

PHILIPPINE OUTREACH CENTRE MINISTRIES NEWSLETTER

let's make a difference // Twelfth issue of 2020

The Long wait is over

Thank you so much for your prayers. We are thrilled to announce that we are finally in our own home. It's been a long 2 1/2 years in the making, but we are overjoyed with the outcome. The house is really beautiful and **far beyond what we ever expected**. God is so good.

When I first came to the Philippines in 1983, I thought I'd mentally prepared myself for the worst, until I took my first shower. Somehow I never imagined that there would be no hot running water!!! (that was almost grounds for returning home!!) Then I saw my first cockroach and gasped, "Oh Lord, I will never get used to that!!" I had to overcome my fear of mice and rats. Within a few weeks we caught a big rat and it spent the night trapped in the cage we set, less than a couple of feet from my bed. I soon forget the more than privileged lifestyle I'd left behind and focussed my attention to the call of God. I never looked back and never dreamed that He would one day give us a home, equal to the standard of that I left behind. Though it had not really been my dad's intention to give us (my brothers and I) an early inheritance, through circumstances that is what happened. Their one wish for me then was that I would not 'waste' their gift but use it to get ourselves a house.

God confirmed this to me, firstly through getting evicted after renting the same home for more than 20 years (which started a **trend of evictions**) and then through His word. I was overwhelmed and didn't know what to do, having never been in a position to choose or buy a home. So I asked the Lord whether I should build a house or buy. The very next morning I was amazed when in my daily reading I was led to read **Proverbs 14** which opens with.... **"The wise woman builds her house...."**. So that was the assurance I needed. After giving the Lord His portion of course, the remainder was our budget for the house. We went to a realtor whom we had met, and I chose a house to fit our budget. I never dreamed it would be as beautiful as this.

On November 19, we moved in to our forever home.

Sometimes it is the small things that mean so much. Our new house has a doorbell. It is my first time in 37 years to hear a doorbell ring in the Philippines and yes, we even have running hot water!!! It still feels like we are in a hotel or in a dream!! God is just so amazing. We can never out-give Him. Whatever we let go of in order to serve Him, He gives us back a hundredfold. **Mark 10:29-30 New King James Version (NKJV)**

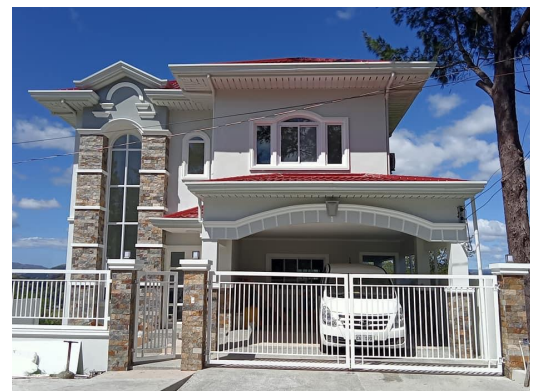
29 So Jesus answered and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel's, **30 who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time—houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions—and in the age to come, eternal life.** This is our time hundredfold!!

I am just overwhelmed with the goodness of God. I got to have a beautiful home and I didn't have to lose my parents to get it. God knows that I would never have been able to enjoy a home that came to me at the loss of my parents. And He knew also just how much my mum needed to see us in a nice home. Isn't Jesus just so wonderful?

But of course, this wonderful home is a **blessing, not a distraction**. We are still fully focussed on sharing the love of Jesus and we believe **the Lord has something great for us in**

our church and ministry 2021 not least of which is getting to resume our regular outreach programs in the prisons, villages and children's homes, that have been 'on hold' for the duration of the pandemic. The pandemic however has introduced us to a wider audience through on-line church services which we will no doubt continue after the Pandemic is over. **Louie and our son Aaron** have started an on-line '**Battlecry**' podcast on **Facebook** where folks make on-line prayer requests and questions. It gives our church members working abroad the opportunity to keep in touch too. So far it has been a powerful tool for reaching out to those in need.

This coming Sunday we will celebrate our 35th church anniversary in POCF Subic. Due to social distancing requirements we will be having at least 3 services this year and have to issue tickets for crowd control. Tickets for the first 2 services were gone in the first week and only a few remaining for the 3rd. We are excited to introduce our theme for 2021, "Conquer". It's time to conquer the land and take back what the enemy has stolen!



