

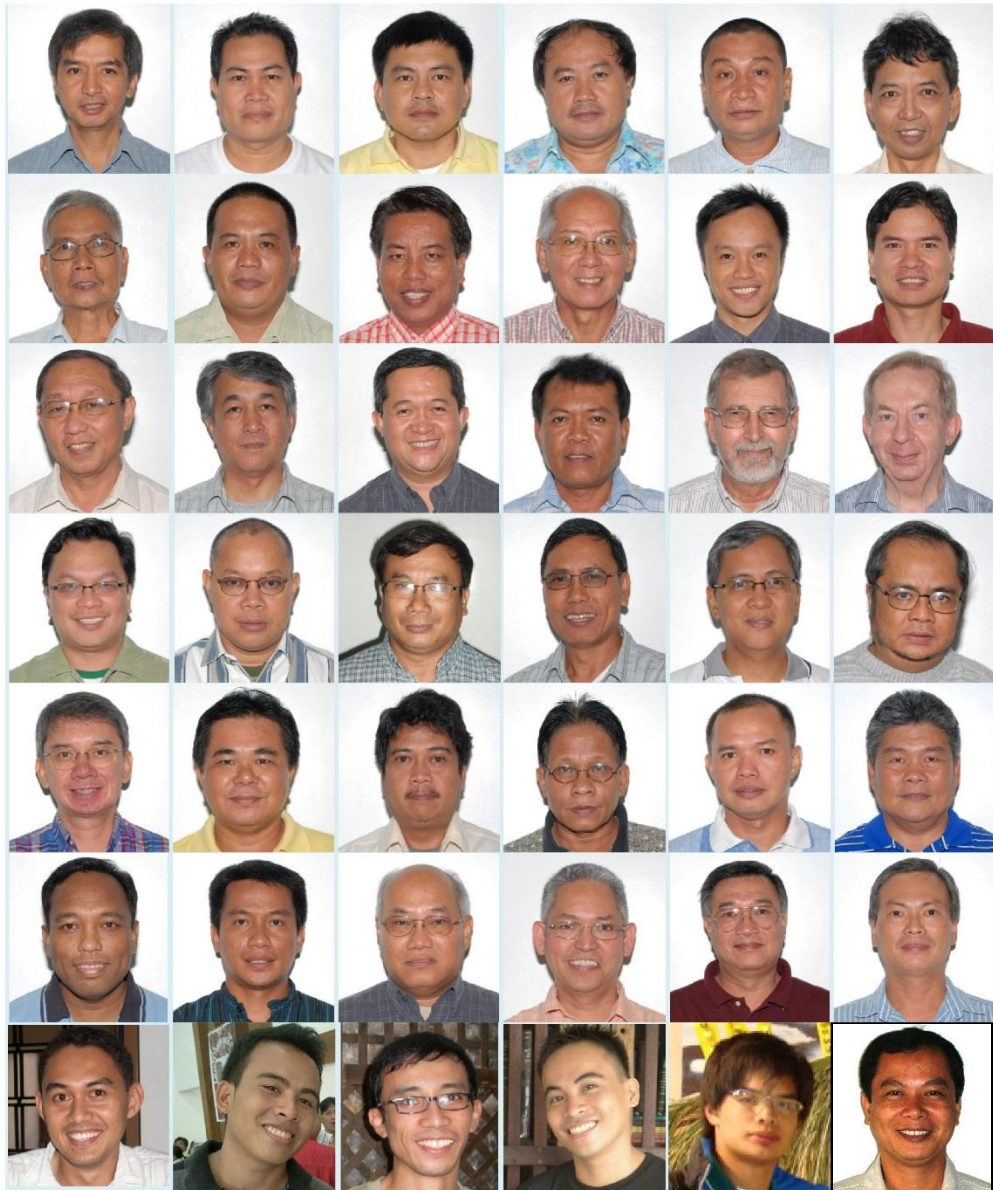
Friends & Disciples

Official Bulletin of the Community of the Missionaries of Jesus-USA

December 2013



Holy Family by Rey Paz Contreras
Photo: Melanio Viuya



**We, the Missionaries of Jesus working in the Philippines,
Papua New Guinea, Guatemala and in the USA
greet you and your loved ones a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**
**¡Les saludamos a ustedes y a sus queridos Feliz Navidad,
Prospero Año Nuevo!**
Maligayang Pasko at Manigong Bagong Taon!

Sharing in and out of our Poverty

Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself (Philippians 2:4-8a).

Born in human likeness, found in human form, Jesus did not exploit his equality with God. The interests of others come first. St. Paul invites us to imitate Christ Jesus who shared in and out of human poverty to exalt, enrich and empower the last, the least, the lost, the lowly and the lonely.

The Missionaries of Jesus try to have this mind and heart of Jesus in whatever they do: with the urban poor (story shared by Fr. Gerry Charcos); with the workers (story shared by Fr. Norman Soriano); with the migrants (story shared by Fr. Michael Montoya) and with the indigenous people (stories shared by Fr. Joey Evangelista and Bernard Limoto).

Please read the **Christmas wish lists** of our missionaries from Digos, Philippines (Fr. Joey Evangelista), Tierra Blanca, Guatemala (Fr. Joseph Guerrero) and from Peñitas, Texas (Fr. Michael Montoya).

