

Divine Word Missionaries
P.O. Box 6099
Techy, Illinois 60082-6099

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Divine Word
Missionaries

Give a gift TODAY! @www.svdmissions.org

**Or use the enclosed envelope at the center of this magazine.
PLEASE add your name, address and GIFT CODE to the form.**

**Super Typhoon Odette rips
through southern Philippines**

*Thank You
for your
Prayers & Support*

URGENT!

**FOOD PACKAGES
NEEDED TO FEED 5,000
FAMILIES** *see page 18*

Send Help TODAY at

www.svdmissions.org/urgent



Super Typhoon Odette left a devastating toll in southeastern Philippines when it struck, killing hundreds of people and leaving more than 300,000 displaced. Our URGENT fund will support emergency aid like food, water, medicine and shelter.





Fall 2021 – Winter 2022

DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES
mission
update

mission stories from around the world
www.svdmissions.org

Alaska The Last Frontier

See page 2

**Super Typhoon Odette rips through
southern Philippines**

URGENT!

**FOOD PACKAGES
NEEDED TO FEED 5,000
FAMILIES**

See page 18



2

Alaska The Last Frontier

Stanislaw Roz SVD



6

A Faithful Floating Community

Jerome Alburo SVD

Building on Faith

Bela Lanyi SVD



10

Health Camp Day for Bru Migrants

Ivan D'Silva SVD

14

Two doctors, two nurses and staff worked from early morning to late evening treating more than 300 people.



18

URGENT URGENT!

On Dec. 16, 2021—just about a week before Christmas—super Typhoon Odette ripped through the southern Philippines. It was the worst storm to hit this country since Typhoon Haiyan. More than 400 people perished.

Cover Photo: Children of Chefornek village, Alaska.
See page 2

Divine Word Missionaries Mission Center
P.O. Box 6099 • Techny, Illinois 60082-6099
The Society of the Divine Word is an international Catholic missionary congregation with 5,965 members from 79 countries.
Divine Word Missionaries work in over 81 different lands on all continents except Antarctica.

Website: WWW.SVDMISSIONS.ORG

DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES MAGAZINE • Fall 2021-Winter 2022

