### **Back from the Mission Fields**

by Jerry Krosnowski

Our March 10 - April 1 missionary journey into the Philippines was quite an interesting and unique adventure. Terry Derosier and I spent 23 days traveling through large shanty towns, garbage dump sites and various slum areas of Tondo and Quezon City near Manila, plus we visited six other islands such as Marinduque.



"It is always so difficult to view extreme poverty firsthand while trying to keep your mental and emotional balance. The children all around you are suffering from hunger, malnutrition, and starvation!"

Terry is the newest member of the RSM team, blessing us with incredible photography and vid-

eography skills. His talents were invaluable as we had the privilege of traveling with many wonderful Philippine friends and volunteer translators and guides.

During this last missionary tour we visited a multitude of RSM feeding sites where we encountered thousands upon thousands of poor children. Approximately 90% of the starving children were recovering because of our holistic feeding programs. The two girls pictured here have gained more than 20 pounds within six months from eating the Feed My Starving Children Manna-Pack Rice food that we ship.





The poor Philippine kids just loved Terry and called him an American rockstar as he sang and played the guitar for them. He and Sr. Marivic sang beautiful gospel music and gave many concerts for the future royalty of Heaven — the poorest of the poor. I think he picked up quite a few new fans as he took his act on the road during this Asian tour!

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We missionaries do this kind of volunteer work, because when you look deeply into the eyes of a poor little child, you get a glimpse of Jesus in their loving smile and radiant gaze. That's why we

traveled by bamboo rafts on rivers and hanging suspension bridges across deep ravines to get to the primitive indigenous Mangyan people that live in the remote mountain areas of Mindoro Island.





That's why we went to several hospitals and pediatric wards where we met so many starving adults and kids that the doctors say have only a 50-50 chance of survival because of their extreme poverty living conditions.



That's why we visited an enormous Manila cemetery where we discovered desperate families trying to find shelter there, with children making



their bed on the top of a cold stone vault. That is why we braved the red light district in Luzon, where we tried to evangelize the prostitutes and photographed their little children that were begging there. We do these things



to find a way to help these poor starving mothers, families, children and prostitutes. We encounter the face of Jesus as we lift these poor people out of the spiral of death caused by starvation and homelessness, that can force them into prostitution and drugs. These are the amazing personal stories we will tell in future RSM newsletters and videos.

## This Story Cannot Wait

There are so many wonderful new mission stories we want to share with you this year about how God is working through all of us to help and save so many people, but here is one that we are especially excited about. This spring we have stepped out in faith to launch a new livelihood program with Happy Home Republic Retailers in Muntinlupa. Nena Sunico is the woman entrepreneur who owns the business, and she has

been volunteering and feeding thousands of the poor through RSM programs over the last 8 years.



By purchasing rebuilt Juki commercial sewing machines, Risen Savior Missions can help desperately impoverished families become self-sufficient. Families will be able to sew purses, clothing, hotel towels, blankets, and sheets as gainful employment. Tote bags are especially in demand, as Manila has disallowed the city-wide use and sale of plastic bags. Plus, the machines will be in their homes, so these families will be able to take care of their children while working.

If you would like to be a part of this exciting project and help lift a family out of poverty, \$160 purchases one of these reconditioned commercial sewing machines and a sewing table. All other materials like sewing needles, thread, and fabric will be furnished by Nena and Happy Home Republic Retailers.

Your donation can have immediate results and truly make a difference! Let us know if you want your next charitable contribution to be used for this project when you make your gift. Thank you for helping us minister to the poor!





## Update on Negros and Leyte

Part of the March/April mission trip was a wonderful visit with Bishop Gerry and the 75 seminarians he oversees. He reported on the impact that RSM's food program has had by the grace of God on so many villages on Negros island.



We also witnessed firsthand the fantastic recovery going on 18 months after Super Typhoon Haiyan ripped into Tacloban and Palo, Leyte, in November of 2013, leaving 4 million people homeless. Your timely RSM donations sent food to these typhoon victims when they critically needed it most, saving approximately 100,000 lives. Today they are piecing back together their lives, and RSM is a part of that success story!

#### CALL JERRY KROSNOWSKI AT 952-432-3359 TO HAVE A RISEN SAVIOR MISSIONS SPEAKER COME TO YOUR NEXT MEETING.



#### Christ Has No Body

Christ has no body now, but yours.
No hands, no feet on earth, but yours.
Yours are the eyes through which he looks
with compassion on this world.
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.
Yours are the hands,
with which he blesses all the world.

~ St. Teresa of Avila (1515–1582)

# Will You Join Us as the Hands and Feet of Christ?

On this last mission trip, we witnessed great successes and great need. Our ongoing program to bring the entire island of Marinduque and its population of nearly a quarter of a million people to approximately zero malnutrition within the next 12 to 18 months is showing very promising results. It was amazing to visit the mountain families living in Nipa (bamboo) huts and the many villages who are benefiting from this holistic food and livelihood training

program. So many of the places where we have launched our comprehensive projects are seeing families freed from extreme poverty and becoming independent of our RSM food aid.

And yet we also witnessed up close when an infant died in our presence because of extreme poverty. All we could do at that moment is hold that young mother in our arms and cry out in anguish with her.

As St. Teresa of Avila so eloquently wrote in her poem, it is up to us to be the body of Christ in this world. We are the eyes and heart that see the tragedy around us, and we are the hands and feet that make the change for the better.

Please answer this call to "walk to do good" and "bless all the world." Help

us minister to the children dying from starvation. It only costs RSM \$10 to ship enough nutritious food to feed a starving child for an entire year. Thank you for your generous prayers and donations!

Send your gift to: Risen Savior Missions
812 Springhill Drive, Burnsville, MN 55306

Donations via credit card may be made on our website: www.risensaviormissions.org







100% of your donation goes towards feeding starving children. May God bless you!