To work with the workers, the poor, the indigenous people and the migrants (the lost, the last, the least, the lowly and the lonely of our present day society) necessitates financial support from those who can afford. This is an opportunity for you to have same mind and heart of Jesus: to share in and out of poverty to exalt, enrich and empower others.

Imagine the work we can do – if every reader of this Bulletin or every friend of the friends of the Missionaries of Jesus gives at least \$5.00 a month. This will be of great help to our missionaries working in the fields; to our future missionaries (our seminarians) and to the poor, the workers, the indigenous people and the migrants with whom we work.

This is our dream and we read an example that this is possible in the story of Fr. Gerry. We can imitate the urban poor of Sto. Niño: “When Little Becomes Much”.

Let this be our gift to the one who gave up everything – even sharing in and out of our poverty – to make God’s plan a reality. Let us **share out of our poverty** to turn this dream into reality. **Share this dream with your friends!**

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



- Fr. Melanio Viuya, MJ

When Little Becomes Much

“If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way”

It is commonly thought that bigger is better, that more is advantageous than few which is logically not wrong. Our world loves bigness. In one of my homilies sometime in 2011, I have said that if ever I would have the chance to write the story of our new church, I will write it from the perspective of the multiplication of the bread. Indeed, this new church came to be because of the little things sincerely shared by our parishioners and friends here and abroad. These little things shared and put together made a difference. The marker on the left side of the entrance of the new church is a living testament of the multiplication of small gifts to make a difference. Until now people are amazed, surprised and bewildered as to how we were able to construct a big and beautiful church in just a matter of short time: “isang simbahang singlaki ng mga puso at singganda ng mg kalooban ng mga parokyano” (a church as big as and as beautiful as the parishioners’ hearts). God really works in small and mysterious way.

The fund raisings that we had launched at the beginning of this construction, were all humble and modest, like the 500 Plus Club (that actually sustained our church construction): A bag of cement for the house of the Holy Infant! My piggy bank for the House of the Holy Infant! Share a plywood!



Share a stained glass! Share a tile for the flooring of the church! Share a tile for the altar! The other particular parts of the church broken down to smaller parts for particular donations. This strategy permitted people to bring the little that they have. Here, we see how little really becomes much.

It is significant to mention also the efforts of the candidates of the various beauty pageants. We thank all those people who believed that we could do it in a little and humble way.

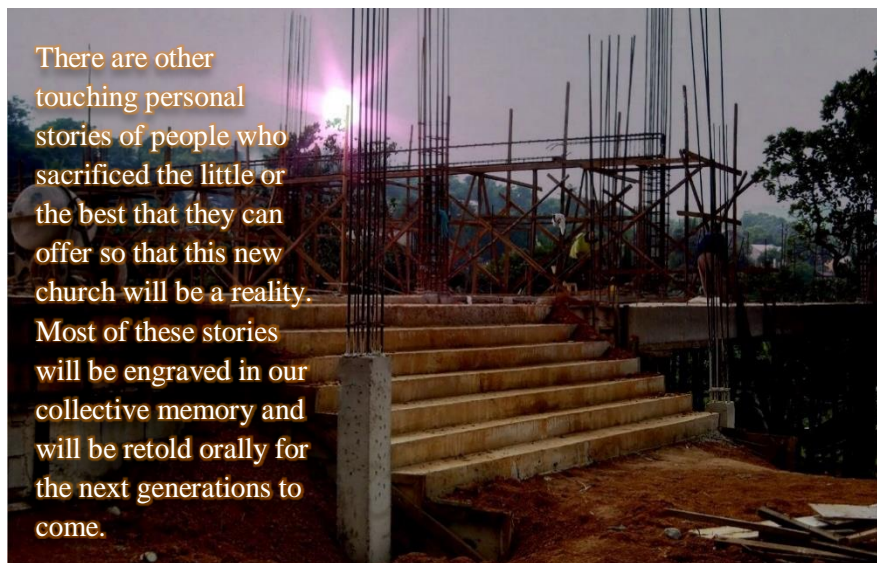


There are other touching personal stories of people who sacrificed the little or the best that they can offer so that this new church will be a reality. Most of these stories will be engraved in our collective memory and will be retold orally for the next generations to come. It is significant to mention that these blessings came when we were on the verge of temporarily stopping the construction because of the shortage of funds. I am writing this to convince you, our dear parishioners, that this is really your church. This is the Church of a community that worked together for a good cause. The mission of this community is forever depicted in the “Hapag-asa” (Table Fellowship of Hope) under the altar table.

A symbol of unity

Standing on a hill, this new church is a living reminder that higher ideals are not impossible if we trust the Lord and believe in His amazing grace. In the entrance of the church (upper part) we see two big stained glasses: the birth of Jesus (incarnation) and the birth of the church (Pentecost). In the upper side walls of the church, are the 14 Stations of the Cross which represent the whole paschal mystery—the mystery of our salvation. Above the altar is a dome with six stained glasses representing the foundations of the church with the images of St. Peter, St. Paul and the Evangelists. The altar looks modern in the wooden design with the colored lights yellow and blue from the tabernacle radiating its

light to the image of Sto. Nino. The “Hapag-asa” inscribed in the altar now becomes an important symbol of the unity of the parish community to care for the little ones. As a whole, this new church is a living reminder of the unity of the parish community that begun when the parish vision-mission was articulated and expressed.



There are other touching personal stories of people who sacrificed the little or the best that they can offer so that this new church will be a reality. Most of these stories will be engraved in our collective memory and will be retold orally for the next generations to come.

