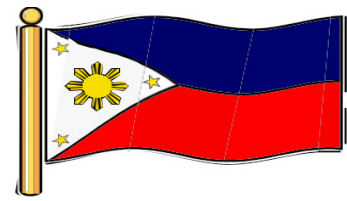


THE Catriz FAMILY

Missionaries to The Philippines



October 2020

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Dear Faithful Praying Friends,

Greetings in the name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I pray you are doing fine and all in good health. My apology for this delayed update, but I will try my best to make it earlier next time.

First of all, I want to thank you for all your prayers and support for us and our ministry here. We are all doing fine and staying safe by God's grace through this pandemic. We thank God for His protection upon us since the beginning of this crisis up to this day even as the health crisis is getting worse in our country. We continue to covet your prayers upon us as we know it's only God that can shield us from this invisible enemy. We thank God also for His protection upon our people so that no one was infected by this disease as well as their families. We daily lifted them up in prayers for we know they are defenceless against this disease. We remember you also in prayers as we know this pandemic is also ravaging your country.

This pandemic brought much suffering to our country. It literally changed the course of life of people in our country. There are now around 400,000 active cases with more than 6,000 deaths in the whole country. It is still increasing by the thousand up to this day. The worst thing also was its effect on our country's economy. Large numbers of big and small companies closed due to covid. Because of this millions of Filipinos lost their jobs. This of course greatly affects the living condition of many Filipinos. Many in our country suffered hunger. Our recent statistics reported 7 million Filipinos suffered hunger for the past 3 months due to pandemic. In Cawag, many of the brethren suffered hunger also so we took the opportunity to send relief goods for several weeks. We distributed relief goods also to our members that were greatly affected by this pandemic.

The pandemic caused a negative impact also on the religious life of the people. Because of the government imposed lockdown nationwide in March, no one were allowed to go out their home except for essential reasons. Public transportation was suspended. Churches were not also allowed to conduct services until the government permitted them to do so. So to reach out to our people we did streamline service in our home for several months, but only few members availed of it for only a few have internet in their homes. The rest just stayed in their homes.

We're thankful when the lockdown was lifted in July, but still with few restrictions. At first, only 10 people (adults from 20-60) were allowed to come to the worship services. But because some of our people were eager to worship, more people came defying the government restrictions. We were joyful as we fellowshiped once again during the church services. We fetched some of them from their houses with our vehicle just to attend the service because of no public transportation being available.

At present, we are on MGCQ (Modified General Community Quarantine) since August so we have lesser restrictions so that more members (50%) can come to the service. Children and even senior citizen as well (including me) are still not allowed, but due to eagerness of people to worship, they still come and we're glad no one has been arrested us so far. We praised God, we have two Christian police officers that are now attending our services so we have nothing to fear. We are just advised to observe government protocol which are social distancing and wearing of face masks during service. It's an answer to our prayers to have fruit from our police ministry that I'm still conducting at present via online. I pray more police officers will come to the worship service. We're thankful also for salvation of souls from various Bible studies we have. Since August, we began visiting people, conducting Bible Studies, and witnessing as opportunity arise. We're glad also for the additional families that are now regularly attending the church services. They are the Estrella family, Lico family, Perea family, and Pagar family. It's answer to prayers that God will bring more people to the Church.

Last July, as some businesses opened to buy materials, we took the opportunity to improve our house. We put gates and grills on the fences to secure our house. Though unskilled, we did the work to save money for labour cost. Thank God, though it's not perfect, it came out to be good. We were happy for the improvements though it's little by little. We are thankful for Pastor Taylor, Victory Baptist Church and the Joubert family as well for their help to have our own house. We are truly comfortable to have this house.

In August we hosted another Pastors and wives fellowship at our church. Despite of the restriction from other areas, pastors came due to their eagerness to fellowship with other pastors. Everyone was excited and happy during the fellowship. At last, we saw our fellow pastors after several months of quarantine and confinement to our respective places. We truly need prayer effort for such a time like this.

I resumed teaching at SMBC as they reopened their seminary last July. I'm happy to teach seminary students who are mostly from our Cawag Church. I pray they will finish their course in 2022.

Please pray for my health and Violy's health. We are getting older so we are prone to health problems. I had intermittent gout attack these past 2 months and sometimes I can't walk for days due to severe pain. Violy has chest pain at times and easily gets tired as she works. This December, our church will give out groceries (worth 500 pesos or \$11) to indigent families from various communities in order to reach them out with the Gospel of Christ. Our desire is to give out groceries to 50 (or more) families as the Lord provides. We are thankful that many of our members have already pledged a certain amount for the said project and so far we already raised more than P40K (\$400). We hope there will be more so that more families will receive groceries in December. We thought this as an appropriate measure at this time of Pandemic for truly many of the people here suffered because of the pandemic. May the Lord be glorified in this effort. Please pray for the success of this endeavour.

Again, we thank you for your partnership in the Gospel here in the Philippines. Lord bless you all.

Till He Comes,
Manny, Violy, Hannah, Joyce, Karen and Precious.



Relief Distributions



Online Services



Police Ministry

30th Anniversary



Pastor's Prayer Fellowship

Bible Seminary



House Improvements