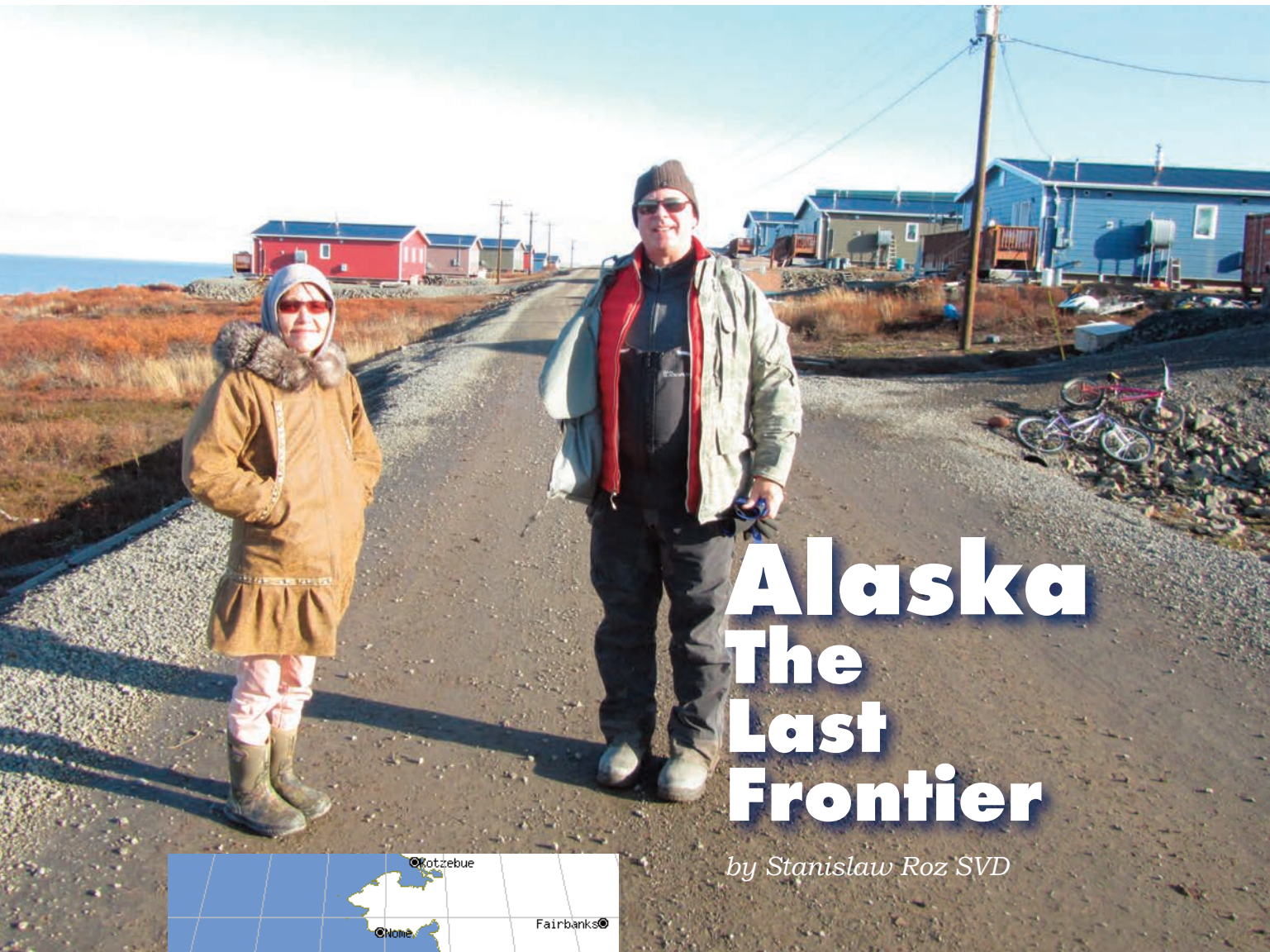
Subscription \$20.00 a year

Editorial Team:

Bro. Dan Holman SVD • Carmelita J. Linden • Jeffrey Westhoff

STAY
IN
TOUCH





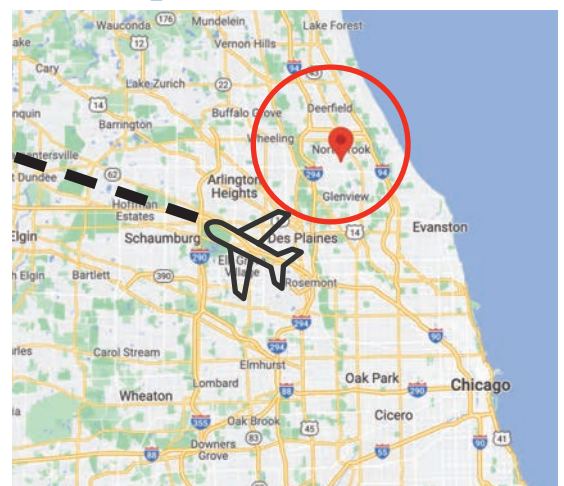
Alaska The Last Frontier

by Stanislaw Roz SVD



Chefnak, Alaska

Techny, IL





**Divine Word
Missionaries
Gift Shop**

**Divine Word
Missionaries
Residence**



**Divine Word
Missionaries
Cemetery**

A few months ago I happened to be in Chicago for a few days. I instinctively wanted to see Techny, where many of my confreres live. Unfortunately, I ended up having to look at the residence through through the car window as COVID had prohibited visitors to enter the building. However, the cemetery where Divine Word Missionaries are buried had no restriction, so I visited. I recalled some fond memories, recognized familiar missionary names, remembered lost friends and had a nice quiet time of prayer.

Just nearby was the gift shop—surprisingly open, too—so I entered for a bit of window shopping. I had no plans to purchase anything as I was traveling light and had no room to pack anything extra. At the store exit I spotted copies of *Mission Update* magazines for the taking. A familiar face on the cover of one issue caught my attention. Within I found articles about Africa, specifically Tanzania and Kenya, where I spent the better part of my missionary life.

I grabbed those old magazines in case I had time to read while waiting for my connecting flight on my way back to Alaska. I did not read them until I opened my bag in my tiny house in Chefnak village on Alaska's southwest coast, where I serve as a missionary today. I found interesting stuff in the magazine. I was not just reading, but verifying if all content was true, recalling places and people that were part of my recent past. All was correct!



Much like in Africa, my story here in Alaska reflects people with their own cultures and traditions, their own hopes.

Shortly before the celebration of Good Shepherd Sunday, April 25, I had only one person at Mass. It made me realize how much more must be invested in evangelization in this small 300-member community that claims to be Catholic. Where were all the others? When Good Shepherd Sunday arrived, I reflected on the story of the Good Shepherd and said here we have quite a different situation: Instead of leaving 99 and going in search of the one missing, he leaves one to go in search of the 99.

