

The Catriz Family
Your Missionary to the Philippines
February Report

Dear Faithful Praying Friends,

Greetings from my beloved country Philippines! It's a great joy to be back again to my country and be reunited with loved ones and be back in the ministry. Six months seems to be a very long time when I and Violy were away from my loved ones but as soon as we saw them and be with them, our trip in the US seems to be just a few days ago and we're really very happy to be together again.

We thanked God for the safe travel we have had during our trip back to the Philippines. It was indeed a long journey of 19 hours from LAX to Manila excluding the 12 hours lay over at Taiwan International airport. But as soon as we stepped down from our airplane in Manila, all our boredom was gone. We really loved to be back.

We thanked God also for His guidance and protection upon us during our trip in various parts of the US throughout the 6 months period. We recall God's goodness to us in keeping us during our long distance travels from one state to another. He has allowed us to meet good people in every area we visited, in providing us a place to stay, and providing us our daily needs as well. On the other side we are thankful also for His protection to our daughters while we were away. Not to mention also the enjoyment we have had in visiting new places, new churches and met new friends as well.

God has been good also in keeping our ministry while we are away. My trusted workers did a good job in overseeing the ministry while we were away. Our members are still intact and they were very eager to see us again. We were welcome with joyful celebration during our worship service at the Church on our first Sunday after we arrived. But as expected, we are greeted with people asking for some presents from the US such as chocolates, shoes, clothes and other things. We're glad we were able to give anyway and so they were all very happy.

I'm very happy to be back in the ministry. I already missed the activities that I was doing before so as soon as I arrived we went out visitation on members and Bible Studies on some of the our prospects in the area. I was also very excited and almost can't wait to preach again to my people in our worship services. My people were also excited to hear me preach to them again so we have joyful time of fellowship together on our Sunday service. I praised God to be with our people once again.

I Praised God also for the good report given by Pastor Pastoral from our work in Orani, Bataan. They have opened a new outreach at Pulo, Barangay Kabalutan, Orani, Bataan. Five souls have been saved on their initial visit to the area. On their succeeding visit, 12 souls were again saved including some children. They have now a regular weekly Bible study there among adults and also weekly Bible Class among children. This is another opportunity to start another Church there as the Lord continues to prosper the work. Pastor Pastoral is personally training his son to handle the work and become a Pastor as well.

It is our continued prayer for Orani Bible Baptist Church to have their own property and building so that they won't be afraid of being displaced from the house of worship they are using. They have already a prospect lot they are praying for that the Lord will give to them. It cost P800, 000 (or around \$18,000) for a 300 square meter lot. It's small but it is already enough to put up a church building and a pastoral house. But considering their present financial status as a Church they can't yet afford to buy that lot. Please continue to pray for this need.

God is being glorified also as our work in Cawag continue to grow and prosper. Pastor Arnold Andrade is also doing a great job in leading the work there although he is not working full time in the ministry. Souls have been saved in the past several months and have been added to the Church. They recently baptized 11 people and there are still more to be baptized as some more decided to follow the Lord in baptism. Because of the growing attendance in the Church they have extended the building to accommodate the growing number of people attending the worship service. Praise God for His blessings upon this Church.

Many children are also being added to their attendance every Sunday so that they have to build a separate pavilion for the kids to accommodate the growing number of children coming to the Church. They continued their feeding ministry at the Church so this helped them to reach more children to Christ and even adults come to the feeding ministry.

It's our continued prayer that we can already build a concrete and bigger house of worship to accommodate the growing ministry of the church. We need at least \$10,000 to put up a concrete building on the property. We pray that this church will become stable financially in order to support their Pastor and render his full time service to the Church.

I'm excited to visit our brethren in Candelaria also since I have not seen them yet since I arrived from the US due to my busy schedule. But the work is ongoing under the watch care of Pastor Jerome Garcia, to whom I entrusted the work before we left to the US.

I'm overwhelmed with a lot of work to do after my arrival. There's a lot of things I need to attend to so I need to ask the Lord for strength and grace to carry it out.

This week, we will begin to carry out the upgrading of our church building in preparation for our 25th founding anniversary on May. We'll be working on replacement of old wood trusses with steel trusses and put new roofing to replace the old ones. We pray that this time we can put ceiling also since it has no ceiling yet ever since the Church building was built.

Please pray for a successful anniversary in May. This is considered a grand event and we need to prepare a lot for this event. Please pray also for World Mission Conference which we will conduct on April 3. This is only a one day but whole day affair to encourage our people in the area of Missions. Our theme is "To the Jew First" This is to emphasize the importance of supporting missionaries to the Jews.

I and my family are all doing fine. We have no health problem so far. My knee problem doesn't bother me much as before though I still felt some weakness on it. Our daughters are all doing well. They have done a good job in helping the Church while we were away of which I'm really grateful to God. Violy has already given all the sewing machines she received from brethren when we were in the US. 3 were Pastor's wives, and 5 were members of our church which Violy taught in dressmaking ministry. It's funny that some of our male members are also interested to learn the sewing skill for personal profit.

Thank you very much for all of you that cared for us while we were in the US. Thanks for your hospitality and goodness to us. We appreciated it very much and we can never forget your labor of love. God bless you all.

Sincerely in Christ,

Manny, Violy, Hannah, Joanna, Karen and Precious

