

# Solidarity and support from Germany for Northern Europe

from the Diaspora Kommissariat  
and the Bonifatiuswerk of German Catholics 2019



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 blatantly 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 is Heinz Paus; Monsignore Georg Austen has been the Executive Director since 2008.

Further information about the Bonifatiuswerk can be found here: [www.bonifatiuswerk.de/english](http://www.bonifatiuswerk.de/english)

# Diaspora Sunday 2019: “Become an ambassador of faith”

**17th November 2019**

Every year the Bonifatiuswerk prays for its fellow Christians in the diaspora regions. In 2019 Diaspora Sunday takes place on 17th November.

Werde  
**Glaubensstifter!**

Ihre  
Spende  
zählt!

Diaspora-Sonntag  
17. November 2019

[www.werde-glaubensstifter.de](http://www.werde-glaubensstifter.de)

Keiner  
soll alleine  
glauben.

Hilf mit den Spenden  
**bonifatius**  
werk

*„If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.“ (2Co 5:17-18.20)*

Ambassadors of faith are people who have found their vocation. They are enthusiastic about God and inspire and encourage others to believe in God and to choose their way of life. They risk something for the sake of faith because they feel that the message of the gospel changes their life. They shape the world because they love God and his creation and they stand in solidarity with the marginalized. Meeting them gives hope and confidence.

We are pleased if you would talk about our request and the Bonifatiuswerk during mass on Diaspora Sunday.

Let’s pray with one another and for one another on Diaspora Sunday.

# Aid of the Diaspora Kommissariat

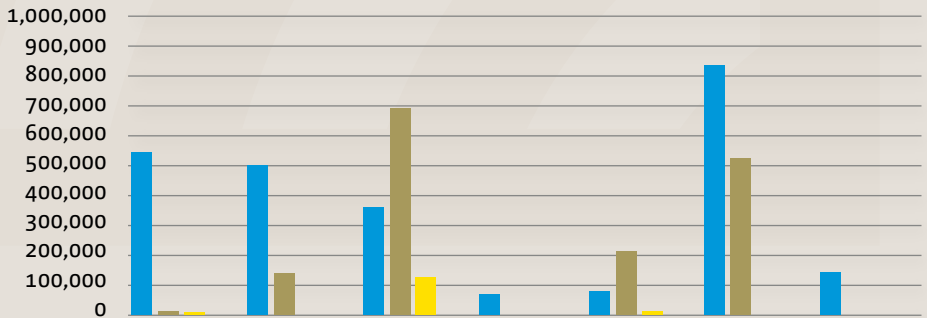
## for the Northern European diaspora dioceses 2018

### Iceland

Inhabitants: 356,991  
Registered Catholics: 13,990  
Percent: 3.9  
Priests: 14  
Parishes: 8



## Aid by type and diocese



	Helsinki	Copen- hagen	Oslo	Trond- heim	Tromsø	Stock- holm	Reyk- javik
Salary subsidies	543,888.50	499,484.00	360,840.00	69,290.00	79,385.00	836,266.00	142,608.00
Building grants	40,000.00	140,625.00	692,000.00	0.00	214,000.00	525,000.00	0.00
Motorisation grants	9,000.00	0.00	125,340.00	0.00	13,600.00	0.00	0.00

Figures: Diaspora Kommissariat, 2018



## Norway

Inhabitants: 5,293,105  
Regi. Catholics: 166,317  
Percent: 2.4  
Priests: 109  
Parishes: 38

## Finland

Inhabitants: 5,517,919  
Reg. Catholics: 15,483  
Percent: 0.28  
Priests: 28  
Parishes: 8

## Estonia

Inhabitants: 1,244,288  
Reg. Catholics: 5,500  
Percent: 0.5  
Priests: 14  
Parishes: 5

## Denmark

Inhabitants: 5,911,756  
Reg. Catholics: 49,422  
Percent: 0.83  
Priests: 75  
Parishes: 20

## Sweden

Inhabitants: 10,230,185  
Reg. Catholics: 121,681  
Percent: 1.18  
Priests: 168  
Parishes: 44

