

# PHILIPPINE OUTREACH CENTRE MINISTRIES NEWSLETTER

## POC CHRISTIAN ACADEMY AWARDING & GRADUATION

On June 23, and 24, POC Christian Academy had its Awarding and Graduation days respectively. Everyone had a wonderful time. Through the efforts of all the teachers and staff we were able to setup the stage using recycled materials salvaged from useable parts of the old plywood classroom ceiling that is currently being replaced. This year's programs were a bit different given the remaining Covid protocol, so for the first time in many years, the programs were conducted in the POCF Subic church building. We had to limit the crowd by only allowing 1 parent or guardian per student. This allowed for a much more organized program. As a result everyone felt all the more special each night as they were able to be seated much more comfortably in an air-conditioned and well lit room unlike our previous programs that were outside exposed to the heat and mosquitos. All was set for the long awaited celebration that we were not able to have for the last 2 years. Even the award medals for the students were all lovingly hand-made by the teachers with different coloured ribbons glued together, looked really beautiful. We were able to hold rehearsals to ensure that everything would run 'smoothly'! The stage was set, everyone was dressed to impress and the programs

were even all set to start on time (which is rare for Filipino events). Seeing the big smiles on the faces of the students and the teary eyes of the parents made us feel that all the hard work was worth it. The speeches that were given by the elementary and high school valedictorians impressed everyone as they spoke so eloquently in front of the whole school. Needless to say we had all missed seeing, talking and even hugging



(we couldn't help it) each other. We all desire to be back in school teaching our students face-to-face this coming school year, but we have to first be given approval by the Department of Education (DepEd) which involves improvements on our school and loads of paperwork. We would like to thank all those who have supported us and enabled us to continue offering Christian Education to the children in our community as we certainly would not have been able to enjoy the Awarding and Graduation programs without your generous help and heartfelt prayers. The past school year was a huge struggle and adjustment to us all, nevertheless we have been able to promote 36 nursery and kinder students, 18 elementary (grade 6) students and 14 Junior High School Students (who will now leave POCCA and move to a local government school to complete their Senior High School studies). We would greatly appreciate your prayers as we work to achieve the DepEd approval for the face-to-face classes for the next school year (September) and that they would show favour on us as we continue the Lord's purpose and mission for POC Christian Academy, especially as we have faced some serious obstacles that would seem insurmountable. But God is able to cause us to overcome so that we can continue to serve the community for the glory of God.

- Aaron



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### DONATE

#### PHILIPPINE BANK ACCOUNT

PNB BANK  
97 Magsaysay drive,  
West Tapinac,  
Olongapo City

**A/C NO:**  
205910024223

**SWIFT CODE:**  
PNBMPHMM 113391

**A/C NAME:**  
Philippine Outreach  
Centre

#### ENGLISH BANK ACCOUNT

NAT WEST BANK

**A/C NO:** 369 7037 9

**SORT CODE:** 01 07 71

**A/C NAME:**  
POC Central Account

#### AMERICAN BANK ACCOUNT

\*Cheques made payable to  
'MARANATHA FAMILY  
CHRISTIAN  
FELLOWSHIP'

**A/C NAME:**  
Maranatha Family  
Christian Fellowship

**SCAN ME  
TO DONATE**



# GIVE US THIS MOUNTAIN

I am so excited to be able to update you on the progress on our latest project of "Give me this Mountain". As you will already know, the Government are requiring us to own our current school facility before they will give us a permit to operate our school (POCCA) for the next school year. The current owners are selling the land (which also includes the school building and the old 3 storey hospital building that is beside it) for approximately £105K (\$125K, €124) at the current rates of exchange. By God's grace we have already received **£39,677.02. God is so good!!** I was so blessed when I saw photos appear on Facebook Story of POCF youth and adults working to clean up the hospital building ready for claiming what is ours by promise. The image you see is not of a forrest tree, but it is actually one of many trees growing



inside the hospital building. The young people felt that it was an important step of faith to start to clean up and remove the trees, clearing the building before we possess it. The young people are also working hard as a step of faith that the Lord will provide for them to attend the much loved POCF Youth Camp that will be coming up in August. There has been no Youth Camp for the last 2 years because of Covid, so there is much excitement about it this year. Needless to say the young people are looking forward to being with the

## MORE UPDATES

Last Month 4 of my online bible study friends from Manila came to POC Children's Homes to have an activity filled weekend with the kids and they were amazed by the spiritual maturity of our kids. Two of them returned after a few weeks with the parents of the one guy, and the parents were moved to tears as they fell in love with the kids. And the kids loved them. They brought so many donations for them (clothes, toys and board games), bought ice cream and prayed a blessing over them. As they were saying their goodbyes, the children were already calling the parents Mum & Dad, which made their whole visit even more precious. Then, they sent a financial gift after leaving and said they are planning on coming back soon to give more.

- Nathanael

friends they have missed over the Covid period. Of course it is our hearts' desire that everyone who wants to be there, will have the provision to do so. We would value your prayers for that.

Katrizia is the sister of our soon to be daughter-in-law Paula, who also grew up in POCCH, She is currently the Head of our Special Needs Unit. In preparation of what the Lord has for us in **the future of POC Christian Academy** we are planning to reach out in our community to the **children who have special learning needs** (which, Lord willing will be the Old Hospital building when we have both bought and renovated it). There is currently very little awareness of the educational needs of children with various learning difficulties in the Philippines and there is very little offered to these precious children. Our desire is to bridge this gap and provide education for them. As a step of faith we asked Katrizia (who is wonderfully gifted and has a tender heart towards children with various difficulties) if she would consider enrolling in college to do a Bachelor of Special Needs Education (BSNED). Initially she told us that she could not do it as she planned to work abroad to earn a higher income to support her family (father and younger siblings) but she did promise that she would go away and pray about it. Without any prompting she came back to me several weeks later to say that she felt that the Lord would have her stay and head up the Special Education Department in our school POCCA. We are so excited about this. However, being a rare and specialist course there is no college offering it locally, so it will incur considerably high expenses. We do believe that it is an investment for future ministry. If you are interested in supporting her education just insert a memo on your donation (for Katrizia's education'), that will be a massive encouragement and help for her and of course for the many children who will benefit from her in the future.

Whilst the "Give me this Mountain" has been financially blessed, the general giving for the day to day running of the POC school and Children's Homes has been somewhat low of late, so we would value your prayers for that and for the Lord to give the team unwavering faith and wisdom in my absence. Thank you all for your faithful love and support. It is a privilege to partner with you in this work for the Lord.

Love in Christ God bless,  
*Chrissy, Dondie & your POCM Family*

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## PRAYER REQUEST

We would appreciate your prayers for our situation regarding the purchase of our school. That the Lord will cause the owners to continue to deal favourably with us and be patient while waiting for the payment to be made

Also, please pray for Rannel, my fourth child. He is our keyboard player at church and a hardworking houseparent in our Boys Unit. We found out that his blood-pressure has been quite high and may be the cause of his frequent migraines.

**Let's Make A Difference**  
UK Charity Number 1074092