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Donate

ENGLISH BANK ACCOUNT

NAT WEST BANK

A/C NO: 369 7037 9

SORT CODE: 01 07 71

A/C NAME:

POC Central Account

AMERICAN BANK ACCOUNT

*Cheques made payable to
'MARANATHA FAMILY
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP'

A/C NAME:

Maranatha Family
Christian Fellowship

PHILIPPINE BANK ACCOUNT

PNB BANK

97 Magsaysay drive, West Tapinac,
Olongapo City

A/C NO: 205910024223

SWIFT CODE:

PNBMPHMM 113391

A/C NAME:

Philippine Outreach Centre

Sponsor A Child

Make a difference in a child's life by being a sponsor, giving monthly support that will go to their daily necessities, shelter, education, etc.

For more details, contact us or visit our website at pocmin.com

Clark



You may have heard of Clark before, he is our oldest child in the special needs unit. He is blind and has mental retardation. Recently

the houseparents discovered a lump on his shoulder, they were quite confused as to what this was caused by because there was no record of him falling off the bed or any accidents. He also had difficulty lifting his arms. So, the houseparents tried cold compress and massaging. Then after a week he started getting a fever and very aggressive seizures. I took a look at this lump on his shoulder and by this time it looked reddish and resembled what they call in the Philippines as "Pigsang Dapa" / a boil growing beneath the skin. He was rushed to hospital and they told us he would need an operation to remove this boil, and it would be very costly. Because of the pandemic I didn't want him to be confined in the hospital as it would be too risky for him. Then I remembered that Nurse Val is well experience in treating boils so we got in contact with her and she scheduled Clark right away. Clark must have been in so much pain and couldn't tell us what it was, even during the procedure it must have been very painful for him. After 3 visits to Nurse Val, he is now feeling much better. On his last visit, upon hearing Val's voice Clark immediately smiled and laughed knowing that Val helped take his boil away. The ministry of Nurse Val, Triple B has been such a huge blessing to POC and to many Filipinos we thank God for her Ministry.

- Monique

More Updates

Due to the pandemic, we have been unable to conduct any of our outreaches for so long, but we have not neglected to pray for them. Our intercessors group decided to go to our open sided church in Wea to pray for the people there. The bible study members heard they were there and all rushed down to meet them. They are so eager for us to re-start our bible studies as soon as we are permitted. As it is in the open-air it is likely that we can soon resume our meetings as long as we maintain social distancing. Please pray that we can also bless these dear people as we have done in the past at Christmas.

We are praying too, that this month we will be able to visit the prisons even just to present them with some small love gifts of toiletries and other essentials through the help of faithful supporters. We cannot have our usual Christmas Concerts, but we want them to know they are in our thoughts and prayers during this times where separation from loved ones is so painful.

The Shine Children's Outreach team, are also praying that they will be able to distribute gifts to the children and in the government children's homes where they usually minister, to let the children know that even though we

are not able to conduct our regular visits, they are not forgotten. Christmas is a tough time for these children. We have first hand experience of this with our own POCCH children. They miss their families and sometimes feel overwhelmed with loneliness and sorrow at Christmas. So, Lord willing, we will be sharing some of the blessings that God puts in our hands, with other vulnerable children too.

There are people locally who desire to help others at Christmas too but simply lack the opportunity. So we have a local fund raising project called "**stuff a stocking**", giving Christmas shoppers in the local mall the opportunity to bless the children with gifts and essentials for their Christmas stockings and spread some joy.

Lord willing our Christmas outing to the Water Park at White Rock will be going ahead as scheduled on December 25.

Thank you all again so so much for your faithful love and support. We pray that the Lord will return to you a hundredfold all that you have sown into this ministry and others and that He will bless you all abundantly in spite of the trials brought on by the Pandemic. Praying too that He will rebuke the devourer on your behalf.

Have a truly blessed Christmas.

Love in Christ

Dondie, Chrissy & your POCM family

PRAYER REQUESTS

Financial provision for all our ministries and for our workers to receive their usual Christmas bonus that they so deserve and that they have come to rely on..

Please **continue** to pray for **Maily. Miracle healing for her thyroid condition. And Thelma for a miracle healing from lung cancer.**

Please pray that we will have the opportunity and means to bless the inmates in our jail and children's outreaches this Christmas.

We would value **continued prayers** for churches, businesses, charity shops, and individual sponsors who support POCM and other missions in spite of the pandemic. Pray that God will continue to provide seed to the sowers and blessing upon their lives.

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