



"For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations."

Isaiah 61:11

Buckets For Jesus Newsletter - January 2018 Mission Special Edition



Dear Friends, Families, Loved Ones, Donors and Volunteers,

We would like to thank you very much for your support, donations and prayers for our 25th Apostolic Mission to the Philippines, from January 16-31, 2018.

Besides our usual outreach sites, we were lead to new places to do outreaches, including schools, orphanages and squatter areas, where we got to see first-hand the state of poverty that the kids have to grow up in.

The main purpose of our apostolic mission was to distribute the thousands of Schoolbags that were lovingly packed by our missionaries and volunteers, to the needy children. The Schoolbags were shipped over by container from Perth and Balikpapan boxes from Singapore that were shipped to various locations. Bibles and Rosaries were also given out to parents and teachers.

The children sadly cannot afford to purchase school supplies themselves, and they were full of joy as they opened their bags to see your gifts to them. The mothers of the children were just as happy as they always came to us expressing how grateful they are because the schoolbags means their kids can keep going to school next term.

Besides the distributions of Schoolbags, Buckets For Jesus also found time to spend with the Missionaries of the Poor's elderly, the Missionaries of Charity's toddlers and disadvantaged children and also took part in the He Cares Orphanage's feeding program.

We could not have done our missions without all the workers in the vineyard, especially Jane Borg and her students from the Acts 2 College of Mission and Evangelization Aloyse Murray, Angela Firth, Ashley Carvalho, Joe Phillips and Paul Crossley, Rita Bucoy, Raquel Bucoy, Roseller Bucoy, Blynesia Reas and Greg and Matthew Brimble.

We're now all back in our respective hometowns, recovered, recuperated and ready for what's ahead, especially our upcoming fundraisers and the annual Schoolbags For Jesus project.

You can view a video about the mission @ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aP_ofTjTOKo

Over the next few pages, you will see how many were blessed during the mission and we hope you will be touched by what you're going to see and may God Bless you abundantly for your generous help for the poor!

Mike, Ruby and the Buckets For Jesus Team

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Cebu - Missionaries Of The Poor

For the first outreach of this 25th Apostolic Mission, BFJ missionaries spent time with about 43 elderly men and women, as well as physically and mentally challenged individuals.



Please pray for improvement on the sad state of the poorest of the poor who have nowhere to go in their advanced age and families have forgotten or have no time to visit them.

We served them afternoon tea and also gave them Cebuano Bibles and Rosaries to Catholic residents.



Cebu - Missionaries Of Charity

No missions to Cebu will be complete without a visit to our precious little friends at the Missionaries of Charity. Despite the Pasil area being affected by a few days earlier, God paved the way for us to visit them.

Mother Teresa's little angels were given a special treat today with new blankets and pillows lovingly made and donated by Terrilee Wallace and her team. The Mother Superior was so happy to see all the blankets & pillows which were exactly what the little kids needed! Thanks be to God!



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YWAM Cebu Outreach

Thanks be to God for YWAM Cebu, who arranged and helped us bless close to 500 street children last night! Thank you sponsors, donors and volunteers, your kindness has made all these possible! It may seem insignificant but the impact of your generosity is life changing! If you want to make a difference, think of these kids!



Cebu - Canton Bay Outreach

We visited one of the best slum areas of YWAM's street children ministry by the bay and blessed 200 hundred children with the very Schoolbags some of you packed or made donations for. Face to face we deliver them in the flesh to the poorest of the poor on your behalf.



Cebu - Coogon Pardo Outreach

Rain or shine, the final outreach of our Cebu missions went ahead in Pardo and more needy children received God's blessings through your generosity in many small ways. The happy faces of these children says it all, especially when they opened their gifts! Never underestimate the power of love!



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Cebu - Under Mananga Bridge Outreach

The village under Mananga Bridge is a regular outreach site for Buckets For Jesus. Not only were the village's indigent children blessed with your treasures to them. Our young missionaries walked through the village and witnessed first-hand the state of poverty that the kids have to grow up in.



Dumaguete - Barangay Looc Outreach

Our first outreach at Dumaguete saw 400 pupils of Amador Dagudag Memorial Elementary School receive Schoolbags and Bible comics. The kids which mostly reside in Barangay Looc were in awe after receiving the gifts as they've never received such things before. God bless your generous hearts!



Dumaguete - Orphanage Visits

Thanks to Bishop Lito Cortes' suggestion, we were able to visit three orphanages despite short notice - Friendship Home, Citadinni and Casa Miami. The priest, brothers and lay people who run Casa Miami were so welcoming and allowed us to wait for the orphans to come for their lunch break. We're grateful for your donations to our schoolbags to reach these needy children and meet them briefly. Inspiring works are ongoing in this orphanage, your support and prayers much needed.



