Greetings of peace and joy to each of you dear sisters, mission promoters, partners in mission, collaborators, supporters and friends. You will be pleased to know how much you mean to the people in our mission fields. “No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted” says Aesop.

Every little act of kindness we received from your generous sharing has been beneficial in promoting better facilities for our people particularly in the villages where provision of basic needs are still a remote dream.

In this Newsletter, you will read some stories of the missions that are geared towards development and income generation for our poor women; where young people are given opportunities for further studies, transport provision for sisters to reach out to interior villages, improved services are set up for young people with physical disabilities and a sustainable farming is developed to promote self esteem and dignity among the tribal people.

We thank you sincerely for your constant support and love for the poor. May God shower his abundant blessings on you and your families.

Crescencia Sun and Smita Thomas RNDM

Dear Sisters, Benefactors and Friends,

I am Y Chung, belonging to Sora ethnic group. This year, I am a 7th grade student. I would like to express my gratitude to you all for your generous help, kindness and prayers. When I was three years old, my father got very sick and died as my family could not afford his medical treatment. Later my mother got married again and I have to live with my elderly and poor grandparents. They have an old house, which is quite shattered. They don’t have any land to cultivate and have to work for others for their survival.

When I go to upper grade, my school is so far. I don’t have any transport and could not afford to pay for my school fees. I had a dream to become a teacher to help the poor children of my village, but that never seemed to come true. One day, fortunately, I met with the RNDM sisters who welcomed me to the hostel of the Sisters of Our Lady of The Missions in Vinh Trang community to continue my study and to follow my dream. I really appreciate your wonderful help and support. I am doing my best in my studies. May you be blessed with good health, peace and a happy life.

Y. CHUNG
A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN AT DANT-TALON, MYANMAR

Dear Sisters and benefactors,

Thank you for your Christmas gift, for which the RNDM sisters can be proud of their weaving centre that began at Dant-talon in November 2018. It is getting more and more popular among women of the area who are very willing to learn and share their knowledge with other new women joining in.

Some of the woven materials are sent to our Kawthaung anti trafficking center for making bags. The rest is sold in local villages. The women are able to weave and promote traditional costumes of Chin and other tribes.

Daw Pan Yee is 36 years old and has 3 sons. She is one of the 12 women who joined the weaving project in Dant-talon. Her sons are still in school. Her husband who is 12 years older suffers from hepatitis and her mother-in-law who is 84 years old has Alzheimer’s disease. Daw Pan Yee is the only breadwinner of the family. When she heard about our weaving centre she showed interest to join the centre as she knows a little about weaving. When she was accepted, she was thrilled and today she can work under a shelter and earn enough for daily food. Once her skills improve she will earn more and will be able to buy medicines for her husband. She is very grateful for this opportunity to be at the weaving centre. Your generous donations through the Christmas Catalogue made her dream come true! Thank you to all our Sisters, benefactors and friends throughout the world!

Josephine Moses RNDM

A FOUR WHEELER THAT MADE A DIFFERENCE - BIHAR, INDIA

The RNDMs at Shanti Sadan Convent, Narkatiaganj, Bihar are involved in formal and non-formal education, social empowerment of women, supplementary education and pastoral ministry in the parish. Our supplementary education centers and women’s groups are in far out villages of Narkatiaganj. In 2017 due to a big flood many of our villages were cut off from the town. In order to reach out to these villages we had to use horse carts, small boats and walk long distances as there was no other possible ways of transportation to these places. A big thank you to the generous contribution from the Australian and Canadian Provinces, by which we were able to purchase a Jeep that enables us to reach out to farther and more remote places to serve the women and children.

We express our sincere gratitude for your generous contribution and support to our mission. Without your help it would not have been possible to fulfil this dream. Once again thank you so much and God bless you!

Carmina Mascarenhas RNDM
As the sunlight disappears, calling the night to come, the pathways on the compound of Balay Euphrasie Davao are brightened by newly installed automatic solar lamps. We have been blessed by the acquisition of a solar energy system that helps us not only brighten our paths but actually lightens our electricity bill as well.

In our garden at the back of our “balays” (houses) lies a 20 foot solar frame structure that holds together the solar panels that now supplies on-grid solar power to all our balays. We await the final inspection of the Davao Light electric company who will check that we pass the requirements of being able to be a supplier to the community of the unused solar electricity harvested by the solar panels.

We believe that the installation of the solar energy system allows us to live fully our being RNDMs, in a way that we find to be a blessing to the community in our gratefulness of being blessed.

We are grateful to UK and Ireland Province for the generous contribution through the solidarity fund as well as to Missio Munich for the financial support to realise this project. Let God’s light shine on us all!

Dear Friends,

The RNDM mission in Hogar Belen provides protection and care to children and disabled people, where we share our daily life as a family giving love and support to everyone. Our disabled people are at the center of our routine and we try to give them a quality life. At present our goal for them is to improve the professional care, providing for technical support and physiotherapy, improved service and formation to our personnel for better service.

Our project in implementing this service, is to extend our activity reaching out to other disabled children in need of love and care. On May 29th we have started our sessions of physiotherapy forming our aid nurse to this service of love. Maycol, Armando and Kathleen are also very happy for the sessions they receive. A big thank you to all the friends and donors who enable us to help other people in need.

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Dear friends and benefactors,

The RNDM Sisters have been in ministry among the Dulangan Manobo people in Kulaman, the Philippines, seeking to promote the self-esteem and dignity of a people who have been stripped of their land and well-being. They endeavor to achieve this through education, health programs and culturally sensitive livelihood development. In 2014, the RNDMs purchased a farm property adjacent to the Delesan Kailawan project center, to grow food for the children, parents, women and patients it serves, and to generate income to enhance the sustainability of the center’s health and education programs.

In collaboration with the local people, local farmers and the Dulangan Manobo, we wish to continue to help the farm to become more fruitful, sustainable and self-supporting.

This project has enriched the RNDMs’ understanding of the Dulangan Manobo indigenous tribe, especially in their relationship with the land. During the succeeding years much has been researched and learned regarding organic farming and sustainability.

We continue to work hard in developing this piece of land in the coming years by collaborating with the Department of Agriculture in local and regional levels, parents, health beneficiaries and others who have the skills and interest.

Thanks to your contribution by which we were able to provide farm equipment and tools to farmers and volunteers who will be able to maintain and monitor the crops growing and share their knowledge in farming.

Purchase of seeds is expected to increase vegetable production to provide healthy food for children, patients and mothers preparing for childbirth.

The land is also a space for contemplation, where RNDMs can share a Spirit of Ecology and welcome many of the local people in the area. Thank you for supporting our farm development project in Kulaman!

We are truly grateful for the financial support of our RNDM partners and friends who have generously contributed towards the Solidarity Fund. It will assist us tremendously in years to come in sustaining our programs in Dalesan Kailawan Center. Your generosity enables us to develop this piece of land so that together with the Dulangan Manobo indigenous people we can work towards sustainable living, thus continuing to offer education and health services for the tribe.

Delma Barriento RNDM

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