However difficult the climb was, we have always relied on a ladder of grace

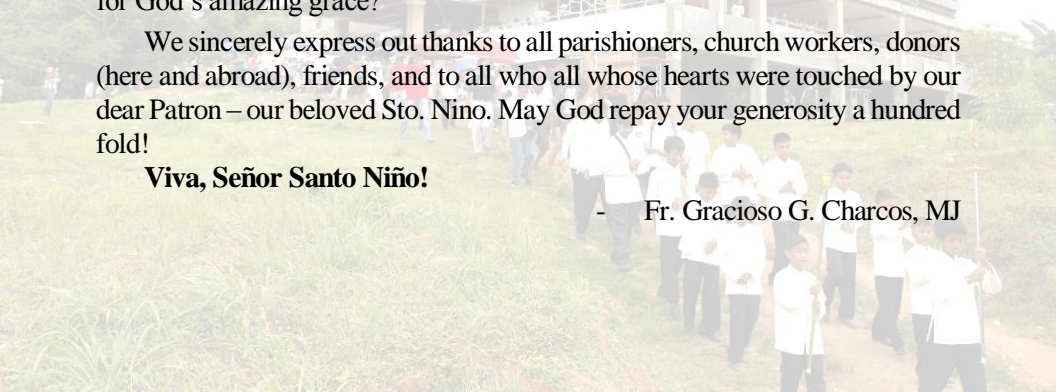
In the opening line of our official prayer for the Dedication and Consecration of this new church, we have clearly expressed that “God’s love is the source of all goodness and success that we experience, for without Him, we could not have reached this level of unity that allowed us to construct the new church”.

The church construction may still be on-going, especially for the parking, the offices, the fence, the rectory, etc. but God’s love has already been overflowing. We are continuously blessed by Sto. Nino, the Lord who makes things possible for us. By the way, as I write this article, we have already spent more or less twenty-five million pesos for the church construction. Poor as we are as a community, who would believe that we have reached this stage, if not for God’s amazing grace?

We sincerely express our thanks to all parishioners, church workers, donors (here and abroad), friends, and to all who all whose hearts were touched by our dear Patron – our beloved Sto. Nino. May God repay your generosity a hundred fold!

Viva, Señor Santo Niño!

- Fr. Gracioso G. Charcos, MJ



The Birthing of MJ Family



The Missionaries of Jesus Family (MJ Family) consists of five MJ parishes in the Diocese of Lae: St. Francis of Assisi in Wau; Holy Family in Bulolo; Christ the King in Eleven-Mile; All Saints in Bumbu; and Holy Spirit in Boundary Road that includes at least three sub-parishes in Lae, Menyamya and Finschhafen areas of Morobe Province.

The Awakening

The MJ Family concept first emerged following the promulgation of the Lae Diocesan Five Year Pastoral Plan on Holy Thursday of 2009, by the Bishop of Lae, Most Rev. Christian Blouin, CMM, D.D., calling on all parishes, basic Christian communities (BCC's), spiritual groups and diocesan associations and offices to take responsibility for the implementation of the diocesan pastoral plan.

In response to this call, it was agreed then by the MJ priests, Fr. Apolonio Dulawan, Fr Albert Sayson, Fr. Crespo Lape, Fr. Antonio Cordero, Fr. Gregorio Domilies with support from few like-minded lay persons to convene the first ever MJ Family Gathering at Christ the King Parish on 12th December 2009.

This was the birthing of a unique association of, and relationship between five Missionaries of Jesus parishes.

Our Ideals

It was at this inaugural gathering that the MJ priests outlined their Mission-Vision as religious missionaries and how they envisaged the involvement of the MJ Parishes as a family in implementing the diocesan pastoral plan.

The MJ-Papua New Guinea District Mission-Vision declares that:

“We are religious missionaries, touched by the Love of the Father... inspired by the Risen Christ... led by the Holy Spirit, motivated by the ideals of our MJ Community, envision a meaningful missionary presence in the Diocese of Lae, PNG through:

Authentic journeying with people of other cultures, traditions and faiths with deep respect and in a spirit of dialogue; Formation of basic Christian communities, strengthening people’s solidarity, participation and commitment rooted in faith; Lay empowerment by promoting responsible and consistent leadership in the life of the Church and society; Accompaniment and integral formation of the youth as active subjects and agents of social transformation; Enhancement and encouragement of people’s communal efforts to explore more deeply and express more clearly the Melanesian face of Christ; Effective collaboration with the Diocesan established program as a concrete way of responding to the immediate needs of the local church; School apostolate/HIV-AIDS centre/radio; and Ad-intra aspects.”

The broad Purpose of the MJ Family is three-fold:

1. To strengthen the realization of the MJ mission-vision within the five MJ parishes;
2. To promote networking, collaboration, coordination and cohesion amongst MJ parishes in the propagation of the diocesan pastoral plan; and
3. To provide an avenue for MJ parishes to support the MJ pastoral activities, while at the same time promote the ideals of meaningful association and Christian Community.



Our Model of being Church

The delegates present then were also challenged to envisaged and adopt a “Church” that they wanted to become. One that will not only enhance the realization of the theme “We are the Church alive in Christ,” but also the MJ Family, hence the following features and characteristics of the “Church” we want to become.

