**Fast Facts**

**Population:** 2,646,000  
**Catholics:** 1,300  
**Capital:** Ulaanbaatar; 812,000  
**Area:** 1,564,116 square kilometers (603,909 square miles)  
**Language:** Khalkha Mongol, Turkic, Russian  
**Main Religion:** Tibetan Buddhist, Lamaism  
**Currency:** Togrog/Tugrik  
**Life Expectancy:** 65  
**Literacy Percent:** 99

---

**The Catholic Church in Mongolia**

The Catholic Church has only been present in Mongolia for 25 years! When the first three missionaries arrived in Mongolia, there were no Catholic Churches and no Catholics! Little by little they began teaching the Mongols about Jesus Christ and His Church. They taught the people about the teachings of Christ and invited them to come to Mass and to Catechism class. Eventually many people asked to become Baptized and to become Catholic. There are now more than 60 missionaries and about 1,300 Catholics in Mongolia. New churches are being opened because there are more people who are learning about Jesus and want to become members of His Church! You see, there is still a great need for missionaries because there are still many people who have not yet learned about Jesus!
On June 11, 2017, Holy Trinity Sunday, a new Church was officially dedicated in Mongolia. The new parish is called Divine Mercy Church. It began when an African Missionary priest, Fr. Prosper Mbumba realized that he could not leave the 3 Catholics in the area without a shepherd. Even though there were only 3 people who came to Mass, Fr. Prosper saw how important it was that he continue to teach them about Jesus and bring them the Sacraments such as the Eucharist. Little by little those three people began to bring their families and friends and the number of people coming to Mass grew. The community grew so much that they were finally able to have their very own parish! God has blessed them in many ways and is very happy with their faithfulness— in just three days there were 7 Baptisms and one marriage!

Fr. Joseph Enkh Baatar is the first ever indigenous priest of Mongolia. At 29 years old, he was ordained on August 28, 2016. Fr. Joseph was ordained by Bishop Wenceslao Padilla who was one of the first 3 missionaries to Mongolia back in 1992. It was his sister who first introduced Fr. Joseph to the Catholic Faith. “I thank the Lord who has called me to serve Him through the priesthood. I am also grateful to all the people who have helped me respond to this calling.” says Fr. Joseph.

What you can do:
- Pray for the Church in Mongolia
- Offer special sacrifices for the missionaries working in Mongolia
- Go to Mass every Sunday and bring your family and friends with you just like the 3 people who began the Divine Mercy Parish
- Talk about Jesus to people who don’t know about him