

News update and subjects for prayer – MAY 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

May 1/2 The **Philippine election** period is underway. Please continue to pray for a peaceful and fair national election which will be held on May 10th. Please pray 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. A National Security Council (NSC) official said recently, “The success of the May elections is crucial to the country’s political and economic stability in 2010 while its failure or deferment could trigger unrest”.

May 3/4 Give thanks to God for the ninth Anniversary service of the three Mercy Community Churches which was held on April the 4th. About four hundred people attended and the young people performed a mime “All for Love” – the love of Jesus dying on the cross. During the afternoon before the “youth service”, the young people enjoyed “egg hunting”!

May 5/6 **Genesis Carpio** is waiting to have an operation to deal with his severe stomach problems. He is very malnourished and needs to gain weight before the operation can take place. Please continue to pray for him. Give thanks that someone has come forward to sponsor Genesis and his grandfather under the **Family Support Programme**. Joy Torre Franca, Ara’s mentally disabled daughter is still unwell, although she is now at home. Her medication costs are high. Please pray for her healing and for wisdom as to how she should be medically treated.

May 7/8 The **Child Sponsorship Programme** coordinators in the Philippines are busy organizing meetings with the students and their parents, purchasing school uniforms, shoes, bags, school supplies etc., for the new school year which begins in June. For each child who is sponsored under this programme, a Profile Card will be produced and sent through to their sponsor. Please pray for Sally Escoto and the coordinators as they arrange the meetings, buy the uniforms and prepare and print the special profile cards.

May 9/10 Please continue to pray for Fran Gunn, who as administrator deals with the **Child Sponsorship Programme** in the UK. Please pray that sponsors will return their “Renewal” forms, so that the children they help, who live in the squatter communities can continue to have an education. Give thanks for the many faithful sponsors who have helped their “child/children” over many years. Give thanks too, that Jessabel Dedase now has a sponsor. Please pray that Julius Geronimo, who is 8 years old, will also be sponsored for the next academic year. (If you could help Julius or another child - please contact the UK office on 01582 416151)

May 11/12 Please remember in prayer the family of Kevin Plaza, who sadly drowned recently in a swimming pool. Kevin was disabled and for a while attended school being helped by the **Child Sponsorship Programme**.

May 13/14 Please pray for Samantha Waterton as she deals with the **Family Support Programme** renewal letters. Give thanks for the sponsors who, with supplementary food, faithfully support some of the poorest families in Mandaluyong. **Vangie Legaspi’s** husband left her for another woman and she works as a laundry woman to feed her family. **Aida Villa Carlos** is a single parent and has two children to care for. Please continue to pray that someone will sponsor Vangie and Aida through the **Family Support Programme**. (Please contact the UK office 01582 416151 if you are able to help one of them) Give thanks that **Cordio and Elena Dalangpan** now have a sponsor.

May 15/16 Please remember in prayer 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.

May 17/18 Please remember in prayer the **Youth Leaders of Mercy Community Church**. Give thanks for the Christian Youth Concert held on April 23rd. Local pastors and their youth groups supported the occasion, which went very well. Please pray for those who will be attending a special Christian youth camp in Tagaytay during this month.

May 19/20 Give praise and thanks to God that the work on the new homes in **Block 37** is going well and Hands of Mercy has been able to help a number of families have somewhere to live. Ten homes are now complete and two more are scheduled for construction. Please pray for Joey Escoto as he works and organizes the building of the houses. Joey has said that they have to build the new homes "one by one" and get what they need for the construction on a daily basis or the building materials would be stolen. This takes a lot of time. So far there has been little help for the families from the local government, so people are very grateful for the help of Hands of Mercy. Please pray that the City Mayor and City Congressmen will do as they promised and help these needy people rebuild their homes.

May 21/22 With the weather unusually hot in the Philippines, with individuals dying due to heat stroke, please pray for the prevention of fires that can sweep so quickly through the poor communities. Give thanks for the recent visits of Rob, Martin and Sue and for all the help and encouragement they have given to the young people and the Hands of Mercy team.

May 23/24 In April 2009 we asked for prayer that Joriel Dal would be able to have an operation on his cleft lip and palate. Give thanks that Joriel has recently had the first operation, with the next one scheduled in six months time.

Please pray for Mina, one of the Hands of Mercy staff, who underwent breast surgery during 2008. She has recently discovered more lumps and is undergoing tests to determine the cause. Please remember Mina in your prayers, that she will have sufficient financial help for her treatment, and experience healing in her body.

May 25/26 There are many children in Mandaluyong who would love to have a sponsor to enable them to go to school. Wilson 11 years old, Raniel 8 years old, and Wilmar 11 years old, are just three of the many. (If you could help one of these children - please contact the UK office on 01582 416151)

May 27/28 Please pray for the girls who have been sponsored who sadly have become pregnant in their mid-teens, most of them with little money and support. Please give thanks for the girls and boys who have studied well and have graduated from school and college. Please pray that they will find suitable jobs.

May 29/30 Please remember in prayer the Hands of Mercy team members who regularly visit the local prison in Mandaluyong, taking food to the prisoners. Please pray that funds will become available to pay for the food. Recently a number of prisoners have become Christians and some who have left prison are now attending Mercy Community Churches. Please pray that they will mature in their new faith.

May 31 Give thanks and praise to God for His great faithfulness to the Compassion work of Hands of Mercy in the Philippines. Please pray that God will touch the hearts of others and give them the burden to join us in reaching the poor through their prayers and financial support.

Thank you so much for your ministry in prayer

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