Church: The People of God and Community of Disciples

The Church is a Communion – One mind, one heart, one soul. By this, we as a Church recognize the basic equality of all Christ's faithful, lay, religious and ordained. This communion is enlivened and strengthened by the Holy Spirit's gifts of offices and charisms. Participation – where everyone feels they belong and they are the Church and that they are responsible for its Life and Mission. All the baptized have the responsibility of proclaiming the Gospel in word and action to the world in which they live. A Community in Mission – where gifts and charisms are used for furthering the Mission of the Holy Trinity.

The purpose of being with Jesus is to go forth from Jesus, in His power and with His grace. Christ is now calling the Church to share in His mission with new energy and creativity.

A Christian Community is never meant to be just a comfortable place for its members. It must look beyond its own immediate concerns and reach out to others. The Christian Community must be attentive to issues of social justice and spiritual hunger in society. A Community of Disciples that is Praying, Witnessing and Giving a Loving Service. A Community of believers that is in solidarity with the whole human family.

Our new way of being Church as MJ Family is, summarized thus:

“Communion – Collaboration – Participation – Mission”

Our spirituality in forging this new way of being Church and new way of Doing Mission: For us to become a Church Alive in Christ, we must develop a relationship with God that will lead us to loving service. Our spirituality must lead us to loving compassionate action and acts of forgiveness that witness to the presence of Christ Jesus in our world today.

In the wisdom of the delegates present then at the inaugural MJ Family Gathering in 2009, we the laity of the MJ Family have therefore taken it upon ourselves to act now without delay and do something practical towards the promotion and realization of these features and characteristics of the “Church” we want to become as well as the MJ Mission-Vision and of course our MJ Family purpose, hence the decision to pool some of our financial resources to establish a MJ Family Fund, which materialized today.

- Bernard Limoto, MBE



The Bishop of Lae and (R-L) Frs. Greg Domilies, Toy Cordero, Kirby Bagaslao, Cris Lape and Albert Sayson during the diaconal ordination of Kirby.

The Experience of Apprentice Hairdressers and Dressmakers

The Young Christian Workers –Ghana, Africa has been developing a national action campaign for the rights of apprentice hairdressers, dressmakers and carpenters. The focus of the action is to provide training to apprentices, to establish better working conditions and right to social security. These YCW groups are active and present in Kumasi, Accra and Tamale – Ghana, Africa.



Who we are and what we do

“We are ‘Madams’ who are dressmaking and hairdresser teachers”, says Folly Doris. “We design, cut and sew and make traditional Ghanaian dress, shirts and trousers. Some of us are established hairdressers. We train and support the most vulnerable among us, especially unemployed young girls (apprentices). We undertake income-generating activities to sustain our families and have some private income. We prefer to run the economic activity together and form other groups”.

“Many income generating projects, especially with rural women, provide little income. The need for cash income becomes more important each day. Even though we are very much aware of our reality and our fundamental work, we have difficulty managing our small shops as we have no basic business skills. These are the main reasons why our actions and activities are failing or are not progressing to the next level.”

Our demands

“We want to develop in ourselves and in others management and business skills for free. We want to organize and mobilize hairdresser and dressmaker apprentices to demand for social protection, especially social security. We want that the education/training we give to the apprentices be recognized by the government. We want to contact and work with entrepreneurs.”



Our process of action

“YCW National leaders have developed a training kit on bookkeeping, calculations and money management which includes: the importance of bookkeeping, use of symbols in bookkeeping, income and expenditure, use of the cash book, profit and loss, how to use the profit, buying and selling, costing and pricing. This training is imparted to us the ‘Madams’ engaged in hairdressing and dressmaking in our regular meetings in the base groups. The training assists us to use our numeracy skills by using simple management techniques.”

“In return, we provide the same training to the young hairdresser and dressmaker apprentices in our shops.”

“When there are actions, whether zone or national, we organize ourselves and join the mass mobilization and /or organize group actions to lobby our demands.”



Results of our actions

“We immediately started to use our knowledge gained from the numeracy course to keep our “business” records. Our government has recognized the free training program developed by us and they issue Certificates to the graduates of the Training. We increased our income/livelihood and share our knowledge with other vulnerable unemployed young women in our Communities. We have put into action our dream for a decent work and dignified life as God wants us to be.”

- Fr. Norman Soriano, MJ



Fr. Norman, Soriano, MJ (in blue) with a leader of YCW during a meeting in Ghana.



Melanio Viuya

MJ Tierra Blanca, Guatemala Christmas Wish List

We, (R-L) Frs. Aris Villanueva, Joseph Guerrero and Rey Tejico, are members of the Missionary of Jesus (MJ). Francisca Muxtay, Guatemalan, works with us as MJ Lay Missionary. We are currently working as missionaries in the Apostolic Vicariate of Petén, Guatemala, particularly in the Mission of San Marcos Evangelista, Tierra Blanca, Sayaxché, Petén. We established our mission here on December 1, 2007. The focus of our evangelization work is to bring the personal presence of Jesus in the 45 villages that are within our pastoral care. We announce the message of hope of the Good News; we celebrate Life with the people as a Church through the sacraments.

Evangelization work in this mission consists of catechetical formation of the people, education of lay ministers and Christian community leaders, celebration of the sacraments, building communities and their places of worship, establishing development projects and training community leaders to enable them to be responsible of mentioned projects.

