



METROPOLITAN OF EASTERN AMERICA AND NEW YORK
FIRST HIERARCH OF THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OUTSIDE OF RUSSIA
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January 25 20 18

Nº 1-7 / 18

Beloved in the Lord, Parish Rectors,

Directors and Teachers of Parish and Sunday schools

With our blessing and in the framework of the initiated program "School Piggy Bank", the Prince Vladimir Youth Association, together with the Synodal Youth Department, are organizing financial assistance to the St. Elizabeth Special Needs Orphanage in Minsk, Belorussia. Most of the children there never had a home and do not know parental warmth. Many of them have complex diagnoses but are given loving attention by the sisters of the St. Elizabeth convent.

During Great Lent, this good deed will take the form of a program known as the "School Piggy Bank". We appeal to you to help support these poor orphans. Every penny donated by your children will mean a great deal. Collected funds will be of great use and support to these parentless children. They will be especially happy to know that children their age provided the needed assistance.

Christian love is expressed in actions and, thanks to your efforts last year, we were able to build a needed playground for orphans outside of St. Petersburg Russia. (www.youthpv.org). We hope that this Great Lent your children will express their love for God and their neighbor by helping the needy children of Minsk, which will also be a stimulus to Christian growth.

Donations should be collected up until Palm Sunday inclusively. Checks should be written out to *The Prince Vladimir Youth Association* and sent c/o Archpriest Andrei Sommer, 75 E. 93 St., New York, NY 10128, no later than April 20, 2018.

All parish schools will be provided with a report on how their collected donations were used.

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Metropolitan of Eastern America and New York,

First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia