

RNDM INTERNATIONAL MISSION NEWSLETTER

FOR RNDMS
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RNDM INTERNATIONAL MISSION
DEVELOPMENT - ROME
PROMOTES MISSION THROUGH
COMMUNICATIONS AND FUNDING FOR THE
SISTERS OF OUR LADY OF THE MISSIONS
IN 22 COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE



SEPTEMBER 2024

Dear Sisters and Friends,

With deep gratitude and appreciation to each one of you for your constant support in our missionary journey, we are happy to present this newsletter.

The stories you will read in this newsletter are stories of hope and new opportunities given to so many children and women. Education of children from remote villages, to women who have been given training and support and empowering them to be leaders, caring for the sick and physically challenged children and other social projects would not be possible without your partnership. Your interest in our mission projects and financial contributions have enabled us to carry on the developmental activities for the benefit of our less fortunate brothers and sisters in different parts of our world, that have made a positive difference in their lives. We hope that you will enjoy reading these real life-changing stories of people who are faced with challenging situations and yet are trying their best to secure a better life.

There is so much pain and suffering in our world caused by violence, war and natural calamities. Sometimes these events can drown our hope and paralyze us. But God asks us to do the best we can to bring about healing and wholeness.

“We ourselves feel that what we do is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop” said Mother Teresa of Kolkata. Every little act of kindness contributes to the health and growth of someone we serve. God bless and reward your generous hearts!



Smitha Thomas

Sr. Smitha Thomas RNDM

SANITATION AND ENVIRONMENT - Vietnam



The Bahnar indigenous people living in four villages are the beneficiaries of this project. Most households do not have toilets and lack many other basic needs. They have no awareness of caring for the environment either. Thanks to the financial support received, 5 simple toilets were built for 5 families: 2 double toilets for Kon Kotuh village. These are near the Parish church so that parishioners can also use them. The priority was given to large families and those living close together. To raise and improve awareness among villagers on the importance to have a green environment, we provided 300 seedlings to 100 families, such as coconut, durian, avocado, and rambutan. We trained them how to plant and take care of these trees. These could give healthy fruits to their families too. The beneficiaries of this project about improved sanitation and care for the environment are happy and most grateful for your generosity and support. They have become more aware of the importance and the responsibility of protecting the environment. They are also more understanding of providing safety, security and protecting dignity for others. They have learned to take care of plants. Hopefully, the villagers in this area will improve their knowledge of caring for the environment, protect natural resources and build a better common home for younger generations. Once again, we thank you for your generous support and encouragement.



Sr Kim Cuong RNDM

“ALWAYS STRIVING UPWARDS”, Myanmar

We are pleased to share with you two success stories of our Sacred Heart School. Our students are privileged to receive financial support from our benefactors and donors through the Congregation Solidarity projects, to be able to continue their studies.

“My name is Judy. I am 14 years old. I am in Grade 6 now. I live with my adoptive father who is now over 70 years old. Since I was little, my father sent me to Euphrasie Preschool and Sacred Heart Middle School until the Covid 19 pandemic. However, due to his old age and financial difficulty, it was hard for me to continue studying at Sacred Heart school. Fortunately, thanks to the support from RNDM Sisters I was able to go back to school. My dream is to study abroad to become a doctor and one day, I want to serve as a doctor for the poor and the people with needs. I will try my best to open a clinic for the poor. In this way, I will show my gratitude to the sisters. I thank you all for your love, kindness, generosity and financial support for my education. I wish you that you and your family may be filled with God’s abundant blessings, good health and inner peace. May God bless you always. I will keep you in my daily prayers.”

Love from Judy



“I'm Khin Kaung Su Wai. I was a grade 8 student in the 2023–2024 academic year. I've been studying at Sacred Heart School from Grade 3 since 2017. I knew that I was going to get a lot of opportunities because this school supports holistic education as a priority. It is indeed spiritually, mentally, physically and emotionally safe for talented students and avails of friendly teachers whom we can trust and follow as role models. In these years, I gained skillful experiences for my future and academic purposes. This school teaches us to learn by ourselves and we are all accepted as we are. I still remember the moment when I got my first outstanding holistic award in the 2017–2018 academic year. From that time on, I realized that I needed to work hard for myself and for this welcoming school. “Always striving upwards” is our motto, and school always encourages us to fly higher no matter what, and never stop learning. Thanks to their encouragement, I got educational prizes, such as outstanding in critical essay writing, creative drawing, subject studying, sports and the no-absence day award. As a student who is willing to take on leadership roles, our school lets me do so and encourages me. I was appointed as a class leader in the 2018–2019, 2022–2023 academic years, and deputy chair at the inspiring student council, school music band leader, and mentor for juniors in the previous 2023–2024 academic year. In time, I gained so much experience as a leader that I'm getting used to knowing that a leader should focus on the team and not being selfish. Our school is molding us into better educated people who could make a better world. I feel so grateful to have the chance to stay at this school and do my best. I can see my little juniors admiring me for who I am, and I was the one who was admiring those amazing seniors too. It is a blessing to have such