Catechetical instructions of the faithful are done by trained catechists. Lay ministers preside the Celebration of the Word during Sundays when we are not able to come to the communities to celebrate the Eucharist. They also organize with the people other religious activities such as the Posadas (evening processions and prayers in houses dramatizing Mary and Joseph looking for a place to rest before the birth of Jesus), Stations of the Cross and neighborhood

rosary prayers. Trained ministers facilitate bible reflections in Small Christian Communities. Community leaders assist the need of the faithful by providing social assistance such as helping the poor and the migrants, victims of natural disasters, visiting and helping the sick, etc. We are responsible for the training of the catechists and ministers through regular seminars and workshops. Upon the identification of concrete needs of the people, the Missionaries of Jesus assist the people establish social, economic and human development projects to alleviate poverty, enhance the health conditions of the people, promote the leadership role of women and defend the people from situations of injustice.

We also accompany the indigenous people so that we may be able to discover how God is graciously present in them through their life, culture, history and reality. We integrate their cultural symbols in liturgical celebrations and their local stories in catechetical instruction and other forms of evangelization work.

Like most people during the Christmas season we also have our Christmas wish list so that we can fulfill better our work in this mission. Our Christmas Wish List:

1. Bibles in Maya Q'eqchi' language for 40 Maya Q'eqchi' communities and Bibles in Spanish Language for 5 communities.
2. Catechetical Materials for children and the youth.
3. Food for catechists and leaders who come to attend seminars and workshops (catechists, social ministry promoters and youth leaders).





4. Agricultural implements, seeds and seedlings.
5. Embroidery supplies for 25 group of women to initiate embroidery projects (threads and fabrics)
6. Fuel for our vehicles to be able to visit communities more frequently in order to celebrate the Holy Eucharist and other sacraments, realize seminars and workshops and animate the people in the communities.
7. Two computers and one printer to produce training and formation modules for leaders and catechists, catechetical modules and other documentation purposes.
8. One photocopier to re-produce catechetical materials and other formation modules.
9. One projector for seminar and workshop purposes.
10. Provisions for the missionaries: Food, clothing and medicine.

To facilitate things, please write checks payable to the Missionaries of Jesus (with a note: MJ Guatemala) and send them to our MJ headquarters in Los Angeles. For details and clarifications, please contact us through email josephricguerrero@hotmail.com.

In behalf of the MJ-Tierra Blanca Missionary team, we pray for the presence of God in your heart and may peace dwell in your home this Christmas.

- Fr. Joseph Guerrero, MJ



New MJ Mission in Texas and Its Christmas Wish List

On September 8, Bishop Daniel E. Flores, Diocese of Brownsville, has created a new quasi-parish in what he calls as the poorest sector of the diocese. To be called the "poorest sector" in a mission Diocese like Brownsville is saying a lot. In conversation with the Missionaries of Jesus (MJ), he asked that we take on the daunting challenge of establishing this brand new parish from grounds up. The Missionaries of Jesus agreed to accept this mission challenge and proposed that I help establish this new foundation for the MJ along the border of Texas and Mexico. The Bishop has named me as the first pastor of this newly built parish which comprise of four churches – Saint Anne, Saint Juan Diego, Saint Michael Archangel, and Our Lady of Guadalupe. All the four churches are along the borders of Mexico and Texas, with one church, St. Michael in Los Ebanos, literally having the Rio Grande River (separating US and Mexico) as its borders to the south. The distance ranges from 20 miles (east to west) and 4 mi – 15 miles (north to south).

To say that the people in the parish are poor is an understatement. Mostly, our people are Hispanic immigrants who live at or below the poverty level in this isolated, rural area. Fathers do their best to support their families by means of erratic day labor jobs, and some mothers have occasional work cleaning homes in more affluent areas.

The border issues such as drug and human trafficking, crime, poverty, substandard or non-existent public services we take for granted in other cities



take on a human face in these part of the diocese. Even the seemingly ordinary act of going to church can be the radical choice for most people. Many do not have proper documents and driving to and from the Church may mean not going back to their families. The young are lured to illegal activities that pay than simply go to a CCD program for example. The helicopter that hovers over our community day in and day out is constant reminder that we are living in a militarized zone. The multiplying number of border patrols and the wall that was built to separate US from the rest of the Americas only increase the sense of insecurity among the people. In one of our churches, I was told that border patrols also enter the ground to pick up undocumented people despite the churches being sanctuaries.

The newly established parish, under the protection of St. Anne, is trying its best to respond creatively to the situation we are confronted. The simple act of doing novena not within the walls of the church buildings but within the living church, the community, is our way of reaching out to those who are not able to come to the church. It is a reminder that the church has not forgotten them and our way of bringing the Good News into our homes. The procession we are planning starting from the river (a source of both hope and despair for many people here) to the church is our way of once again claiming the community





back for our faith and sanctifying the whole community that have seen quite a number of negative activities within their community in the recent years.

Presently, the whole parish is run from the sacristy of St. Anne Church while old portables (more than 30 years old) are now used in Our Lady of Guadalupe for the CCD classes. A room is now being built through the efforts of parishioners through taco sales and barbecues, attached to the portables to be another office in that section of the parish.

The new parish does not even have a rectory for its pastor. At present, I live in a different parish through the generosity of the pastor of that parish. We also do not have a staff, no proper offices (aside from the sacristy), and programs need to be set up without personnel. Much as we want to provide the best for our community, unfortunately, we need money to do so – something we do not have.

