

# Élő Reménység Alapítvány

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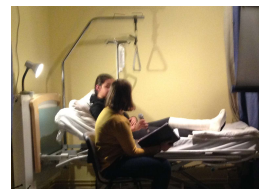
After Easter, before Pentecost, and during quarantine...who will roll the stone away?

“When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus’ body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, ‘Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?’ But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away” (Mark 16:1-4.)



## GIVING THANKS: PROGRAMMES AT THE END OF THE LAST YEAR

We are grateful for the programmes at the end of the last year; we could experience our loving Lord’s help, presence, and blessing again. Preparing for the children’s and prisoners’ Christmas services the same questions come up always: Who can participate in them, who is willing to sacrifice their strength and free time for them? On the one hand, I am sad that those who earlier took part in the services have no time today (of course, there are people among them who got very old or have already passed to Heaven); on the other hand, our Lord has given us and brought us others who in turn worked together with us in the preparation with gladness and a happy heart. It is especially true for the children’s Christmas service that we watch with a little anxiety but hopefully if there are enough people to help the children learn the scenes, but there isn’t a throng during the singing practices starting in autumn. Enthusiasm is decreasing year by year; fewer and fewer of us hold prison services, and not all those who come can sing, although the inmates receive our festive services with an open heart. Still, it is so good to experience that there is no need to worry; our God loves us and provides us with the needs and means to share His gospel. We are truly amazed to see that for instance in the prison, the songs sound good; the inmates like them. Although there could sound musical instruments, too, to make the services more colourful, the point is that God’s words, His message, can be heard, moving them as well as us. How can this happen? Because He is for us without whom our efforts would be pointless. And He blesses us. There is no need for other gifts.



## THE FAMILY



Our **István**, who is a pensioner, still works in our brother **Gyula’s** enterprise (building trade).

**Anna** works as a dental assistant, and on account of the quarantine for a few weeks, she could not work either but since she works in a private dentist’s office, she can continue her work now. Studying together with her daughter is an additional strain for her, too. This period is unusual for **Fanni**, too, and when Anna can’t be home, the residents help Fanni to study.





**Rózsika**, despite her own illnesses, faithfully attends her husband **Endre** whose left leg had to be amputated under knee - unfortunately, it couldn't be saved. He must be on a strict diet owing to his diabetes, but God is with them, they experience His help, so his wound is healing properly.



**Csaba P.** works as an electrician, he studies diligently and with good results at the evening classes. His guitar playing makes singing at church colourful.



**Vali** is in grade 9, she has been living with her daughter **Liza** in the Éra since autumn. Liza proved to be a great help in the children's Christmas programme. She exclaimed according to her role in the *Kincskeresők* [Treasure Hunters] this way: "I also want to find the real treasure: Jesus!" A couple of days later, we were together on Christmas Eve talking about what happened on the previous days, about the birth of Jesus, our experiences in the prison in Baracska, and the retirement home when she said that she also accepts God's love and Jesus; she would like to be God's child. Feeling the same happiness, **Bea** joined her making the same decision. So this evening became more special for us.



**Laci Sz.** is still struggling with his past, unfortunately he needed to be sent away. He is staying in a casual ward, we keep in touch with him. **Bea** is still living at us with her daughter **Móni**; her second daughter **Fanni** is growing, she is already six months old.



**Zoli J.** has been found by his daughter Zsanett whom he hasn't seen for a long time and who currently lives in Austria with her partner. It was a great pleasure for both of them since after so many years, they could get closer to each other. **Zoli** got rid of his late lifestyle very much regretting it and turned over a new leaf. He moved into the house in March. His diligence is exemplary.



**Martin**, following the reintegrational period at us, needed to go back to prison for a few months. He has recently been released so he can turn over a new leaf. While setting his past right, he is looking for work. Currently, he is probational at his second firm.

We have work to do in the house, too. From time to time, we struggle with a bathroom upstairs that soaks the office; a part of the office ceiling has also come off. Chiselling, breaking the floor open, searching for the problem...solving the problem and refitting the office are in process.

## CONSTRUCTION

Our plots have been joined; a threefold plan variation has also been made whose discussion the coronavirus has so far hindered. We are grateful for all the people who helped us with their prayers and words of advice in it.

## OUR CHURCH AND SERVICES

There are seventeen of us during a service - we, anyway, meet on a daily basis. Due to modern technology, we can use the Zoom platform for our bible hours, prayer sessions, and our church services. This enables us to see and hear one another participating in one service, even if not being in one place.

**Our foundation is thirty years old** in this year, however, **our anniversary celebration** planned for October and **our church camping** are uncertain in the present situation.

## FRENCH RELIEF, CLOTHES AND BREAD DISTRIBUTION

The coronavirus has hindered plenty of things, so it is also uncertain when we can receive a new relief to distribute among people in need. Despite the situation, we keep transporting and distributing clothes, furniture, and household appliances at our disposal, but not to their usually large extent, since there is no possibility for that for the time being.

Bread distribution is done continually with few people, outside in the garden. We are grateful for a family growing vegetables whose donations help the poor and our foundation as well.

## PACKING THE MAGAZINE VETÉS ÉS ARATÁS [SOWING AND REAPING]

Because of the coronavirus, packing the new issues of the magazine also posed a problem. Following the idea of our house's residents, we have asked the publisher to send the magazine to Dunakeszi. It is true that instead of a single morning, it took a couple of days for us, but we were able to post the several thousands of magazines after all. The joint work made us all glad. Some of us worked at home, this way contributing to the posting of the magazine as soon as possible.



## PAUL MEEHAN

Our American missionary brother Paul also had to stay at home because of the present epidemic; he was to arrive at the end of March to continue his work at the Jó Hír Kiadó [Good News Hungarian Literature Mission] and his prison mission. The next date the airline designated was 26 May, but later that date was also cancelled.

Thank you for praying for us until now; we ask you to do it in the future, too,  
since we need it very much.

We thank you your financial support as well.

Szabó József and Éva (Jóska & Vicus)