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Dumaguete - A special BFJ outreach in Dauin

Nearly 300 needy children were blessed in this outreach. God bless our dear friend, Archimedes Diputado and the Principal of Dauin Central school and their teachers who helped us reach the neediest in this remote place. Hope you can appreciate that your loving donations are reaching the unreachable. Face to face they met with our missionaries in the flesh! Glory to God!



Dumaguete - Magsaysay Elementary School Outreach

Deeply touched by the warm welcome and appreciation expressed by more than 200 students in remote mountain area where Magsaysay Elementary School is located. We were led there by Fr Colm Meaney CSsR, who's parish was midway to the hills. The principal told us that school was built there to allow needy farmers' children and poor residents in the hills to attend public school. Brings us back to the fact how many children are being reached by Schoolbags for Jesus this year because you cared! Please don't stop caring for them!



Dumaguete - Barrio Buntis Outreach

Our final outreach Dumaguete was at a little Barrio named Buntis where upon arrival, the kids were already waiting for us! We learned from the folks there that the children refused to go to school, when they heard BFJ was coming. Six months ago, we visited them but run out of Schoolbags. And we fulfilled our promise to come back! And the kids received the gifts!



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Manila - Slums at Cainta, Antipolo

We were very blessed to reach the neediest children in this remote slum area and blessed many with Schoolbags while mothers and elderly received Bibles and Rosaries for Catholic dwellers! Thanks be to God for our Manila-based missionary Aiza Santiago who arranged this outreach with the Barangay leader and for enabling and leading of the Holy Spirit after an earlier mission was cancelled. Your continued prayers much needed and appreciated!



Manila - Panghulo High School, Malabon

On our second day in Manila, we did an outreach at Panghulo High School in Malabon through the help of Fr Jose Aguas and the cooperation of the school's Principal in selecting the neediest students to receive more than 200 Schoolbags.

Indeed your humble gifts are reaching the farthest places to help the neediest kids deserving His blessings! Thank you all for making the difference!



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Manila - Busy Day at He Cares Orphanage

On our last day of mission, BFJ Team did volunteer work in this orphanage to help feed 400 kids and orphans living in the poorest part of Quezon City led by Joe Dean Sola. From cooking to preparation and serving out food, it was awesome day feeding hundreds of kids who already received our Schoolbags last visit and some 100 more SFJ bags for those who have yet to get from the last trip. Felt blessed & productive!



Manila - Blessing & support for 300 Quezon Scholars

On our last day of missions, we also gave out schoolbags for needy 300 high school scholars supported by the Scholarship program of Fr Steve Tynan MGL, Fr Rey Tano MGL and Fr Alex Nolasco MGL from St Benedict's Parish in Quezon City. Pray for more support for these deserving bright students... for just the cost of a cuppa a day, one can adopt a student and put them through college!



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Schoolbags For Jesus went beyond Cebu, Dumaguete and Manila!

5,000 Schoolbags were packed for our 2017-18 Schoolbags for Jesus campaign. While the Perth Schoolbags were shipped over via container, our team of volunteers in Singapore lovingly filled balikbayan boxes with packed Schoolbags to other areas of the Philippines, especially the Mindanao region.

Praise the Lord and thanks to our Mindanao-based missionaries & volunteers led by Raquel Orquiza Bucoy, Joanne Agdamag Bartolome, and friends who blessed hundreds of needy children in the cities of Malaybalay and Cagayan De Oro on behalf of Buckets got Jesus! Know that your prayers and donations are reaching unprecedented places this year because of your generous hearts God bless and loved the poor!

It was true dedication from Susan Arellano Solis, who braved the mountains, crossed a river on a tricycle and walked for miles to reach the remote Lumad School in the hinterlands of Butuan City. We're grateful to God for His Schoolbags to reach the unreachable!

Thank you Lord for sending Fr Khing Roque P Vaño for rescuing us by distributing SFJ bags to the neediest children in Carmen, Bohol on our behalf when our boat to the island was canceled due to the Sinulog Fluvial procession. Words cannot express our gratitude to God for making this miracle happened! All Glory and praise to God!

Cagayan De Oro

Malaybalay, Bukidnon



Carmen, Bohol

Butuan City



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Thanks a million to our amazing sponsors! Frasers Hospitality

Every year, without fail, Fraser Place Manila sponsors our stay when on missions for the last 9 years now! Buckets for Jesus is forever grateful to God for hosting us in your magnificent, 5-star property which Mike and Ruby had the privilege to design! We thank God for your generosity and support for BFJ missions.

