

FUNDRAISING GALA: OCTOBER 24

October 2015

*Risen
Savior
Missions®*

Glorifying GOD by Helping Starving Children!



15,000 Children May Go Hungry this Christmas

The end of 2015 may have some tragic results for 15,000 of the 70,000 children RSM serves. Donations to RSM have been down this year by 30%, and yet the stories of our success have reached more and more islands in the Philippines, and these islands are pouring in requests for food. RSM's feeding programs are successful, because we continue them over an extended period of time to transform the village or island. RSM stays the course until the malnutrition is reversed, which results in more sustainable outcomes. Families become healthy and more able to be self-sufficient.

By staying the course, RSM can work with these families through livelihood programs that teach proper hygiene, nutrition and transformational habits. We also educate families in thinking about and planning for the future. Life changes dramatically when you have hope and can think beyond the urgent needs of today.

Please consider including Risen Savior Missions in your holiday giving this year. Your donations truly have a life-saving impact, and 100% of your donation goes toward helping the poor. Very few charities can report that. RSM is completely staffed by volunteers who donate their time and resources to the great work of feeding and ministering to the poor. Please join us in these efforts with your financial gift, and together we can see to it that Christmas is a time of even greater joy for the starving children of the Philippines!

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

RSM Fundraising Gala

Saturday, October 24 5:30P - 10:30P

St. Bonaventure's Church

901 East 90th Street, Bloomington, MN

Dinner, Mission Video, and Dance

Featuring two songs from Michael Johnson

(Singer of "Bluer than Blue" & "This Night Won't Last Forever")

For tickets call Jerry Krosnowski at 952-432-3359



FOR THE LATEST RSM NEWS, GO TO: WWW.RISENSAVIORMISSIONS.ORG



Happy Land

Adapted from Terry Derosier's mission trip journal

Sounds like it should be a nice place doesn't it? Happy Land is actually a garbage dumpsite in Manila, and living in the dump is a community of thousands of people that are basically just barely surviving. They go out with carts starting at 4 a.m. and collect plastic bottles and other plastic materials. They can earn about 2 cents for each kilo of plastic they collect.

Jerry Krosnowski and I walked through the stinky, muddy, huge garbage dump site accompanied by the local priest for this area in order to see if we could establish a feeding site here. Father goes into the dump once a week to do missionary ministry for the people of Happy Land. It didn't look too happy to me. The adults and adolescents had such deep sadness in their eyes, but the little children being naive to their lot in life still had joy in their eyes.

I interviewed a kid that looked to be about 12 years old. I asked him how long he had been living in the dump. He said he was born there and his parents still live there. He was squatting and sorting garbage amidst a pungent stench looking for little pieces of paper and plastic as flies circled all around him. This garbage wasn't just from an office waste paper basket; it was like the leftover poor garbage from your kitchen garbage can. For every 2.2 pounds of clean paper he can find and sell to a recycler, he gets 2 cents. Of course he could not afford plastic gloves to wear.



This push cart owner that I interviewed said he can make 100 pesos a day on average. On an exceptional day he can make 150 pesos. That converts into \$2.25 and \$3.50 a day. I asked to see his house, so he took me into his little darkened, windowless 8' X 10' shanty. It was really clean, and he had one light bulb. He had statues of Jesus and Mary and holy cards placed around his little hut. I asked him how he felt about where he lived. He said he likes being his own boss, but wished he did not have to scavenge for a living 7 days a week all year long for his wife and children to eat and survive. He has been doing this for almost two decades.

This last picture is of a young boy that walked up to me and took my hand. He was pretty skinny. The hair of a Filipino is normally jet black. The orange colored hair is actually a sign of vitamin deficiency and lack of protein in his diet. Malnutrition can take many surprising forms.

What did I learn during this visit? The strength of the human spirit will go through the deepest depths of terrible and horrible living conditions and do whatever it takes to survive.

Flip-Flops for the Philippines

The Council of Catholic Women at the Church of St. Peter in North St. Paul, Minnesota, collected 895 pairs of new flip-flops and sandals for RSM, plus the money to ship them! Donated shoes went to orphaned children in Northern Samar, Legaspi in the Bicol Region, and Isabella. Thank you for protecting the feet of these dear children living in such terrible conditions!

