



Dear Praying Friend,

We want to thank you for your continued prayer and support for our ministry here in the Philippines. We hope you know what a huge encouragement this is to us!

We feel blessed even when we face difficulties like the present delay we are experiencing getting our permits with the Department of Education. We knew this process would be lengthy but we didn't factor in our disappointment in realizing we can't move ahead with our plan to open first grade by next year.

We recently discovered (in March) we had an August 1 deadline to move ahead with requirements for the primary grades. Space is a main factor in determining our qualification for the permit so we are currently working on this by building. Our ministry partners have prayed and given towards this building project which will enable us to have more space by June 1.

Our prayer is that this permit for the primary grades can be obtained by August 1 which will enable us to open first grade a year from now. Will you pray for us (up to August 1) as we work to complete all requirements? The task seems overwhelming but if we know you are praying and can be reminded that it is God who works through our efforts (even our weaknesses!), we will press on.



So proud of our Redemptio students!

PRAYER & PRAISE

1. When we first opened Redemptio we were told by local educators that it would take 3 to 5 years to be certified by the Department of Education...and it seems they were *spot-on*. Since we will not be certified this year, we were advised to *only* enroll new preschool and kindergarten students and once we have fulfilled all the requirements, we can move forward with adding Grade 1.
2. Our school building project will be breaking ground this week with the goal of constructing the first floor by June 1. Please pray with us that this process runs smoothly. Thank you!
3. Redemptio is being built in a community of 82,000 people which is called Floodway for this reason: It was built on the edge of the Pasig River which can flow over during the rainiest season of the year. All this to say, our plans to build a 4-story building has been changed to planning for 3-stories because of the clay foundation we are sitting on.



The teachers of Redemptio Christian School

AMAZING NEWS & MORE PRAISE

1. Enrollment for Redemptio opened up last week for the 2016-2017 year and within a day we had 40 students sign up! These children are from very needy families (the poorest of the poor) living in Metro Manila and even though all will be new faces to us (besides some siblings of our former students), we are trusting in God's plan and timing. We would like to continue ministering to the families we've served by providing *priority enrollment* to their younger siblings as well as host special events for former students. We are thinking of something like an annual *Redemptio Reunion* where we could host a party for these families and share extra backpacks, supplies and clothing they may need to move on to local schools in their area.
2. 100% of the funds (\$23,000) needed for the foundation and the first floor of Redemptio has been raised - Praise God! We thank you for your help and prayers regarding this need.
3. Our boys' (Douglas & Patrick) Faith Academy school bill has been paid off for this school year. A truly heart-felt, "*Thank you!*" is due you if you have recently given towards this need. We thank God for the provision of an excellent education for our kids. Ellie enjoyed her first semester at Liberty University and is looking forward to continuing there next school year.



Patrick (15) and Douglas (age 17)



Our cousin, Renee, missionary to Romania, and Ellie (age 17)

PRESENT NEEDS:

1. 40 Redemptio students need sponsorship for the 2016-'17 school year. \$530 per student covers expenses to run Redemptio for a year. This tuition fee includes student uniforms, supplies, teachers' salaries and feedings for each day of class. If you are interested in sponsoring a student this year, we would be happy to give you more information. We also plan to track the funds as they are raised through updates on *NICHOLS' NEWS*, our Facebook group page.
2. Would you also pray with us (through June 1) that the first floor of our new building will go up in time for the upcoming school year? It's April already and the building team has committed to be finished with the first floor June 1st. We will continue to update you with pictures through our Facebook group, *NICHOLS' NEWS*.

With so much to pray about we'll sign off for now and let you go! You are much appreciated, Friend. Thank you for your love and concern.

For His Glory,

Robby

Robert and Deanna Nichols
Ellie (19), Douglas (17) Patrick (15)

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Gifts given through *GROW* are tax deductible and used as designated. Donations can be sent to Grow International Ministries, 1135 Brisbane Woods Way, Cary, NC 27518.



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You are receiving this email because you've indicated you're interest in news & and updates about our ministry in Manila. ~ Thank you!

Our mailing address is:

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