



News update and subjects for prayer – APRIL 2010

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9

April 1/2 On April the 4th at the morning service, the three **Mercy Community Churches** will be holding their “Anniversary” with a joint celebration. Please pray for Mac Cadatal from Baguio as he shares God’s Word on this special occasion. Please pray for the church Worship Team which is planning a Christian concert on the 23rd April in Mandaluyong Gymnasium, with the theme of “God’s love”. Give thanks for the young people attending the youth ministry on Sunday afternoons. Please pray that they will be able to save enough money to attend a special Christian youth camp in Tagaytay during this coming May.

April 3/4 EASTER DAY Jesus Christ is Risen today! Please pray for the three Mercy Community Church worship services as they meet on this **GLORIOUS EASTER DAY**. Please pray for Sally, Remy and Fina as they lead the services week by week.

April 5/6 Give thanks that some money has been given to help seven year old **Genesis Carpio** have an operation. He suffers with severe stomach problems. There is no national health service in the Philippines and the government hospital has told the parents the operation will cost 25,000 pesos (approx. £300) Please pray that Genesis’ parents will receive enough money to help their son. Please also pray for Ara’s daughter Joy Torre Franca, who is very ill in hospital.

April 7/8 After the devastating fire in **Block 37**, the work on the new homes continues and Hands of Mercy has been able to help a number of families. Three homes are complete with two more almost finished. Five more homes are scheduled for construction. Please pray for Joey Escoto as he works and organizes the building of the houses. Most of the time, the owners of the homes are not available to help Joey as they are out scavenging. If they do not scavenge they cannot eat! So far there has been little help from the local government. Please pray that the City Mayor and City Congressmen will do as they promised and help these needy families to rebuild their homes.

April 9/10 Please continue to pray for the many families that are still suffering emotionally with the after effects of the horrendous flooding and fire. The children too, were greatly affected and one sponsored boy wrote saying how scared and frightened he was. At the moment the weather is unusually hot. Please pray for the prevention of fires that can sweep so quickly across the urban poor communities. Please pray for the safety of all families. Give thanks that during April – Rob Coates and Martin and Sue Strange - visitors from the UK, will be helping Joey with the Home Improvement Programme.

April 11/12 Renewal letters have recently been posted to all those who sponsor children for an education. Please give thanks to God that through the **Child Sponsorship Programme** children living in poverty are partnered with a personal sponsor willing to invest in their education, health care and personal development. Please pray that more people will be willing to sponsor a child. At the moment, **Jessabel Dedase** who is 13 years old and **Julius Geronimo** 8 years old, would love to have a sponsor for the new academic year (June 2010 – April 2011) (If you could help Jessabel or Julius please contact the UK office on 01582 416151)

April 13/14 Give praise and thanks to God for our 2010 college graduates - Rey Crampatanta, Ramoneto Savandal, Heidi Padilla, Snowwhite Fernandez and Angelo Valdez. Please pray that they will find suitable jobs.

April 15/16 Please remember in prayer our staff workers in the communities of: **St. Rosario** - Vicky, Rommela, Diana, Marietta Brenda and Rebecca. **Ginhawa** - Mila, Pina and Tess I. **Kayamunggi** - Anita, Dhea, Maria and Joey. **Block 37** - Fina, Beth and Girlie. **Block 38 and 40** - Remy, Helen, Ara, Mina and Liza. **Florante Street** - Bing, Analyn and Terie. Please pray that the Hands of Mercy staff workers will continue to see God as their provider as they sacrificially give to the needs of others, even though they suffer from the same hardships.

April 17/18 Please pray for those on the Hands of Mercy team who are widows - Marietta, Nenita, Diana, Pina and Berta, and for those who are single mums - Ara, Mila, Mina and Myrna. Please pray too, for those whose husbands are without regular work.

April 19/20 Please remember in prayer the Hands of Mercy team members who regularly visit the local prison in Mandaluyong, taking food for the prisoners. Please pray that funds will become available to pay for the food. Recently a number of prisoners have become Christians. Please pray that they will mature in their new faith.

April 21/22 **Vangie Legaspi** is a battered wife. Her husband has left her for another woman. Vangie works as a laundry woman to feed her family, the youngest is four months old and severely malnourished. Please continue to pray that someone will come forward to sponsor Vangie and her family through the **Family Support Programme**. (Please contact the UK office 01582 416151 if you are able to help Vangie)

April 23/24 Please remember in prayer the young people in the Mercy Community church Worship Team who have been preparing and practising for the Christian concert on the 23rd with the theme of "God's love. Please pray that through the Christian songs many Filipino's of all ages will discover Jesus as their Saviour.

April 25/26 **Aida Villa Carlos** is a single parent and has two children. Aida would really benefit from having a sponsor through the **Family Support Programme**. Please continue to pray that **Cordio and Elena Dalangpan** will also have a sponsor. The family of **Princess Cesar** who is 16 years old, would love to have a sponsor. Princess is a "special young lady" with learning difficulties. She needs to receive medicine regularly and her family are poor and not able to provide for her. (If you would like to help one of these families please contact the UK office on 01582 416151)

April 27/28 With the growth of the compassion ministry, especially in Mandaluyong, please thank God for those who give their time as **UK Trustees**, and pray that they will have wisdom and discernment in the decisions they take and guidance they give to Hands of Mercy. Please pray for Ian Macdougall Hands of Mercy Chairman, Keith Barter Hands of Mercy Accountant, and Fran Gunn Hands of Mercy Administrator, with all their responsibilities. Please also remember in prayer the **Philippine Trustees** as they meet regularly throughout the year, and for Sally Escoto with her responsibilities as Director.

April 29/30 The **Philippine election** period is underway. Please continue to pray for a peaceful and fair national election which is soon to be held during May, and that the person chosen to be the new president will govern with integrity and choose a government that will look to the needs of the most vulnerable in the country.

Thank you so much for your ministry in prayer

UK: 95 Edgewood Drive, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU2 8ER Tel: 01582 416151
Philippines: P.O. Box 034 Central Post Office, 1550 Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila
Tel: (632) 531 2241 Email: info@handsofmercyph.org Internet: www.handsofmercyph.org

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