



## POCM news letter issue three



# Renovate To Educate

In our previous news update we shared that the Department of Education (DepEd) inspected our school and gave us **8 months to comply with their requirements** before they will grant us our "Recognition" to operate our grades 7-10 for the next school year. We had a target of **P330,000, (£4,853, \$6875)** to complete the necessary renovations on the facility and fulfil the other requirements.

We are pleased to announce that we have already been given £2,591 and we also have one local and one British

chapter of the Rotary who have expressed a willingness to help with this project as we quickly approach our deadline.

For details go to [www.pocmin.com/renovate](http://www.pocmin.com/renovate)

We praise God too that many books were donated to POCCA by **Brent International School Subic**, which is a massive improvement for our library.



# Give me this Mountain

I recently learned that I **misunderstood** that the DepEd had given us a full 18 months to somehow **acquire ownership of our school facility** (or proof of steps towards doing so) only to learn that we had the **same 8 months** that we have to renovate our classrooms.



I faced the thoughts that the future of POCCA could really be in jeopardy. I had an interview with Mr. Alex Baltao who is the chairman over the school property. Though he was personally very eager to help us, he is only one of 10 owners. He informed us that the

others are hoping for £244K for the land (2,300 sqm) and building with 5 years to complete the payment. **They are waiting for our counter offer.**

Last week, I was invited by the owner to look around **Astorian Hill School**, a brand new Private International School in our town. I thought seeing it could perhaps encourage our faith. To my surprise when Aaron and I

arrived one of the teachers who greeted us was a very familiar face to us. She was a former High School Graduate of POCCA. The Lord really knows how best to encourage us and to assure us that we are doing a wonderful work in our community **by His grace** and that **He is for us.**

The owners of Astorian Hill video called to us from the U.S. and encouraged us to not give up and they shared the many obstacles that they too had had to overcome.

## DONATE

### 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

### 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

## CONTACT US

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In the mid 80's when I first climbed the hill and saw what is now the POCCA school building the Lord gave me the verse... **You are the Light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Matthew 5:14** With that I had the faith to claim that building for our possession. Now decades later I was forced to consider that the Lord maybe moving us on account of the **hardness of the hearts of the 9 other owners.** And I handed the situation over to the Lord. Then He took me to these words of Caleb... **"Now therefore give me this mountain of which the Lord spoke in that day..... It may be that the Lord will be with me and I will be able to drive them out as the Lord has said."**  
**Joshua 14:12**

Of course we have a long way to go. We have enemies to overcome, including doubt and fear. But "if the Lord is with me, I will be able to drive them out" and take possession that mountain that the Lord spoke to me of those 30+ years ago!! For Caleb it was 45 years. For us, the need is now!!

Please pray that the Lord will give the POCM trustees and myself the wisdom when negotiating our offer. We need the Lord's clear guidance so that we will have the faith to take possession in spite of any obstacles we may face or enemies that need driving out. Whilst the owners are currently willing to give us 5 years to complete the payment they are expecting a 30% downpayment. We need a financial miracle.

# New Sparrow

Earlier this month I was shocked to hear the news that there was a 4 month old baby in our neighbourhood in urgent need of rescue. One of our houseparents reported that her neighbour had a baby boy covered from head to toe in



rashes and sores. The mother had tied his little feet together to prevent him from rubbing them together and scratching the sores. Though we are not in a good financial state to help, my heart couldn't bear to leave him in that condition. He needs

immediate medical attention. Apparently the father brought a dog home that was full of mange (canine scabies) while the mother was still pregnant. Their 3 year old was the first to start with sores then both parents and within days of his birth, the baby started with it too. Within a short time the baby's condition worsened. We took him to hospital but he

soon had to be transferred to a hospital in Bataan (more than an hour away) in order to consult a specialist. After numerous tests and 3 days in hospital, his skin condition has been confirmed to be scabies but he is still undergoing further tests for the cysts at the back of his head. Aside from these he is also undernourished. His mother cannot afford to buy milk formula and she has been feeding him "Am" (which is the starch water from rice). This is commonly used as a replacement for milk here in the Philippines due to severe poverty. The mother is also malnourished and consequently unable to breastfeed. In these situations it makes me angry that parents should allow their children to go through such terrible suffering, but then I understand that it is the effect of the extreme poverty that can still be seen here in the Philippines. Though the father works in construction his salary is not enough to support his family. So we are welcoming this new sparrow into our POCCH family. For now his name is **Darwin**, but the mother is trying to change his name so it may change.

-Monique-



## PRAYER REQUESTS

**Please pray for Princess that she will be able to overcome her attack with no scars.**

**For Baby Darwin's healing from Cysts and scabies**

**Continued Financial provision**, (incl. the urgent **Renovate to Educate** project), for **POCCH kid**, & purchase of **school land & building**.

Please continue to pray for the completion of our church building in Wea, Lupang Pangarap and chairs/benches for the children's Shine meetings.

**Continued to prayer for Mailyn and Thelma's Healing.**

**Please pray for prison ministry to soon resume.**

## More Updates

Just having nice clean water to bathe in and nice clean clothes to put on, Darwin looked like a different baby in just 1 day, which encourages us to keep reaching out to those in need around us, no matter what the cost. But if you are willing to partner with us by sponsoring little Darwin that will be a massive help for us.

If so please contact us at [pocm.inc@gmail.com](mailto:pocm.inc@gmail.com)

## A Case of Rape

As you know we have recently started our POCF church in Wea (Lupang Pangarap).

Last Sunday one of our regular members approached me in tears as she told me that her 7 year old daughter had been raped. This little Princess is also a regular attendee of our Shine children's ministry.

The suspect, a neighbour, has been arrested.

In spite of their terrible ordeal, they haven't stopped attending church. Though initially very withdrawn and fearful, Princess is already getting back her joy. She looked very happy as she attended church on Sunday. Please pray for her that the Lord will heal her both physically and of course of any emotional scars. I know He can erase this from her young mind.

Princess and her family are extremely poor and now they have a court case to cope with and the government offer no financial assistance. They are required to go to court

hearings that are in the city centre and they don't even have the money for their fare as her dad is currently off work sick. They told me that Princess was supposed to have her follow up check-up at the hospital they neglected to go because they had no means to pay for it.

Of course as church leaders, we are privileged to be able to offer prayer, comfort, counsel and a little financial assistance.

Please pray for this dear family that God will bring them through this dark valley.

We would appreciate your continued prayers for the charity shops, 'Your kids Around the World', 'Annie's Orphans', 'Sparrows Nest', and 'Drop Inn' who all continue to support POCM in spite of being closed due to the lock-down.

Thank you all so so much for your love, sponsorship and faithful support. It is so encouraging to know that even through the hardest of times such as this pandemic, the family of God continue to reach out to those in need around the world. We thank you so much for Partnering with us in spite of your own personal trials. We pray God's blessing. As Easter approaches and we remember what the Lord achieved by His death and resurrection, it gives us faith to know **all is well** and that through Him we are **more than conquerors**. God Bless,

## HAPPY EASTER

Love, Chrissy and Dondie