

News update and subjects for prayer – June 2023

.....If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, “go in peace, be warmed and filled”, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? James 2:15-16 (ESV)

Week 1: June 1st – 8th

*** Many people in Mandaluyong need help from the **Prescription Medicine Programme**. Please pray that money will be given so that through this programme families can be given financial assistance to purchase medication which they could not otherwise afford. As there is no National Health Service in the Philippines, it is an enormous help to the poorer families to get proper medication, as well as laboratory tests through **Hands of Mercy**.

*** Please pray that the Filipino President, along with the government, will govern with integrity and give justice to the many families in the communities that have desperate needs

*** Hunger is still the great scandal of our age and many families in Mandaluyong in the Philippines have very little to eat each day. High population growth, social and political unrest and natural disasters have played havoc with the economy in the country for many years, causing widespread poverty and unemployment. This affects the lives of thousands of children, many of whom suffer from malnutrition. The **Hands of Mercy** staff feed the children at the **HOM Centres** with the feedings taking place from Wednesday to Saturday. Please pray that through the regular feedings the health of the children will improve, and that people will give financially through the **Supplementary Feeding Programme** to help buy food for the malnourished children.



Week 2: June 9th – 16th

*** Please pray for the HOM staff who help in the Mandaluyong office, remembering Sally, Remy, Mila and others who help from day-to-day. Please also pray for Denise Archer, the HOMI UK administrator in the vital work she is doing to help those in need in the Philippines. May all the administrative staff be given wisdom, strength and enabling in their ministry.

*** Please give thanks and praise to God for His great faithfulness to the **Compassion Ministry of Hands of Mercy**. 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 3: June 17th – 23rd

*** **Father's Day** is on the 18th June. Please pray for the fathers of all the sponsored children in the **Child Sponsorship Programme** and for the fathers in the families that receive supplementary food through the **Family Support Programme**. Give thanks for the **Men's Group** at the **Mercy Community Church**. Please pray that the men in the communities who drink, gamble and harshly treat their wives, will meet with the living God and experience a transformation in their lives.

*** 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.



Hands of Mercy International UK Trustees with Sally and Joey Escoto

*** By sponsoring a child through **Hands of Mercy International** you will have the opportunity to effectively impact the life of a child and enrich their community. The children receive education, food and healthcare and hear the Gospel through Mercy Community Church. This is a practical, "hands on" way of sharing the love of Christ. Although schools in the public education system are affordable, the school uniform, transportation costs, money for food, school supplies etc. make it too expensive for those living in poverty. Please pray for more people to come forward to help sponsor a child. *(For details, please contact the UK office on Tel: 07467 127023 or by email at: info@handsofmercyph.org).*

Week 4: June 24th – 30th

*** Please remember in prayer the world's poorest children, many of whom live in the Philippines. With little access to life's basic needs and no real hope for the future, please pray that through the compassion ministry of **Hands of Mercy**, God will prosper every endeavour to lift them from poverty and enable them to flourish.

*** Please give thanks that Sally and Joey Escoto were able to visit their family in Cebu and celebrate Sally's mother's 90th birthday. To have a break from the busyness of the squatter communities is much needed for Sally and Joey, who have a huge responsibility in the running of **Hands of Mercy Philippines**.

*** **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/La Trinidad.

Thank you so much for your ministry in prayer.

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Restoring hope to the needy through love and compassion.