



## News update and subjects for prayer – MARCH 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*

**March 1/2** Give thanks to God that Jo Jo Teves had a successful operation on his goitre (see Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> Update) He is so grateful to the sponsor who paid for his hospitalization. Please pray for the **Surgical Treatment Programme** that gifts will be given to help the many children and adults who cannot afford operations. Please pray for seven year old **Genesis Carpio** who has had one operation, but is still suffering with stomach problems and needs another one. 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 the money to help their son.

**March 3/4** Please remember **Lourdes Cadatal** in prayer as she co-ordinates the work among the Child Sponsorship beneficiaries in Baguio/LaTrinidad with their educational and health needs. Please continue to pray for our staff workers in the communities of: **Kapalaran** - Tess M, Cristina, Inday and Ema. **Agudo** - Wilma, Alberta and Jenny. **Hilaga** - Mryna, Gina, Margie and Nenita.

**March 5/6** **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 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)

**March 7/8** The work on the new homes in **Block 37** has begun and Hands of Mercy has been able to help a number of families. Please pray that the government will deal with the land and construct proper drainage to prevent it flooding again when the next typhoon hits the country. Many families in the area are struggling to complete their homes through lack of money, and are using makeshift tents to protect them from the heat and rain. Please pray that the City Mayor and City Congressman will really help each family to cover the expenses of rebuilding their homes.

**March 9/10** Many of the Hands of Mercy volunteer workers have emotional hurts, physical pain, financial needs and often little to eat. They and their families face many hardships each day. Please pray especially for those whose husbands are without regular work and for those who are single mums.

**March 11/12** Please continue to pray for **Sally Escoto**, who has many responsibilities as she runs the Compassion Ministry of Hands of Mercy, as well as overseeing the Mercy Community Church. Pray that God will give her wisdom, and strength for the many tasks to be dealt with each day.

**March 13/14** Please continue to pray for the **Prescription Medicine Programme** that additional funds will be donated so we can continue to extend help to those who cannot afford to purchase medicines prescribed by a local doctor. So many children and adults suffer with chest illnesses, and are unable to buy antibiotics to help them recover. Antibiotics are very expensive to purchase.

**March 15/16** The **Philippine election** period is now officially underway. After almost a decade of an increasingly unpopular Arroyo administration, 2010 might herald a new era in government, possibly presided over by the clear leader in opinion polls, Noynoy Aquino -- the son of national heroes Ninoy and Corazon Aquino, who remain widely respected as icons of democracy in the Philippines for their bravery in fighting for social justice (CNN February report) Please pray for a peaceful and fair national election which will be held during May 2010 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.

**March 17/18** One of the Compassion Programmes of Hands of Mercy is giving free therapy to children with disabilities through the **Disabled Therapy Programme** - physical and occupational therapy, speech and hearing impairment therapy and pre-vocational skills training. We also provide a literacy programme to enhance their skills in reading and writing. Please remember in prayer our **Disabled Therapy volunteers**: Bing Solsona, Tess Magtabog, Analyn Eduardo, Ara Torrefrance, Remy Lubiano, Mina Salvador, Inday Toribio, Vicky Pikitpikit, Dea Pamplona and Wilma Boquero as they work tirelessly week by week.

**March 19/20** Towards the end of March renewal letters will be posted to all those who sponsor children for an education. 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. **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)

**March 21/22** Give thanks that Neil (9) and Joniel (11) now have a sponsor to help them have an education. Please pray for the young people who for various reasons will not be continuing their college education - Maristela, Paul John, Aldrin and Frammer. Please pray that Angelo who finishes his college tuition this year will find a suitable job.

**March 23/24** **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 Dalangan** 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 for life 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)

**March 25/26** Please remember in prayer Sally Escoto, Fina Savandal and Remy Lubiano as they lead and oversee the three **Mercy Community Churches** and for Greg Lubiano, Lolong Savandal and Joey Escoto as they lead the **Men's Groups** at the Churches.

**March 27/28** On April the 4th the **Mercy Community Church** will be celebrating their Anniversary during the morning service. Please pray for Mac Cadatel as he shares God's Word at the Celebration. Please pray for the preparation for this event, and for the church Worship Team who are planning a special Christian concert in the afternoon with the theme of "God's love".

**March 29/30** Please remember in prayer the Youth Leaders of Mercy Community Church. 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.

**March 31** Please give thanks and praise to God for His great faithfulness to the Compassion work of Hands of Mercy in the Philippines.

**Thank you so much for your ministry in prayer**

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