Press Release

17.08.2015

Terra Mariana 800 Jubilee in Estonia and the renewal of the dedication to the Mother of God.

This year 800 years have passed since Estonia and North Latvia were dedicated to the Virgin Mary - one of the oldest dedications of a territory to the Mother of God.

In 1215 Pope Innocent III stated at the Fourth Lateran Council that Estonia and Livonia had been dedicated to the Mother of God and that he wanted to promote the Mother's Land as well as the Son's Land -sicut terram filii, sic et terram matris.

For this important occasion, on Sunday September 6th, the Estonian Apostolic Administrator Bishop Philippe Jourdan, together with Archbishop Zbignievs Stankevics of Riga, will renew this dedication to the Mother of God in accordance with the tradition of the Roman Catholic Church.

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The Holy Mass of Dedication will take place on Sunday, September 6 at 12:00 p.m. at Tallinn's Sts Peter and Paul Cathedral (Vene 18).

After the Mass the official dedication will take place with a prayer of blessing. People all th around the world can join this dedication in spirit on the 6 of September, by reading the following prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ,

In Your wisdom and providence, You wanted

Our land to be devoted to Your Blessed Mother

So that it is known today by the beautiful name – *Terra Mariana*.

Our history confesses it, our culture and language hold it,

Our poets remember it, our singers sing of it.

Guided by Your wish, we shall turn towards You.

Please graciously accept this dedication to Your Mother

That we renew today through Your benediction, oh Lord.

Blessed Virgin and Mother, give your blessing and your protection to all of us

who carry with joy the name Terra Mariana.

Our Father...

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