This picture illustrates the mission here on the coastal side of Alaska among Eskimo-Yupik communities. Successes are not as apparent as they are in Africa. The ministry seems to be much harder in any aspect imagined, but I believe it is worth it. Despite many disappointments, the mission continues. The search for the presence of Christ goes on.

One community where I serve, Newtok, is like many in the region. It is in a process of relocating to higher ground after becoming the victim of erosion caused by higher waters that were caused by global warming. Most coastal villages no longer have access to outside roads. Supplies and people are flown in. Fuel is delivered by barge during summertime.



Most coastal villages no longer have access to outside roads. Supplies and people are flown in. Fuel is delivered by barge during summertime.

"What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying?"

– Matthew 18:12

"Never get sick," people say, "but if you run into health problems, look at the sky and ask God for good weather so that the little plane can come and take you to the hospital." Either that or just rely on God's providence.

People get their traditional food by fishing and hunting and harvesting herbs and berries from the tundra. We do not have running water in our homes. During winter when the power is interrupted, water supplies freeze and become unavailable. Melting snow and ice is the only solution.

Life is hard here. Isolation make people vulnerable to drug and alcohol addiction. Traditional Eskimo beliefs have been threatened by the Western lifestyle. Easy access to technology and media without a background in education has brought a lot of confusion. Similarly, the introduction of Christian faith with only a handful of priests has created hope and danger at the same time. There has been little faith formation and catechesis.

All those conditions make this part of America a real mission field where only prayer, patience and understanding may introduce the value of Christ. I therefore ask you to add in your prayers the people of Alaska. One day they will appreciate it and in return their share in the joy of being part of the Christian family. ♦



Thérèse of Lisieux

The patron saint of Alaska, missionaries and the Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau.

A Prayer to St. Thérèse of Lisieux

O my God! I offer Thee all my actions of this day for the intentions and for the glory of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. I desire to sanctify every beat of my heart, my every thought, my simplest works, by uniting them to Its infinite merits; and I wish to make reparation for my sins by casting them into the furnace of Its Merciful Love.

O my God! I ask of Thee for myself and for those whom I hold dear, the grace to fulfill perfectly Thy Holy Will, to accept for love of Thee the joys and sorrows of this passing life, so that we may one day be united together in heaven for all Eternity.

Amen.



A Faithful Floating Community


By Jerome Alburo SVD

I was serving in Madagascar—as an assistant priest at St. Tamaro Parish in the country’s north—when I took a vacation to my home country, the Philippines, in December 2020.

This was in the middle of the pandemic, and as with many situations during the pandemic, things did not go as planned.

I was about to make my return trip to Madagascar in March 2021. I didn’t get farther than the Philippine airport. I was held there and told Filipinos were still banned from entering Madagascar because of the high number of COVID cases in our country.

I was a missionary without a mission, but not for long. With the consent of my superior in Madagascar, I was temporarily assigned to



May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

– Romans 15:13

serve as a guest priest at St. Isidore the Farmer Parish in the Philippines - South Province.

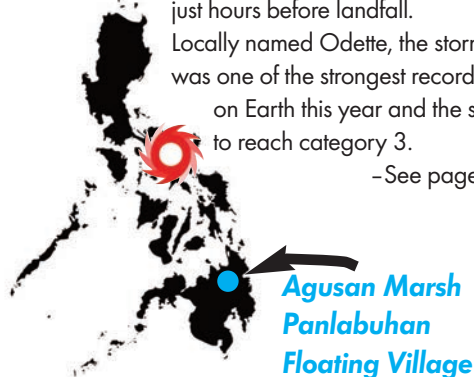
The parish is made up of 28 mini chapels: 27 are on the land while one is in the middle of the Agusan Marsh. St. Peter's chapel is in Loreto, Agusan del Sur. The residents are Manobo families. They are the indigenous people in the province. The place is popularly known as the Manobo floating community. Also called the Agusan Marsh Panlabuhan Floating Village, it is a tourist attraction.

I had the chance to celebrate Mass with them during the feast of St. Peter—the congregation's feast day—and it was indeed a memorable journey. It took an hour traveling by pump boat from Poblacion to Sitio Panlabuhan. A great silence fell as we entered the marshland. One would hear the whistling of the wind, the chirping of the birds and the splashing of the water. One would also notice small floating houses built on raft-like bamboo foundations and with roofs made of tin or coconut leaves.

Typhoon Rai crossed the southern and central Philippines on December 16, 2021, having intensified to category 5 strength just hours before landfall.

Locally named Odette, the storm was one of the strongest recorded on Earth this year and the sixth to reach category 3.

