



**MONTFORT MISSIONARIES  
POSTULANCY AND  
MISSION COMMUNITY**

# “Open the Door to Jesus...”

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## PHASE III: RELIEF OPERATION FOR “YOLANDA” SURVIVORS

By: Bro. Federick B. Yumang, SMM

The green leaves of the plants and the trees that once made the northern part of Cebu beautiful to look at before the typhoon Yolanda are now back to life sign of new hope for a better future for the survivors. In order to make this hope a reality for the survivors the Montfort Missionaries thru its Cebu Community (Postulancy and Mission Team) with the help of lay associates and mission partners in Cebu started to organize the Third Phase of our Relief and Rebuilding operations to the SMM former mission areas. Last February 12 to 14, 2014 we visited and distributed housing materials, goods and used clothes to the survivors, we were able to distribute housing materials to at most 900 families in Kawit, and

Gibitngil Island in Medellin and Kinatarcan Island in Sta. Fe. (part of Bantayan Island) . We also provided materials (G.I sheets )



**The community with the TTJ lay partners distribute housing materials.**

to almost 16 chapels in these areas; 11 chapels in Kinatarcan Island, one chapel in Gibitngil Island and four chapels in Kawit

Medellin. Two weeks after on February 28, 2014 we delivered in Daanbantayan the last batch of housing materials for 100 families in Kinatarcan Island.



**Celebration of the Holy Eucharist in Kinatarcan Island.**



**Children after receiving gift packs in Kinatarcan Island.**

## Life goes on for the survivors.

After the typhoon life goes on for the survivors. With one heart and one soul we continue to bring to the survivors of the super typhoon Yolanda in Northern Cebu the assistance from the general government and different entities of the Montfort Missionaries, generous people abroad

and in the Philippines entrusted to the Philippine Delegation thru the Cebu Community. On February 12, 2014, Wednesday the community together with some lay mission partners and associates (TTJ) left the Mission House in Minglanilla at around 4:00 AM and we arrived at Kawit, Medellin

at around 9:30 AM, upon arrival we unloaded and distributed the housing materials to at most 50 families in Sitio Upper Lahug and Sito Nipa. After the distribution we went to Mahawak port to unload the housing materials intended for the people of Gibitngil Island. (please turn to page 2)

# Life goes on...



Distribution of housing materials to the people of Gibitngil Island.

(From page 1...)

Upon arrival we were met by area leaders and volunteers and help us unload the materials from the truck and load them in four pump boats and accompany us in bringing the materials to Gibitngil Island. After unloading the materials intended for Gibitngil Island we divided our selves into two groups; the Mission Team will be going to Gibitngil and the Postulancy Community will go to Daan Bantayan port to unload the materials intended for Kinatarcan Island.



*“Whatever happens I shall not be worried. I have a Father in heaven who will never fail me”*

- **St. Louis Marie de Montfort (Letter # 2)**

Divine Providence cares for His Children in the midst of uncertainty.



## “Divine Providence cares...”

After half an hour travel the Mission Team together with other mission partners reached the shore of Sitio Pasil in Gibitngil Island and people are already there in the shore waiting for our arrival. As soon as the materials were unloaded we begun our activity by offering a prayer for all the victims of the typhoon Yolanda in particular those in Gibitngil

Island and also a prayer of thanks giving and blessing for all the people who in one way or another shared their resources to help the survivors in rebuilding their lives. Then we started the distribution of housing materials (G.I. Sheets and Nails) for the people of Gibitngil Island. More that 160 families received the materials that will help them to slowly rebuild their damaged houses. For the people of Gibitngil

Island it was a day where in once again Providence allows them to see and feel His care for his people. After the distribution we left for Daanbantayan to join the other group going to Kinatarcan Island.



Concrete experience of God’s providence in Gibitngil Island.