an opportunity in life and we must feel grateful. In the future I'm willing to volunteer in the educational world. I feel so honoured to write this in my own words after five years of academic experiences with a lot of hard work, struggles, smiles, and tears. I'll always strive upwards.

Thank you to all the donors for giving us a golden opportunity to grow, develop our potential skills and make a better world.” Khin Kaung Su Wai.



Sr Christina May RNDM

NEW FURNITURE AND COMPUTERS, India North East

There was a real surprise for the students of Tluh Secondary school when their classes resumed in February 2024! New furniture and computers for their classrooms were purchased thanks to the Solidarity support received from benefactors across the world.

School furniture is a precious asset for the students and the school. Quality education does not relate only to books and formation but also to having good and comfortable infrastructure.

The main beneficiaries of this project are 500 students: boys and girls belonging to the tribal community coming from various villages in and around Tluh and from different faiths and economic backgrounds.

Having new, good and qualitative furniture and facilities not only attracts students to attend school more willingly and learn better, but also enhances their concentration level. The students were also overwhelmed to see their new computer classroom where they can practise their IT skills and enjoy their learning techniques. Our students and teachers are most



grateful to the donors and benefactors who made their dream come true.

Thank you for your support!



Sr. Aisilin RNDM

EDUCATION AND EMPOWERMENT, India Central

The Queen of the Missions Social Work Center in Kuchinda reaches out to very poor families, mainly depending on subsistence farming, who cannot afford a good education for their children. The sisters set up Supplementary Education Centers in the villages for the tribal and *Dalit* children. Thanks to the financial support received from benefactors, this project has made an extraordinary impact on the lives of children, young girls, women and their households. Since then,



tribal children have a more optimistic and positive attitude towards life; they show an improved interest in studies and we have noticed an overall development in their personalities. The project has provided the students and teachers with a better teaching-learning experience; there is increased interest in student participation, motivation and cooperation.



Formation Groups for young girls and women, seminars and awareness programs have also brought gradual improvement to the lives of women.

They are slowly getting organized and fighting against the social evils around them. Overall, the number of people who benefitted directly from this project were 250 children from different villages, 50 young girls and 180 women.

Thank you for your helping us to reach out to those in need.

Sr. Jayaseeli RNDM

CARE FOR THE “SPECIAL ONES” – Kenya



TEI WA NGAI (Mercy of God) Program for children with special needs is conducted by the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions in Matuu, Machakos Diocese, Kenya since 1997. The ongoing project is carried out in close collaboration with other NGO's and government hospitals. The program caters for people with disabilities regardless of age or gender with particular emphasis on children.

This year, prolonged drought and famine hit the area affecting the livestock and people. As we visited the villages, we encountered many poverty stricken families who had nothing at all to feed their children. Sickness is another big challenge in most families we visited. Many of our clients especially children looked weak and very sick since their parents could not afford to pay for their medical bills leave alone taking them to the hospital for checkups. This was heart-breaking.

Despite the above challenges, the Tei Wa Ngai staff is deeply committed to offer quality services to the children with special needs in different places around Yatta.

We truly believe that when we serve the marginalized and the less fortunate, we are serving God. Our mission is to encourage and empower parents and the society to accept children with disabilities, to access health care and education, to provide protection and financial sustainability. On the medical area, we were happy to have Kijabe Hospital who has been a great support for our special children for many years. Periodically, a group of doctors, physiotherapists and orthopedics come to Tei Wa Ngai for their outreach clinic. This time, 109 clients came for the treatment. It was an amazing day for us. Parents went home happily since their children were helped by the doctors. We are most grateful for the support received from our benefactors across the world which allowed us to cover the costs of 8 health workers and one sister working

alongside the medical staff. Thank you **Sr Ngan Ha RNDM** for your generosity!



If you wish to support our projects, please contact us or visit our website



RNDM INTERNATIONAL MISSION DEVELOPMENT OFFICE ROME

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