



News update and subjects for prayer – AUGUST 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

August 1/2 Our Hands of Mercy staff workers, who live in poverty themselves, are under enormous pressure as they help their poor and needy neighbours. Please continue to pray for our staff 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.

August 3/4 Please continue to pray for **Genesis Carpio** who was admitted to hospital in July, but due to a fever, his operation had to be postponed, and for **Ana Rose Castro** who has now been diagnosed with tuberculosis and needs regular medication before being fit enough for her operation. Please also pray for a full recovery for **Jessica Pikit Pikit** who is recovering from an internal operation and also for **Beth Tocyapao and Mark Monte** who suffer with goitres. Please pray that gifts will be given through the **Surgical Treatment Programme** that the costs will be met for the many operations children and adults need.

August 5/6 Give thanks to God for the many Hands of Mercy supporters who give faithfully to the compassion ministry. During the summer months, gifts for the seven programmes, as well as rent and administration costs etc., are always minimal. Please pray that the Lord will touch the hearts of individuals and give them the burden to join us each month through their prayers and financial support.

August 7/8 Twenty three families in **Block 37** have now received help to rebuild their homes after the horrific fire last November. Construction continues for three of the families, but there are many more families in need of a home, especially with the start of the rainy/typhoon season. Please pray that the local government will honour their earlier promise and give financial help to these desperate people.

August 9/10 There are many children in Mandaluyong who would love to have a sponsor to enable them to go to school. Joanne Perez 12 years old, Raniel 8 years old, and Jonel Ancheta 9 years old, are just three of the many. (If you could help one of these children through the **Child Sponsorship Programme at only £12 a month** - please contact the UK office on 01582 416151) The benefits of having a sponsorship will be felt throughout the family and community of a sponsored child. As they grow up they will have acquired the skills and resources they need to find employment to support themselves and their families.

August 11/12 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 which is greatly needed by the prisoners. Through the weekly Bible study groups, some of the prisoners have felt convicted for their wrong doings, and have repented and become Christians. Please pray that they will mature in their new faith.

August 13/14 Please remember the **22 college students in Mandaluyong and the 10 college students in Baguio/LaTrinidad**, who struggle to pay for their college fees, books, projects etc.,. Although they are all sponsored, the sponsorship fee does not cover the costs for these older students, and their parents do not have sufficient income to help their children. Please pray that extra gifts will be given to help the young people so that they can finish their education. Give thanks that one of the students who graduated last year is now employed by a big and prestigious company. This is such a help to his family.

August 15/16 Part of the Hands of Mercy **family planning** initiative is to provide free tubal ligation to women from urban poor communities. A number of ladies had the operation in July. Please pray that additional funds will be donated so that further operations can be financed through the **Surgical Treatment Programme**.

August 17/18 Hands of Mercy has ten feeding areas and serves over 6,000 specially designed meals each month to thin and underweight children. Beneficiaries are selected according to age and needs and whose parents have no regular income or work. The Hands of Mercy team go to the market very early in the morning and start serving food at 7am. The children will then be able to have breakfast before they go to school. Please pray that through the regular feedings the health of the children will improve. Please also pray that people will give financially through the **Supplementary Feeding Programme** to help buy food for the malnourished children.

August 19/20 Please pray that the new **Philippine Government** will govern with integrity and give justice to the many families in the communities who have desperate needs. Give thanks that the **Medical Prescription Programme** is helping many individuals to purchase their prescribed medicine whilst in hospital. If the patients do not have the required medicine they are not treated well. Please pray that funds will be available through this compassion programme to help both the adults and children.

August 21/22 Please pray for **Sally Escoto**, who has many responsibilities as she runs the Compassion Ministry of Hands of Mercy. Pray that God will give her wisdom, and strength for the many tasks to be dealt with each day. Each Thursday Sally shares God's Word to the Hands of Mercy staff, who in turn then teach the Word to the members of the Small Groups in the Communities. Please pray also for **Mila Espanola** as she manages the ministry accounts.

August 23/24 One of the Compassion Programmes of Hands of Mercy gives free therapy to children with disabilities through the **Disabled Therapy Programme**. The Hands of Mercy staff often have to wash and clean a child before they can give them therapy, and they sacrificially bring food for the children they are helping as most of them are so hungry. Many families are scavengers, and the children will wait each day for a parent to bring them food - if there is no food, they go hungry. Please pray for the staff, who poor themselves, feel desperately upset with the poverty the disabled children are experiencing each day.

August 25/26 Rice is the staple diet of the Filipino. With the increase in the price of rice, many people struggle to buy enough for their families. Hands of Mercy aims to give a "rice gift" to the staff workers in the Philippines three times a year, which costs approx. £2,000. Please pray that money will be given to the Compassion Ministry so that we can continue helping the Hands of Mercy team, in this and other ways, who work tirelessly amongst their poor and needy neighbours.

August 27/28 Give thanks for the growth of the **Mercy Community Church** both spiritually and numerically. One church in **Block 37** is now so crowded the leaders are planning to have two services on a Sunday. Please pray for the practical arrangements for this, and for the Hands of Mercy staff who will be leading and speaking at the church. Please also pray for the leaders as they take the services in **Block 38 church**, and in the **Plainview church**. Pray too, that they have God's wisdom and enabling as they share His Word with the people each Sunday. Please pray that the Mercy Community Church in Mandaluyong, will continue to grow in faith, discipleship and outreach.

August 29/30 On July 18th **Joey Escoto was commissioned as the Senior Pastor at the Plainview Church**. Please pray for Joey as he takes on this responsibility, asking God to give him sensitivity and wisdom as he exercises a pastoral and teaching ministry. Please also pray for Joey as he continues to co-ordinate the **Home Improvement Programme**.

August 31 Please remember in prayer the **Youth Leaders of Mercy Community Church**. Give thanks for the young people attending the Church youth ministry each Sunday. Please also pray for the young people involved with the worship ministry at the three churches that their faith in God will grow and strengthen day by day.

Thank you so much for your ministry in prayer

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