

News update and subjects for prayer –AUGUST 2019

.....*whoever is kind to the needy honours God. Proverbs 14:31*

Week 1: August 1st – 10th

*** Whilst many in the UK are thinking about holidays, please pray for the Filipino families who never have the opportunity to leave their communities and enjoy the beauty of the countryside. Many families, including the children walk around late at night or early morning in the Mandaluyong area acting as unofficial refuse collectors. They are scavengers and are looking for any items they can sell. Through these refuse items they hope to earn a few pesos to buy food for their families. Some of the Family Support Programme beneficiaries need to scavenge to be able to feed their children. Please pray that the adults will be able to find suitable work and have an income.



*** Please remember in prayer all the sponsored children who returned to school in June, as well as the older students continuing their college education. Give thanks that many children and students are being helped to have an education during the coming school year. All the beneficiaries have recently received their school uniforms, bags, shoes and school supplies etc., Give thanks for the people who are faithfully sponsoring them. There are still many children who would benefit from a sponsorship. Please pray that more people will come forward to sponsor. (For details, please contact the UK office. Email: info@handsofmercyph.org)

*** Being a parent is never easy. Please pray for the parents of our sponsored children and for those who attend the Mercy Community churches. Please ask God to give them love, wisdom and limitless patience in bringing up their children in situations that are extremely difficult for them. Please especially pray for single mums and dads bringing up their children.

Week 2: August 11th – 17th

*** Please continue to pray for the **Florante Street squatter community**. There is still no change in the situation and for the families who live in the Florante community it is an uncertain time. The legal side of the selling of the land is proving to be difficult. The Mayor needs to make sure that there are no other heirs to the land, only the person who has come forward. This person is claiming they are the sole heir but they only have very new paperwork, so the Mayor's office are asking for an "heirs bond". If she cannot satisfy the Mayor's office, she will have to wait two years.

*** **ICHTHUS is the Hands of Mercy water purification business** producing clean drinking water. The water refilling station is in Mandaluyong City and has two filtration systems producing both alkaline and purified water. Water is placed and sold in refillable containers of varying sizes. ICHTHUS welcomes walk-in customers and offers a home/business delivery service. Please continue to pray for the business that it will attract more customers and that the staff involved will be given strength and wisdom as they develop the business. Please pray for Greg, Arnold, Joey, Sally and Anita in their involvement with the business.

Week 3: August 18th – 24th

*** Give thanks to God that the **Prescription Medicine Programme** is helping many individuals to purchase their prescribed medicines. Please pray that funds will be available through this compassion programme to help both the adults and children. Although often smiling, many Filipino's are hurting, feeling the stress due to lack of money, no regular work, ill health and bad living conditions etc., Please remember them in your prayers.

*** The Philippines urban areas, such as Mandaluyong City, are home to millions of desperately poor families. Parents moving their families to these areas have not found the jobs and riches they had hoped for. Instead they bring their children into a world of poverty, complete with gangs, violence and drugs. Families who relocate to the cities are looking for opportunity, however the reality falls far from their hopes and expectations. Please pray that the government will govern with integrity and give justice to the many families that have desperate needs.

*** The **Family Support Programme** is an enormous help to the very poor and needy families in Mandaluyong, many of whom need to scavenge each day to afford a meal. Hands of Mercy needs more sponsors to help these people receive supplementary food each month. We may not be able to change the whole world, but we can change the life of a "family". Please pray that God will stir concerned individuals to offer to sponsor a "family" with food items. **£20 a month would make a great difference in a family's life.** Please contact the UK office on info@handsofmercyph.org if you would like to help a family.

Week 4: August 25th – 31st

*** Give thanks to God for the faithful support of churches as well as the many individuals in the UK who support the Hands of Mercy compassion ministry. The prayers, sponsorships, gifts to the compassion programmes do make a difference in many Filipino lives. We may not be able to change the situation for everybody, but Hands of Mercy is changing the lives of children and adults in Mandaluyong, Manila and giving them Hope for the future.

*** Please pray for the five **Mercy Community Churches** as they meet each week. (Four in Mandaluyong and one in Baguio) Please continue to pray for the "Men's Group" at the Mercy Community Church, as they befriend and help men who now attend the church, to grow in their faith and relationship with God. Please pray for them too, as they reach out in practical ways to help their neighbours in the communities. Please also pray for the ladies who meet regularly to study the Bible in their "Home Groups". May they too, mature in their faith and love of their Heavenly Father. Please remember in prayer Sevalyn and Godofredo who lead and share God's Word at the **Mercy Community Church in Baguio City**. Please also pray for Sevalyn as she co-ordinates the Baguio Child Sponsorship Programme.

*** Please give thanks and praise to God for His great faithfulness to the **Compassion Ministry of Hands of Mercy** in the Philippines and pray that we all might have a joyful expectation of all that He plans to bring about in the future.

Thank you so much for your prayer ministry

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Restoring hope to the needy through love and compassion