



Benefit Concert

Dunajska Luzna, Slovakia, May 13, 2023

By Jasna Káčer, Ulrike Sojka, Ania Minarovič

Almost two years ago, three sisters from the community in Dunajská Lužná, Ania Minarovič, Jasna Káčer and Ulrike Sojka, started the revival prayer walk condition (12 minutes once a week – at any time any weather, all three employed, with children), walking around Dunajská Lužná. After several months, Ania was asked by her colleague Lukáš Haizer, if she can introduce our movement to him. He is a very active public person, who cofounded the civic association Ostrov pomoci (Island of Help) which helps with distributing food and clothes to people in need. He was searching for volunteers and donors, so our community started to help. Jasna, our community leader, has been actively involved there, while some other members helped or gave donations as well.

In the beginning of this year, a part of our National Seminar Centre was renovated, and we installed some pictures of TP exhibition there. Thanks to this, our team was confident enough to invite the public.

The mastermind of the idea and the key person in the organization of the event was Ania. Together with her, the two more sisters helped with preparations, and later a few more brothers and sisters helped as well. To name only a few, Miroslav Minarovič took care of the lighting system, Miriam Alexy made beautiful posters and together with her husband Martin served as MCs. Ania contacted the singer Ewa Sipos, who lives in our village, but originates from Poland. She was ready to sing pro bono. Ania also inspired the academic painter Barbora Dujčíková Brodzianska, who works as a teacher together with her in the local school, to offer her art works for charity purposes. She also went to invite the mayor personally and afterwards, he himself offered drinks and canapés from his funds. He promised to come in spite of his wife having her birthday celebration that day.

The concert took place in a pleasant atmosphere. The art works made the new renovated lecture hall bright and created an extraordinary beautiful surrounding. Mirka and Martin as MCs did an excellent job by presenting our movement and leading through the program. We were glad that the mayor, Mr. Ernest Németh together with pater Bruno Donoval, a Dominican monk and priest at the local parish church and cofounder of the association Ostrov pomoci, Lukáš Haizer, one local catholic nun (active in social field) and the painter herself accepted our invitation and came to the concert.

In the beginning, pater Bruno spoke about the idea and implementation of the association Ostrov pomoci. Then, an 8-minute National Television Broadcasting report about the Association was shown. The program continued with a concert, where the singer created an emotional atmosphere through her touching songs and poems, some of them dedicated to her own daughter, who suffers from a severe form of autism.

After the concert, the mayor gave a final speech, in which he appreciated our work in the community. Out of 13 paintings, the mayor bought one for his office and the other 10 were sold in no time. The author of the artworks donated the whole collected amount for charity. After the concert, many people stayed for refreshment and conversation. Altogether, 36 people participated.

The very next day, the mayor posted a nice report with photos on [his Facebook account](#) and Lukáš, Jasna and one more volunteer drove by van to buy supplies for people in need from the raised funds. Besides its charity note, the event was a great opportunity to meet the mayor and the representatives of the Catholic Church which we hope will contribute to peace and understanding between religions, peoples, communities and individuals.