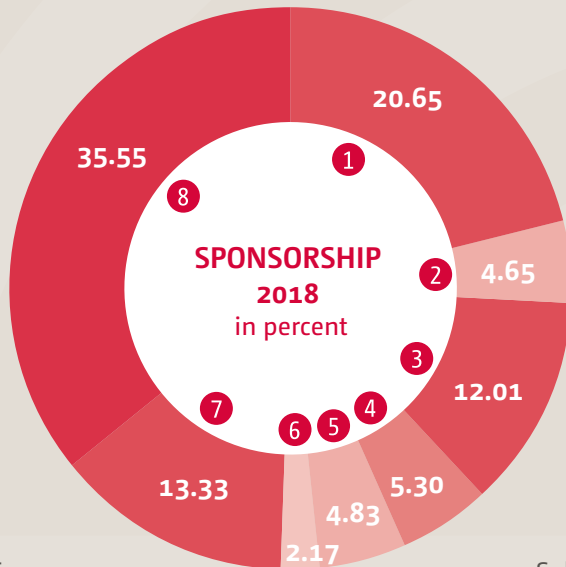
## Latvia

Inhabitants: 1,923,559  
Reg. Catholics: 400,000  
Percent: 20  
Priests: 170  
Parishes: 247

Figures: NBC, 2018, Map: [www.freevectormaps.com](http://www.freevectormaps.com), 2016,  
Figures Baltic states: [www.bonifatiuswerk.de](http://www.bonifatiuswerk.de), [www.renovabis.de](http://www.renovabis.de)



# Sponsorship with funds provided by the Bonifatiuswerk in 2018 – by types of aid



Project Type	Subsidy Amount
Building aid	<b>3,179,804.00</b> EUR
Transport aid	<b>716,487.61</b> EUR
Aid for children and youths	<b>1,848,620.00</b> EUR
Faith aid	<b>816,155.36</b> EUR
Comprehensive projects / sponsorship for a specific purpose	<b>743,234.42</b> EUR
Project monitoring and support	<b>417,084.38</b> EUR
Educational, campaign and awareness training	<b>2,053,039.69</b> EUR
Project sponsorship from the funds of the Diaspora Kommissariat	<b>5,473,875.50</b> EUR
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,248,300.96</b> EUR

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

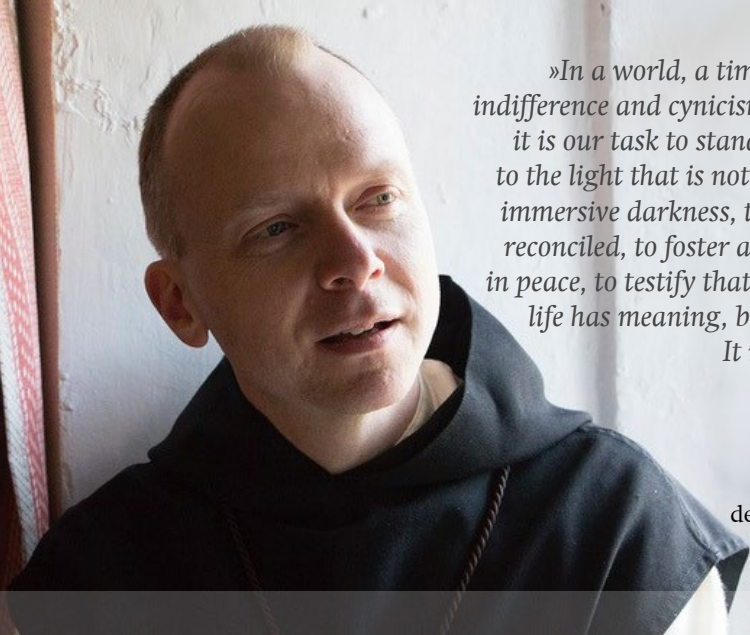
FIGURES IN EUR

DIOCESE / COUNTRY	TOTAL	BUILDING AID	AID FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTHS	FAITH AID
Denmark	165,500.00	106,500.00	59,000.00	—
Finland	39,500.00	24,500.00	15,000.00	—
Iceland	77,400.00	75,000.00	2,400.00	—
Norway	456,600.00	446,000.00	10,600.00	—
Sweden	322,000.00	255,000.00	67,000.00	96,000.00
Estonia	110,000.00	85,000.00	25,000.00	—
Latvia	440,300.00	364,300.00	76,000.00	—

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/)



*»In a world, a time more and more marked by indifference and cynicism, hopelessness and division, it is our task to stand for something else: to point to the light that is not to be taken by even the most immersive darkness, to nourish the goodwill, to be reconciled, to foster a fellowship founded on trust, in peace, to testify that death has lost its sting, that life has meaning, beauty and inviolable dignity. It is a great responsibility, this, but also a privilege – to transformational joy.«*

**Erik Varden O.S.C.O.,  
designated bishop of Trondheim.**  
Source: Trondheim Prelature's homepage

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