Because of you, especially your Chief Executive Officer Mr Peng Sum Choe and GM Mr Jobel Ramos, our Manila missions in the last 9 years were made possible.



Profoods

Cebu based Profoods International Corporation is the largest Philippine-based dried fruit producer and the standard bearer of world class processed fruit products from the Philippines. Their dried fruit, preserves, purees, concentrates, and juices are available all over the Philippines and exported to many countries worldwide. We are grateful to God for Profood Chairman Mr Justin Uy for donating 4,000 fruit juices for our missions. BFJ Missionaries collected the juices on the first day and were given a tour of the factory.



Universal Seafoods

Universal Seafoods is a Perth based importer, exporter, wholesaler and distributor of quality seafood products. Besides supplying their products to various wholesalers nationwide, they stood behind Buckets for Jesus' cause for the poorest of the poor for six years now. Not only they helped us build houses for the homeless but also sponsored the SFJ's drawstring bags and paid some our charity containers' shipment! Christianity at its core! We are totally awestruck and simply amazed by their generosity! God is glorified!



The Gideons International in the Philippines

The Gideons Philippines has been supporting Buckets for Jesus for 2 years now by donating 1000 Bibles in Cebuano, Tagalog and English languages. This organisation is an interdenominational association of Christian business, their goal is dedicated to saving the lost through personal witnessing and the distribution of God's Word in more than 190 countries around the world. Grateful to God for their amazing support through Stephen Yap, as mothers, teachers, principals and MOP's elderly residents received Bibles during our mission.



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Prayer Requests

Pray that we will be empowered by the Holy Spirit to respond to the call of mercy from our poor brethren. Proverbs 3:27

Praise point for BFJ's 25th mission last month, for blessed apostolic mission, protection, good health and provisions. Proverbs 19:17

Please pray for ADOPT A FAMILY Appeal – 48 more homes for Phase 3, that God will send more big hearted Christians to champion the cause of homeless victims of disasters awaiting under Adopt A Family. Proverbs 19:17

Pray for the protection of the Filipino people and the country from recurrent typhoons, the country is the 2nd most vulnerable country in the world, with 25 million out of 104 million living below poverty levels Proverbs 3:27

Please pray for support for 3 orphanages under threat of closure due to financial issues with 300 kids losing their homes.

Please pray for an over-crowded home for the elderly needing 120 beds, only 170 folks have beds, the rest sleep on the floor without mattresses.

Pray for over-crowded prison (capacity 180) in Dumaguete City which badly needs extension to accommodate 150 more inmates. The archdiocese of Dumaguete through Bishop Lito Cortes shared this appeal when we visited them.

Pray for BFJ Bibles Drive- we are raising 5,000 copies for our ongoing missions this year. For only \$2 a copy in Tagalog or Cebuano, you can give a radical gift that will last a lifetime for the poor who can't afford them. 2 Corinthians 9:6-9

Please pray for the success of BFJ fundraising drive this year to help fund our missions and charities and bless families last year. Mark and Juliana Amin of JBento and Curry Night by Curly and Minalie Fernando of Curly's Catering Services.

Praise point for Containers for Jesus CFJ25 filled with Schoolbags for Jesus with school supplies and gifts and donations in kind. These charity shipments reached Cebu port safely and were distributed at BFJ's 24th mission. 2 Corinthians 9:13

Praise point for Schoolbags for Jesus - more than 5000 SFJs blessed a multitude of orphans and destitute street children who can't afford to buy school supplies were distributed at the last mission in January 2017. The drawstring bags this year were lovingly sponsored by Ms Florence Laing of Universal Seafood. 2 Corinthians 9:7

Praise point for healing and complete restoration of our sick friends and loved ones including Christine, Annette, Amor, Adam, Jacqui, Simone and also for their protection & the many who are sick in our Prayer Warrior list. Acts 4:9-10

Pray for Retired Volunteers: Enterprise for Jesus (EFJ) need your expertise to teach the poor to fish, instead of giving them the fish & send more expert workers in the field to uphold our livelihood programs. Proverbs 21:13

Pray for the end of Christian persecution specially the end of war in Syria and for our daily empowerment to be true disciples to proclaim the Great Commission. Matthew 28:19

Most of all, "Pray for the peace in Jerusalem." Psalm 122:6 Please send your help to: <http://holyassist.blogspot.com> www.terrasantanews.org "Salvation is from the Jews." John 4

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