Two of the churches have debts amounting to more than half a million. The former pastors have decided to build bigger churches since the small churches they had could not fit the number of people at mass. Now, even the bigger churches built are full on Sundays. One of the churches (St. Anne) also doubles as CCD classrooms – there are 7 classes of CCD given at any given Sunday within the same church building. The combined collection of all the 4 churches is not even enough to pay one full-time staff, or even the utilities and insurances of the four churches.

The new parish is currently run from the sacristy of Saint Anne. Because of the distance between the eastern and western side of the parish (with no public transportation in the area) two Pastoral Centers are in the process of being built

and will need everything to make them operational to better serve the growing number of population in the area.

This is our Christmas wish list for Our Lady of Guadalupe Pastoral Center (Sullivan City): 2 desktop computers; multi-license Office 2010 Professional; heavy duty paper cutter/trimmer; heavy duty paper shredder; 2 office desks; 2 office desk chairs; office sofa; wall clock; 3 metal heavy duty filing cabinets; office supplies; microwave; commercial coffee maker; hot and cold water dispenser.

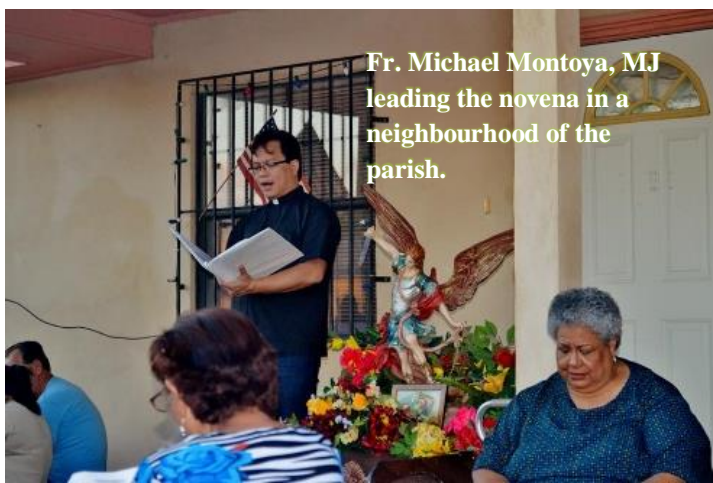
For Saint Anne Pastoral Center (Pueblo de Palmas): 7 desktop computers; multi-license Office 2010 Professional; heavy duty paper cutter/trimmer; Heavy duty paper shredder; 7 office desks; 7 office desk chairs; 1 office sofa; 2 wall clocks; 5 metal heavy duty filing cabinets; office supplies; microwave; commercial coffee maker; hot and cold water dispenser.

As mentioned above, the Missionaries of Jesus priests who work in the parish do not have a rectory and are now living in the rectory of a neighboring parish. Recently, the Diocese has decided to buy a house close to one of the 4 churches to serve as a rectory and as MJ residence in the parish. The buying of the 3 bedroom rectory is underway but without any furniture and furnishings. Like the two Pastoral centers being built, the rectory will need everything except for stove and refrigerator. This is our Christmas wish list: 3 bedroom sets; 3 desks; and chairs; bedroom linens, pillows; bathroom towels; a living room set; a dining room set; washer and dryer; kitchen utensils; pots and pans; plates, glasses, spoons and forks.

If you live very close to the centers mentioned above, you can donate in kind. Please contact us (sampuso@yahoo.com; 956-583-9888) before sending donations in kinds to avoid duplications. **Otherwise it is practical to send your checks payable to the Missionaries of Jesus** to our office in Los Angeles and **the total amount will be transferred to the respective center you will indicate.** This will help us avoid extra expenses in shipping the donations in kinds.

In the name of the Missionaries of Jesus and of all the people we work with we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Thank you very much and God bless you.

- Fr. Michael Montoya, MJ



Fr. Michael Montoya, MJ
leading the novena in a
neighbourhood of the
parish.

Christmas Wish List

of MJ's working in Digos

The Missionaries of Jesus team in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Digos live and work among the Tagakaulo tribe in the mountains of Mindanao in southern Philippines. The Missionaries of Jesus have been with the Tagakaulo tribe for the last seven years. The Tagakaulo communities are scattered far and wide in the mountains. MJs visit the different communities mostly by hiking or motorcycle. Besides Christian formation and the celebration of the Sacraments, the Missionaries of Jesus also are also helping the Tagakaulo broaden their social awareness, especially with issues related to their ancestral lands and their human rights.

The MJs are also actively helping the Tagakaulo have a deeper appreciation of their own culture. Related to this work of the Missionaries of Jesus are the three literacy schools managed and run by the team. The medium of teaching in these schools is the Tagakaulo language. The children studying in these schools learn the same things as the children in regular schools in the lowlands but in a manner that can be easily grasped by Tagakaulo children; the curriculum of these schools have been adapted to the Tagakaulo culture and way of life.



Some school children and their teachers in a faraway Tagakaulo village.

The Missionaries of Jesus take charge of the preparation, formation and supervision of the teachers as well as the acquisition of the books and other school materials needed. The team also seeks funding to be able to pay a portion of the teachers' salaries; the other portion is paid for by the parents of the children studying in the schools. The sustenance of the teachers, their lodgings as well as the one-classroom school buildings in each school are taken care of by the parents.

The three schools are located far from the center of the town and villages and can only be reached after hiking for many hours. Like the rest of the homes found around and near them, the schools have no electricity. When our teachers need more time to prepare for their classes and have to work in the evening, they use gas lamps. Gas lamps give poor lighting and the purchase of gas is an added expense for the parents and teachers and is not easily available in the mountains.

