

Fall/Winter 2001

***“Joy is prayer. Joy is strength. Joy is love.  
She gives most who gives with Joy”***  
Mother Teresa

### **FOLPM QUEEN OF PEACE HOSPITAL OPENING ON FEBRUARY 11, 2002**

The Foundation of Our Lady Queen of Peace Mission (FOLPM), PMM's beneficiary in Manila, Philippines, will be opening the 100-bed hospital to serve the neediest in the Metro Manila area. The hospital will also serve patients from remote villages in the country through it's medical, surgical, and dental missions.

Since its founding in 1986, FOLPM has conducted a total of 93 surgical, medical, and dental missions in impoverished, hard to reach areas in the Philippines. Nearly 2,400 major surgical procedures and 1,900 minor operations have been performed, as well as 57,000 professional consultations — all for free. A typical mission consists of 23 physicians/surgeons, 5 anesthesiologists, 2 dentists, and 6 nurses. All are volunteers and come from different hospitals in Manila.

The Queen of Peace Hospital serves as a permanent facility to provide medical care to those who can not afford hospital care. All services in this hospital including food, medicines, and post-patient care will be free.

### **THREE 40-FOOT CONTAINERS GOING TO QUEEN OF PEACE HOSPITAL**

In collaboration with CrossLink and St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Charles PMM is sending three 40-foot containers to the Queen of Peace Hospital. These containers will hold 100 brand new hospital beds, computers and printers, televisions, gurneys, wheelchairs, X-ray machines, surgical and medical supplies, and other used hospital equipment. The items are worth close to \$300,000. The last of the three containers will leave the CrossLink warehouse in Alexandria on December 11.



Pictured (L-R): Bruce Geofrion, CrossLink Operations Manager; Jim Owendoff, CrossLink volunteer; and Lloyd Celis, PMM Core Member

### **From the Rev. Fr. Gerry Creedon Pastor, St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church**

On behalf of PMM, I thank CrossLink International, St. Vincent de Paul, and our parishioners for making possible the shipment of hospital equipment, furniture, and supplies to the Hospital for the Poor in Manila. I also congratulate the FOLPM, especially Sr. Eva Maamo and Fr. James Reuter for all their work in providing medical and health care for the neediest in the Philippines.

This new year, it will be wonderful to reach out and touch our Filipino brothers and sisters. I still remember the stories Sr. Eva shared with us during their visit here last July 15. She spoke of those whose only shelter is a bridge. When we remember Mary and Joseph looking for shelter, we also recall the sick and the homeless in the Philippines. May the containers we send bring protection, support, and hope to many.



Rev. Gerry Creedon

### **Sr. EVA MAAMO, SPC, MD, and Fr. JAMES REUTER, S.J. VISIT Washington, DC**

From July 14-18, PMM was honored by the visit of Fr. James Reuter, SJ and Sister Eva Maamo, SPC, Chairman and President, respectively, of the Foundation of Our Lady of Peace Mission. Their visit was part of a 9-city tour in the US and Canada to raise funds to equip the Queen of Peace Hospital. The success of their visit was capped by a series of events organized by PMM, as well as the World Bank/IMF Filipino Association and the Ateneo Alumni Association of Washington, DC. Highlights of their tour included a meeting with Philippine Embassy officials and officers of CrossLink International; a forum held at the World Bank on poverty issues and poverty alleviation programs; a healing and prayer session at St. Charles Church; and a visit to St. Vincent de Paul Society in Woodbridge, VA.

At these sessions, the audience was deeply touched by what they heard and saw in the presentations given by Sister Eva and Fr. Reuter. An outpouring of empathy was demonstrated by the warm and generous response given by the community, particularly the Filipinos.

Their work ahead is daunting. Sister Eva cited that poverty incidence in the Philippines is estimated to be at an alarming rate of 40% of the total population which translates to 30 million people. This is where FOLPM wants to make a dent with their goal to serve ***“not the people with low income, but with no income; not the poor, but the poorest among the poor,”*** as aptly said by Fr. Reuter. Their overall message is captured in the approach of instilling total human development by bringing full human dignity to the poor.

