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The situation in Poland

Dear Sisters and all members of the Holy Family,

What is new with us in Poland in this changed reality of almost a month?

We host families from Ukraine in our homes. They are mothers with children of school age. Their husbands and older sons stayed in Ukraine and are taking part in the war. They are in contact with their families who have not left Ukraine. They listen to the news every day and hope that the war will end. They left their elderly parents, their homes, their jobs there. Children have stopped going to school. They hope to return to their homeland. They tell how they had to flee from bombings, from town to town, hiding in shelters. In order not to think constantly about the war, they try to lead a normal life here in Poland: they take Polish language courses and look for



work. Children started going to Polish schools, where they met their Ukrainian friends. According to information, we already have almost 2 million refugees from Ukraine in Poland. For their safety, we deliberately do not give their names, or how many there are and where exactly they are. We also don't take their photos and don't post them on the Internet. The most important thing is that they have found shelter and feel safe.

Very moving are the attitudes of many Polish families who organize help on their own. They often struggle with their own problems, but in this situation they are very open. They welcome Ukrainian families into their homes, help them find work and accommodation.

Tomorrow, March 19, as Sisters of the Polish Province together with the Associates of the Holy Family, our friends and relatives, we will participate in Czestochowa (our national Our Lady Shrine) to give thanks for the 200th anniversary of the Eucharistic Miracle. We will also pray in a special way for peace in Ukraine and in every place in the world where there are wars.



Thank you for your unity and all your prayers.

**Greetings from Poland
Magdalena**