



St Michael's Church
Stoke Gifford



Mission Partner of the Month - November 2025 Ruslan and Larisa Telpiz, Moldova



Ruslan and Larisa Telpiz live in Gotesti, a village in Moldova, one of the poorest countries in Europe. Ruslan is the Pastor of the Baptist Church. His ministry includes leading Sunday services, preaching, Bible teaching, pastoral care and discipleship. He is involved in social outreach and evangelism in Gotesti and nearby communities. Larisa works with children and families.



Day Care Centre. The work is going very well. This is an after-school ministry held in Gotesti Church, which provides help with school work, Bible stories, food and games, in a caring and supportive environment. It is attended by 60 children aged 7-15 years. They come from families where the parents are very poor and/or are alcoholics or the parents are working abroad. Many of the children have difficult home lives, with domestic abuse, neglect and lack of discipline being common place. There are three teachers: Larisa, Mariana and Dinu, who teach and mentor the children.



This is a highly effective ministry, which makes a real difference in the lives of the children and it is well regarded by the local community. Seeds of faith sown at a young age and support from Christians as role models give the children a strong foundation for their future lives.

Ruslan says: *"Through this work, the children learn the Word of God, are fed and cared for, receive a good education, mentoring and counselling. Through these children, the Word of God also reaches their homes – to their parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters".*



Mariana teaches the 7-10 yr old children.



Larisa with Bible-based study books for older children.



Dinu teaches the teenagers. He is also the youth leader and a football coach.

Sports ministry. As part of the church's outreach to the community, football and Taekwondo training is provided for children, combined with Bible studies.



Dinu is the football coach. His teams are progressing well and the children enjoy their sessions.



Andrei coaches Taekwondo. This is a martial art which is popular in Moldova. The 2-hour sessions start with 40 minutes of Bible study, then move on to sports training.

Home visits. Church members reach out to help and support elderly, sick and disabled people and poor families, through visiting them at home and talking to them, taking food parcels and – in winter – firewood, sharing the gospel and inviting them to events in the church. Many of these visits are undertaken by **Petea**, Ruslan's assistant. Petea also helps with church services and discipleship courses. He does maintenance for the church and he is the driver to transport the Day Care children.



Some events in the church this summer:

Baptisms. Six people were baptised in Gotesti and two people were baptised in the new church plant in Tiganca village.

Summer camps for children were held in both villages.

Visit by St Michael's team (6 people) in September. The team visited people in their homes, helped in practical ways, joined in activities with children and youth, saw sports training sessions and took part in a Sunday church service and a Bible study.



Ruslan says: *"We are thankful for the team from St. Michael's who visited us this year. It was a great blessing to see how they served us in practical ways in the villages of Gotesti and Tiganca".*

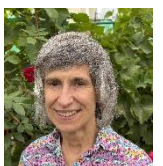


Please pray:

- That the financial needs of the workers at the Day Care Centre would be met, so that the ministry can continue and bear much fruit.
- For plans to start a new ministry with young families who do not know the Lord. The first meeting is on 27 November.
- For FRANK evangelism with **F**riends, **R**elatives, **A**ssociates, **N**eighbours and **K**ids, taking place in homes this autumn – that they would be open to hearing the gospel.



Mary Cottrell:
Link person at
St Michael's



Other St Michael's mission news and prayer points:

- Open Doors calls us to pray for our sisters and brothers in Northern Nigeria - many are being displaced and even killed just because they are Christians.
- For the on-going medical and educational activity supported by Brickworks and for people in Yei disappointed by the delay in seeing the St Michael's Mission Team.
- For Katia Rocks as Senior Pastor of her growing church in Florianopolis, Brazil.
- Give thanks with John & Sarah Sutton for the birth of Olive and pray for her on-going health.
- For the young people on the Youth Retreat at EBC Bible College, India on 30 Oct-1 Nov – that they will go forward powerfully with Jesus in their daily lives.
- For the ceasefire in Gaza to hold and to lead on to a more stable situation.