### **PMM SEEKS A \$5000 GRANT TO FUND**

## ONE FEEDING CENTER IN MANILA

PMM submitted its first grant proposal to the IMF Civic & Community Relations to fund a feeding center and livelihood projects in Manila. Through this project, 60 malnourished children from ages 0 - 6 years, from two barangays (Puting-Bato and Santo Niño) in Navotas, Metro Manila, will be fed nutritious meals daily. In addition to the feeding program, FOLPM will provide parents or caretakers of participating children an education program in nutrition and effective parenting, and a livelihood project to augment their income. The livelihood and education components of this project aim to ensure that the children are able to continue to eat nutritious food even after they have graduated from the program.

It is estimated that there are 150 million underweight and malnourished children in the developing world. Reducing malnutrition, therefore, will require more than income. Equally important are the education of mothers and adequate healthcare.



Feeding Center in Malate, Metro Manila

### PROFILE: THE PHILIPPINES

- Population: 80 million, Statwatch 2001
- 33.5% of children under 5 are malnourished, World Development, 2001
- Infant mortality rate: 35 per 1,000 live births - World Development, 1998
- Poor/Rich Ratio: 2. The ratio between the rate prevailing in the poorest population quantile and that found in the richest quantile. Infant Mortality rate among the poorest is twice the rate in the richest. World Bank, 2000

### PMM RAFFLE 2001

With the support of Fiesta Oriental Store, together with Nippon Airways, Taberna Alabardero Restaurant, and other anonymous donors, PMM's Raffle 2001 raised \$2590 to fund the immunization projects of FOLPM.

### PMM SPONSORS AND FRIENDS

3304 North Washington Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22201 • Phone: 703-527-5500  
[www.stcharleschurch.org](http://www.stcharleschurch.org)

- **Feed the Hungry, Inc. (FtH)** Nick Tongson, PMM Core Committee member, has recently been appointed as a member of the FtH Board of Directors. Almost 11 years in existence, Feed the Hungry, in partnership with the Commission on Filipinos Overseas and other local and non-governmental organizations, distribute food, books, school supplies, and medicines to nearly 28,000 beneficiaries all over the Philippines. FtH donated dry milk to FOLPM's Feeding Centers in the province of Zambales. For more information, call **Nick Tongson (703-561-1144)**.
- **IMF Civic and Community Relations**, in cooperation with PMM, will hold a fundraising "Happy Hour" to benefit FOLPM's Feeding Centers for Street Children in Manila. The event will be held on February 15, 2002 at the IMF Headquarters (700 19<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington, DC). For more information contact **Gilda Ordoñez at [GOrdonez@imf.org](mailto:GOrdonez@imf.org)** or **Maria Bretault at [MBretault@imf.org](mailto:MBretault@imf.org)**

### PMM WELCOMES NEW VOLUNTEERS

Hospitality: **Daphne Williams, Ellen Holloway**  
Web Development: **Cristy Lander**  
Fundraising: **Pat Brosnan**  
Grant writing: **Karen Byrne**  
Special Projects: **Dolly Pascual, Mary Callahan**

### OUR VERY SPECIAL THANKS

- **St. Charles Social Justice Ministry and the Parish community**
- **CrossLink International, Inc.**
- **St. Vincent de Paul Society**
- **IMF/World Bank Filipino Association**
- **IMF Civic & Community Relations Office**
- **Philippine Embassy**
- **Ateneo de Manila Alumni Association**
- **Feed the Hungry, Inc.**
- **Filipino Ministry of NOVA**
- **NorthWest Airlines**
- **Fiesta Oriental Store**

4815 N. 1<sup>st</sup> St., Arlington VA 22202  
(OPEN DAILY) 703-516-9160

### PMM CELEBRATED TWO YEARS OF SERVING THE POOREST OF THE POOR LAST AUGUST 15 HOW CAN YOU HELP PMM?

- Donate over the counter medicines like Tylenol, cough syrups, children's vitamins, cotton, alcohol, etc.
  - Volunteer your time. We need grant writers.
  - Contribute any amount payable to St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church (PMM) – all donations are tax deductible.
- Call Grace Holden (703- 536-0844)**