

In Namibia, with the support of Saint Josemaría

Vesta Ostoic has three daughters and lives in a town in Namibia, 900 km away from the city. She moved there from London because her husband works in a mining company. In her situation, it is a bit more difficult to receive Christian formation and to do apostolate ... but not impossible.

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“My name is Vesna Ostoic. I am Chilean, married and I have three children, Camila (9), Barbara (7) and Trinidad (4). My husband is Milton and he works for a mining company.

In January 2007, for working reasons, we moved from London to a place called Rosh Pinah, a mining town south of Namibia. The closest cities are Windhoek, the capital of the country, and Cape Town, in South Africa, both more than 900 km away from the place where we are.

Life here is not in any way easy. From the spiritual point of view one misses the possibility of going to the Sacraments frequently.

There is a Catholic church, very pretty by the way, not as poor as the rest of the houses in the town, and very charming.

Mass is celebrated only once a month. The faithful are very

cheerful: the Church is filled with hymns praising God and the people dance. We are the only white people in the parish.

In this environment, far from the family and from the people who used to help me to live a Christian life, I notice the help of God in a special way, and I lean on what I have learned meditating the life and teachings of Saint Josemaría. (...)

I thought a lot about my personal apostolate in my prayer and I saw that I could plant a seed in Namibia: to make the Christian faith known to many people, and the spirit that I have learned in Opus Dei of converting all circumstances in an occasion of loving God and serving the Church and all men.

I started giving catechism classes to the faithful of the Parish on Mondays. Now I am finishing the Creed and then I will start with the

Sacraments. On Wednesdays, we pray the Holy Rosary and on the first Friday of each month, we do a moment of adoration in front of the Most Blessed Sacrament. On Thursdays, we do the Visit to the Blessed Sacrament, we pray the hymn Adoro te Devote and we sing something in Latin: this is wonderful because the people did not know these practices of piety and they are very happy. (...)

To be able to give catechism I know that I need to pray and to continue growing in my spiritual life. Some time back, I attended a retreat in South Africa, where there are centres of Opus Dei. I had to travel 900 km by car to an international airport and from there go on to Johannesburg, a total of 1,300 km. But it is worth while. From there I brought a small portrait of Saint Josemaría that is now on one of the walls of our parish.

My next project is to build a house for the priest; in this way he could live here and celebrate the Mass daily or at least more than once a month. Pray very much for this project (...)

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