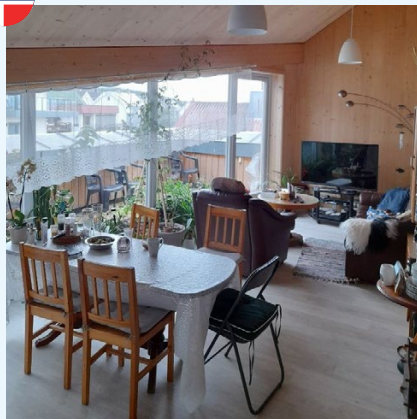
\*\* Sponsored by the Diaspora-Kommissariat (DK)

You can find more information at ➔ [www.bonifatiuswerk.de/projekte](http://www.bonifatiuswerk.de/projekte) (german) and [www.bonifatiuswerk.de/en](http://www.bonifatiuswerk.de/en) (english)

## **Diocese of Copenhagen: Renovation of priest's flat**

In the course of renovating the Rosary Church in Aakirkeby on Bornholm, built in 1932, the priest's flat was still missing. New windows had to be installed and the heating system and bathroom had to be modernised.

**Funding: 29,500.00 €\*\***

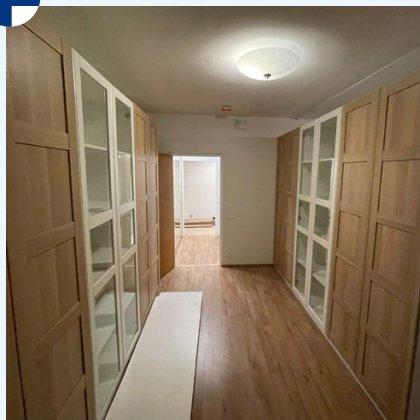


## **Prelature Tromsø: Building of new rectory**

In Harstad, 250 kilometres from the Arctic Circle, the rectory unfortunately had to be torn down after a fire. The newly built rectory combines parish rooms as well as a priest's flat, a chaplain's flat and a nurse's flat. Additional building regulations led to an increase in costs.

**Funding: 225,000.00 €\*\***





### **Diocese of Helsinki: Comprehensive renovation of priests' apartments**

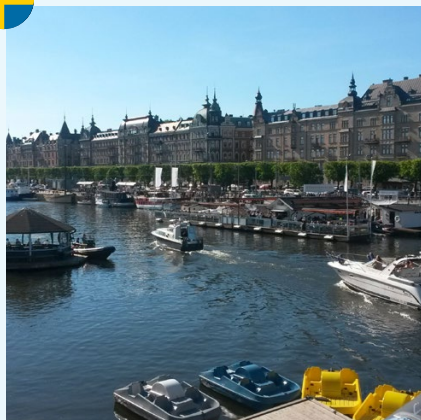
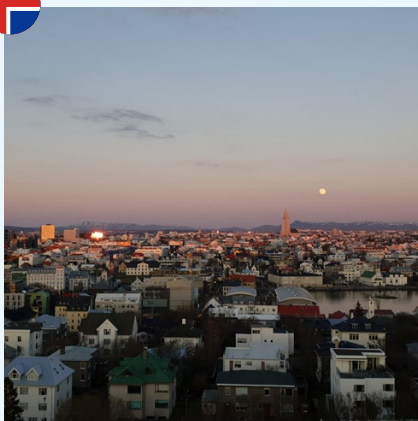
In the course of the renovation of the community centre in Tuku, the attached four priests' flats and office rooms also had to be renovated, including modernisation of the heat and electricity network, the sanitary facilities and the kitchen.

**Funding: 400,000.00 €\*\***

### **Diocese of Reykjavík: Reconstruction of parish centre**

When renovating the community building of the parish St. Johannes Paul II. in Keflavik, not only the parish rooms, but also the attached priest's flat had to be refitted with new windows and window sills. Also the walls had to be repaired and painted.

**Funding: 17,500.00 €\*\***



### **Diocese of Stockholm: Pastoral care for Ukrainian refugees**

More than 40,000 people have fled to Sweden from the war in Ukraine, which is a noticeable number for the need for pastoral care in the greater Stockholm area. For this mission, the priest Andrii Melnychuk moved to the vicinity of Stockholm with his family and needed suitable premises.

**Funding: 117,500.00 €\*\***

# Sponsored projects in Estonia and Latvia

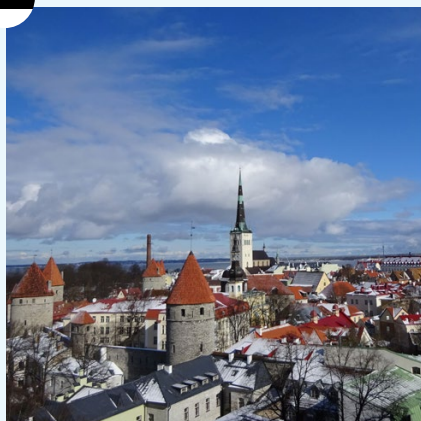
\* Sponsored by the Bonifatiuswerk (BW)

\*\* Sponsored by the Diaspora-Kommissariat (DK)

## **Archdiocese of Riga: Help for Ukrainian refugees**

The Dominican Sisters of Bethany in Riga are committed to helping Ukrainian women and children who have fled the war. In order to provide accommodation, renovations were necessary and furniture and mattresses had to be bought, among other things.

**Funding: 10,000.00 €\***



## **Apostolic Administration of Tallinn: Additional teaching rooms**

At the private St. Michaels School, much of the modernization work has been completed, but additional rooms are needed. Besides, the teachers' room and the girls' changing rooms on the third floor, as well as two staircases have to be extensively renovated.

**Funding: 70,000.00 €\***

# Sponsored project “Praktikum im Norden“

Sponsored by the Bonifatiuswerk (BW).

The Bonifatiuswerk invites young people for six to 14 months to get to know the Catholic Diaspora Church in Northern Europe and the Baltic States. It is a cooperation programme between the Bonifatiuswerk and the Newman Institute in Uppsala, Sweden. 201 people have completed or are part of the project Praktikum im Norden.





“With You to the We” may take many different expressions in different situations. In our peculiar context, and specially this year, it means for us to be together, estonians and russian-speaking, one country and one society. In a situation where powerful people are trying to artificially create a global conflict, we are trying to give peace, to preach for the peace. It is certainly urgent to convey this message, in a world of conflicts, nationalisms and extremisms.”

Philippe Jourdan  
Bishop of Tallinn/Estonia

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