



## News update and subjects for prayer – July 2022

**MUCH PRAYER, MUCH BLESSING, LITTLE PRAYER, LITTLE BLESSING,  
NO PRAYER, NO BLESSING! 1 Thessalonians 5:17**

### Week 1: July 1st – 8th

\*\*\* During this month Linda Clitheroe, who has been the part-time administrator for **Hands of Mercy International** for the past two years, will be handing over to Denise Archer. The Trustees in the UK and in the Philippines are so very grateful for Linda's ministry with the Charity during those months. Please pray for Denise that God will give her wisdom and guidance as she takes on this important position. God has greatly blessed the Hands of Mercy ministry during the past 25 years and many families have been helped physically, mentally and spiritually. The Filipinos have shared that they feel they are "nobodies" – no one cares – they are looked down upon. But through the ministry of Hands of Mercy the people in the squatter communities now have HOPE when there was despair.

\*\*\* Please pray for the health of the Hands of Mercy staff, that they will receive "times of refreshing" from the Lord. The Coronavirus lockdown has taken its toll on people's energy levels, especially in the present heat. The staff all live in the communities and experience lack of finance for the essentials of living. Please pray for: Anita, Ara, Analyn, Berta, Beth, Bing, Brenda, Helen, Inday, Jane, Jenny, Joey, Liza, Maria, Mila, Myrna, Maricel, Medilyn, Nenita, Paradin, Pina, Remy, Sally, Sevalyn, Tess M, Terie, Tess I, and Wilma.



\*\*\* Please give thanks and praise to God for His great faithfulness to the **Compassion Ministry of Hands of Mercy**, and whilst many in the UK are or will be enjoying their summer holidays, please pray for the Filipino families who never have the opportunity to leave their homes and enjoy the beauty of the Philippine countryside. Please pray that they may be able to get away from the squatter communities and enjoy a visit to a swimming pool or an area where trees, bushes and flowers are growing.

### Week 2: July 9th – 16th

\*\*\* Please continue to pray for the **Philippine and UK Trustees** as they meet regularly through the year. Pray that each trustee will have wisdom and discernment in the decisions they take and guidance they give to the compassion ministry of Hands of Mercy. Please pray for Sally Escoto and Mila Espanola as they deal with the **Hands of Mercy ministry accounts** in the Philippines and for Keith Barter as he manages the **Hands of Mercy accounts in the UK**. Give thanks for John Kingham for his help with the Independent Examiner's Report which will be presented to the Charity Commission at the end of the year.

\*\*\* **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, Anita and Kim in their involvement with the business.

\*\*\* Please continue to pray for Sally Escoto with her many responsibilities as she runs the Compassion Ministry of Hands of Mercy and the Ichthus Water Filtering business. Please pray that God will give her wisdom and strength for the many tasks to be dealt with each day.

### **Week 3: July 17th – 24th**

\*\*\* Give thanks to God that **Hands of Mercy** was able to help many Filipinos being hospitalised due to Covid and other diseases. During the pandemic the hospitals were only accepting emergency cases. Unlike the UK the Philippines does not have a National Health Service.

\*\*\* 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 nudge 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](mailto:info@handsofmercyph.org) if you would like to sponsor a family).

\*\*\* Rice is the staple diet of the Filipino and many people struggle to buy enough for their families. **Hands of Mercy** aims to give a "rice gift" during the autumn to the staff in the Philippines which costs approx. £1,300. Please pray that money will be given to the compassion ministry so that we can continue helping the Hands of Mercy staff members who work tirelessly in the squatter communities. There is a lot of hopelessness, frustration and hardship in the communities and the lockdown has been taking its toll on everyone. Please remember the HOM staff and the community families in your prayers.

### **Week 4: July 25th – 31st**

\*\*\* Please pray for the Pastors of the four **Mercy Community Churches** as they share God's Word each week. At the **Barangka church** there are three services now (two in the morning and one in the afternoon) At **Block 37 and 38 community churches** there are two services, as numbers have increased. Give thanks for the **Worship Teams** at the churches. Please pray for God's enabling as they lead people closer to Him through praise and worship songs. Please also remember in prayer the Youth Leaders of the church, and for Sevalyn as she leads the **Mercy Community Church in Camp 8 in Baguio City**, in the north of the Philippines.

\*\*\* Give thanks for the Christian young people at the **Mercy Community Churches** who are living out their faith in a difficult environment, resisting temptation and prepared to share God's love with others. Please pray that they will continue to grow in their Christian faith and be a witness for God in their communities.

\*\*\* **Hands of Mercy** is a reflection of God's compassion for needy children and their families. Give thanks for all the relationships that Hands of Mercy has with children, young people and families in the squatter communities of Mandaluyong and Baguio. By choosing to partner with us, people can help restore hope to someone in need. Please pray that God will touch the hearts of others and give them the burden to join us in reaching the poor in Mandaluyong and Baguio.

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

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**Restoring hope to the needy through love and compassion**

**Recent news!!** We are hoping to have a Supporter's Bring and Share Meal in November to celebrate 25 years of Hands of Mercy! The date will be confirmed soon. We are praying that Sally and Joey will be able to come to the UK to share first-hand about the compassion ministry in Mandaluyong, Manila, Philippines. Please pray that everything will come together for this to happen.