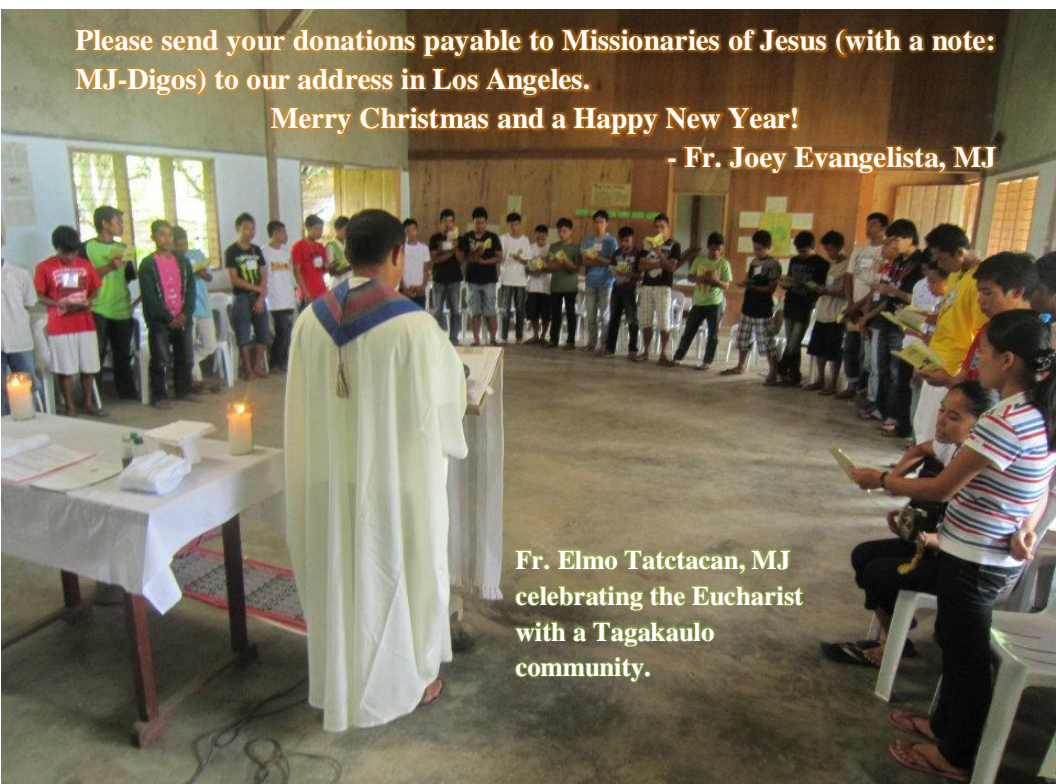
This is our Christmas wish list 1) **Three solar power kits** (worth 4,580Php or around **110US\$ each**) for our three literacy schools, and 2) **school supplies for the children** of the three schools (worth 10,000Php or around 239US\$ **for each school**).

We appeal to at least six people who would like to grant the wish of the Missionaries of Jesus who are working with the Tagakaulo in Digos. If \$239 or \$110 is too much for one person, please invite another friend or two to complete the said amount to make the Christmas wish of Frs. Virgilio Pozon; Elmo Tactacan and Joey Evangelista come true.

Please send your donations payable to Missionaries of Jesus (with a note: MJ-Digos) to our address in Los Angeles.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