# The breaking of dawn: A new day to Worship God!



It has been almost four months after typhoon Yolanda hit the Philippines and we made several visits to the mission areas and we have seen the real situations of the people and their struggles to go back to the normal flow of life before the tragedy happened. It is the desire of the Montfort Missionaries

and all our generous donors to help the survivors in this process of bringing normalcy in their day to day life and as a response to the united appeal of the people in these areas to help them not only in rebuilding their houses but also to help them in rebuilding their places of worship (chapels). In response we extended help to at most 16 chapels. These small structures serve not only as symbols of their unwavering faith to God even in times of disasters but also a reminder for all of them that after the darkness is the breaking of dawn: sign of a new day and a new hope for a better future.

“St. Vincent Ferrer seeing a half-ruined chapel of Our Lady of Pity in the town of La Cheze inspired to foretell the coming of a mighty missionary who will rebuild it. The object of his prophecy was St. Louis-Marie de Montfort”



**Rebuilding of chapels in Kawit, Medellin**

## A grace-filled experience...

In the port of Daanbantayan it took us almost four hours in unloading the materials from the truck and right after loading the materials to the first pump boat the group left to Kinatarcan Island. In the middle of the sea we were tossed by big waves to the point that our boat was nearly capsized, it took us almost two hours before reaching the island. Even though we are all wet when we arrived we started

the distribution of housing material as soon as the unloading is finish. We were able to distribute to at most 350 families that day. Because of the big waves not all the materials from the port of Daanbantayan were transported to the island that day it was reschedule the following day. In the afternoon of the following day February 13, 2014 we continue the distribution of housing

materials (corrugated GI sheets, nails) to at most 350 families. In the evening after the mass we distributed used clothes (from Sta. Teresita Parish) and gift packs (from James O'Donovan and family-USA) to the children and had a feeding program after the mass on the following day February 14, 2014 before we went home. It was a tiring yet a grace-filled experience for everybody.



**Distribution of housing materials in Kinatarcan Island.**

## A call to share...



On February 28, 2014 we went

to Daanbantayan to deliver the last batch of housing materials for the 3rd Phase of our relief operation for Kinatarcan Island. Last February 13, 2014 when we were in the island we had an ocular inspection in the area and we found out that still many families were not able to rebuild their houses because they

don't have enough materials and no financial capacity to purchase. With this reality, in the evening we gather the leaders in the area to talk about our last relief operations which is to provide for additional housing materials for 100 families (lay leaders, catechists, choir members, SMM water system operators and those who are very poor that it is impossible for them to rebuild their houses). The recipients participation will be to shoulder the transportation cost of the materials from the port in Daanbantayan to Kinatarcan Island and to take care of the distribution. We provided 1000 pcs of coco lumber, 200 pcs

of bamboo shaft (amakan), 400 pcs of plywood, 4 boxes of nails, 1600 pcs of corrugated GI sheets and



200 pcs of plain GI sheets. In this way we send a message for them that they should not only depend on the help from others but they also have to do their own share in carrying the burden of rebuilding not only their houses but their lives.

*“Heaven and earth would pass away before God would break his promises and allow anyone who hoped in him to be frustrated in their hopes.”*

*- St. Louis Marie de Montfort (Letter # 16)*

## Glory to GOD ALONE!

Daghang Salamat (Thank You so much) these are the words that we often hear from the people we encounter during these three days of relief operation in Kinatarcan Island. Their hearts are filled with gratitude for God for the marvelous things He has done for them. Never did they realize that God will pour out His love for them generously and to let them experience that He is the Emmanuel (God is

with us) the God who journeys with His people. To concretely express this gratitude to God we gather together for three days at the SMM chapel of Mary Queen of All Hearts to celebrate the Holy Eucharist. Above all the clothes, food and housing materials we brought to the people the most

precious gift they received is the food for their souls which is Jesus Christ-the Wisdom of God incarnated in the womb of Mary his real presence in the Eucharist is a manifestation of His continuous care for all especially the poor and the suffering. With one heart and one soul we proclaim Glory to Jesus in Mary. Glory to GOD ALONE



**SPECIAL HEARTFELT THANKS FROM ALL THE VICTIMS OF THE SUPER-TYPHOON TO ALL OUR DONORS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD! YOU HAVE BEEN GOD'S CONCRETE INSTRUMENTS OF HIS DIVINE PROVIDENCE. GOD BLESS YOU ALL.**