- Fr. Joey Evangelista, MJ



**Fr. Elmo Tactacan, MJ
celebrating the Eucharist
with a Tagakaulo
community.**

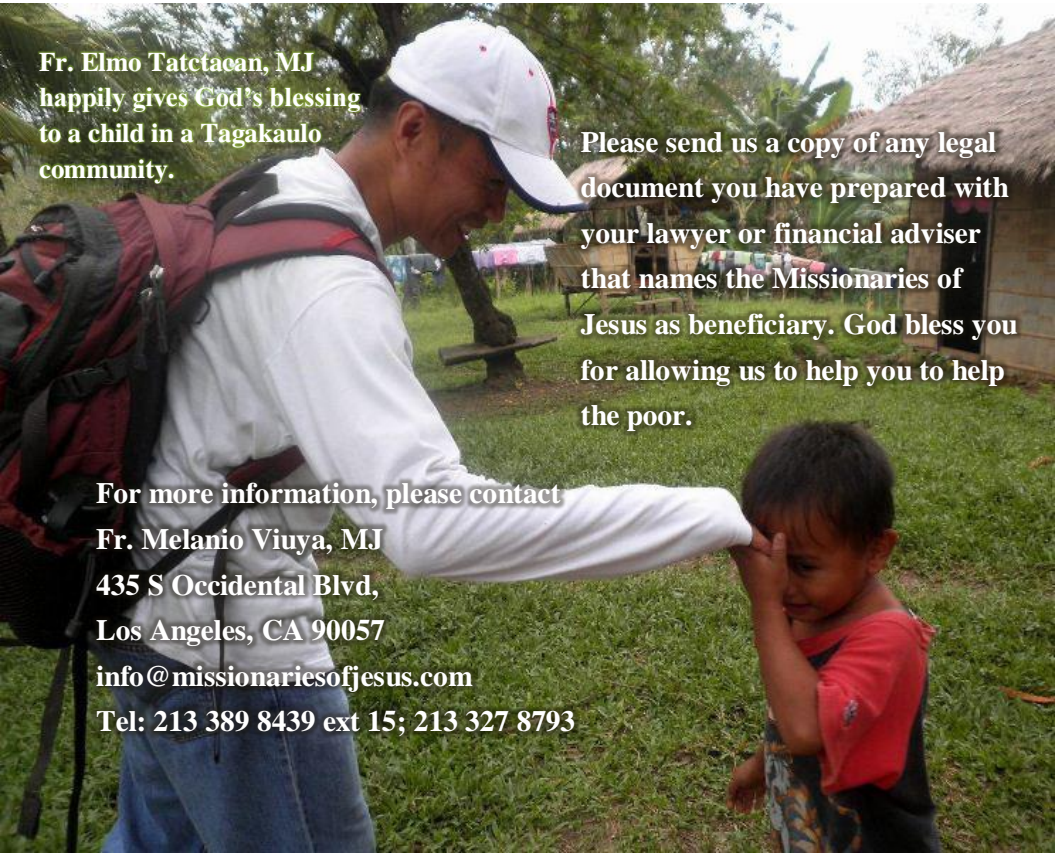
Let us Help You Help the Poor

Help the Missionaries of Jesus in their mission to bring the Good News to the poor! Let us help you help the poor for we know that not everyone can go to the mission but everyone can help the mission.

Remember the Missionaries of Jesus in your planned or deferred gifts that may include the following:

- ✚ You can establish **a charitable gift annuity** with Missionaries of Jesus.
- ✚ **Bequests:** You need to name specifically **in your will** the Missionaries of Jesus.
- ✚ In writing your will, choose to set up a **living trust to avoid probate**. You can list specific gifts from your estate to Missionaries of Jesus.
- ✚ **Your estate** consists of all the assets you own at the time of your death: cash, securities, jewels, art, your home or other real estate. Any of these assets would be an acceptable gift to make to the Missionaries of Jesus.
- ✚ Missionaries of Jesus can be named as one of the **beneficiaries** in your **life insurance policy**.
- ✚ Missionaries of Jesus can be named as a beneficiary of your **IRA** or **other retirement accounts**.

“Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Cor 9:6-7).



Fr. Elmo Tatctacan, MJ
happily gives God's blessing
to a child in a Tagakaulo
community.

Please send us a copy of any legal document you have prepared with your lawyer or financial adviser that names the Missionaries of Jesus as beneficiary. God bless you for allowing us to help you to help the poor.

For more information, please contact

Fr. Melanio Viuya, MJ

435 S Occidental Blvd,

Los Angeles, CA 90057

info@missionariesofjesus.com

Tel: 213 389 8439 ext 15; 213 327 8793



Together,
we can reach the goal.
Get involved;
lend a hand;
join the fun;
or remain spectators
of the blossoming of
the Kingdom of God.

Contact us:
213 389 8439 ext 15
info@missionariesofjesus.com

Joseph Guerrero



Joseph Guerrero

in the Philippines After Typhoon Haiyan Devastation
By Dondi Tawatao Getty Images
News Getty Images

LEYTE, PHILIPPINES -

NOVEMBER 12: A woman holds a child surrounded by debris in an area devastated by Typhoon Haiyan on November 12, 2013 in Leyte, Philippines. Four days after the Typhoon Haiyan devastated the region many have nothing left, they are without food or power and most lost their homes. Around 10,000 people are feared dead in the strongest typhoon to hit the Philippines this year.



Relief Effort Continues in the Philippines After Typhoon Haiyan Devastation By Dondi Tawatao Getty Images News Getty Images

LEYTE, PHILIPPINES - NOVEMBER 12: Affected residents wait in line to receive relief goods in an area devastated by Typhoon Haiyan on November 12, 2013 in Leyte, Philippines. Four days after the Typhoon Haiyan devastated the region many have nothing left, they are without food or power and most lost their homes. Around 10,000 people are feared dead in the strongest typhoon to hit the Philippines this year.



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Survivors walk in typhoon
ravaged Tacloban city, Leyte
province, central Philippines on
Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2013. The
Philippines emerged as a rising
economic star in Asia but the
trail of death and destruction
left by Typhoon Haiyan has
highlighted a key weakness:
fragile infrastructure resulting
from decades of neglect and
corruption. (AP Photo/Aaron





Let us help them pick up the pieces

The Christmas issue of Friends and Disciples was ready for printing when the super typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) destroyed the livelihoods and claimed some loved ones of the Filipino people. These pages were added to give you occasion to help. What we see now: ruins and rescue. But the recovery will take time.

Let us help our brothers our brothers and sisters pick up the pieces; let us help them rebuild their lives.

Please send your *donations to the Missionaries of Jesus* and *specify* that it is for *Typhoon Haiyan Victims Funds*. This is an ongoing fundraising for we know that the recovery **will take a lot of time**. Please tell other people about this because we believe that it **will take the global village** to do this. God bless you.

- Fr. Melanio Viuya, MJ



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Mission Statement

We, the MJ of the District of the Americas,
Friends and Disciples of Jesus,
heard and responded to God's call to mission.
We are called to assist in the emergence
of a new face of the Church
and we journey together
integrating into the life of the people,
in reclaiming their stories,
in the struggle of self-determination,
in the celebration of life and culture.

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Please remember the
Missionaries of Jesus
during the Combined
Federal Campaign.