–See page 18





During the hot season, some parts of the marshland turns to hard soil. This makes fishing a difficult livelihood, so people prefer farming along the riversides. But when the rainy season comes, the land turns muddy and wet and fish can be seen just outside the doorsteps of the floating houses. Sadly, due to climate change, the water level in the marshland has become unpredictable. People transfer their houses from one place to another depending on the season or the level of the water.

This is also true of our mini chapel. It has always been movable and transferrable! The community is made up of 50 families. In this time of pandemic, we visit them to bring spiritual hope and encouragement and also rice.





**Please
take the
Philippines
into your
heart.**

What I admire about these people is their love of peace, their strong sense of community, their camaraderie and their unwavering faith. Their love, care and respect for the environment is apparent in their belief that Magbabaja (the creator) favored them by giving them the gift of nature, which allows them to get their food and resources for free.

As a Divine Word Missionary, I am inspired by the Manobos' faith, hope and resiliency. The joy and smiles on their faces whenever a priest visits renews my spirit of mission. As missionaries, we are called to actively spread the Divine Word and to positively make a difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters, whether in cities, mountains, valleys, seas or even marshlands. ♦



Fall 2021 - Winter 2022

Super Typhoon Odette, left a devastating toll in southeastern Philippines.

Thousands of people are homeless.

Divine Word Missionaries urgent responders are now in the field building shelters and providing food and water, all amid the threat of the coronavirus pandemic.

Please help replenish our **Urgent Fund** so our missionaries will always be ready and able to respond to the urgent needs of those they serve.

Thankfully the Agusan Marsh – Manobo families were unharmed by Typhoon Odette.

Together, let us pray for those around the world recovering from natural disasters, for all those who have been forced to flee their homes seeking a safe and dignified life, for those seeking comfort and healing all in body, mind or spirit.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

www.svdmissions.org/urgent



A Bela Lanyi-designed church in Baranovichy, Byelorussia. This is the first church of Our Lady of Fatima in the Russian language area

Building Faith^{on}

by Bro. Bela Lanyi SVD



Born in communist Hungary, a Brother's vocation led him to teach architecture—and values—in the Philippines

After teaching for nearly 15 years at the University of San Carlos in Cebu City, Philippines, I am now one of the longest serving missionaries at this Divine Word institution. Even confreres in the highest school management positions spend only a few years here before they are transferred elsewhere. Thus it is not inevitable that I stay here—and my longevity makes me happy because I really love teaching Cebuano students, whose creativity is amazing.

I teach architecture. Most of my classes focus on worldview. For example, Theory of Architecture teaches a kind of design philosophy. In fact, it was worldview—questions and answers on how we should look at this world—that attracted me to the Church and to a missionary congregation that would spread religiosity beyond only believing in God. Religion's answers to so many "Why?" questions helped me on this way.

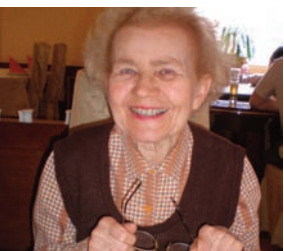
MY FAMILY: FAITH BASED ON SCIENCE AND TOLERANCE

I was born in 1959 in Budapest, Hungary, which is a Central European country. My family always considered ourselves Central European, although when I grew up Hungary was a communist country. I attended only communist schools from elementary school up to



The house where I was born

university. The communist ideology was alien to me, but it was the intellectual food we received in school.



Mom

My parents did not like communism—not only out of personal and political reasons but also because its atheism conflicted with their work as scientific researchers.

My mother, an inorganic chemist, frequently showed me the wonderful crystals in her research machines with the remark that they were too perfect to be accidental.

My father was in medical science, in microbiology and epidemiology (the celebrated research field of today). He never stopped looking with curiosity on the perfection of those tiny things that make us sick. Thus when our communist teachers frequently stated that “natural science rejects religious faith,” I looked upon my parents, who had so many scientific achievements, as the living refutation of what I heard in school. Up to today, I believe that religion is a world outlook—and the correct one

Tolerance and appreciation of other people’s convictions was basic in our family. All the males were Calvinists, with all the females Roman Catholic. You can imagine that religious tolerance was the important value that kept my predecessors together. One of the first things I learned at home was that deep emotions with religious convictions must be honored even if they are very different from ours.

Actually, not all the males in my family were Calvinist. I was my wide family’s first Catholic male in the whole of the 20th century. Several times I went with my father to the Calvinist church, but in the long run I found it divine providence that God called me to the Catholic Church.

MY FORMATION: WITH THEOLOGY TOWARD PRACTICAL SERVICE

I was very much interested in religion and definitely wanted to become a Catholic priest. However, this would have hurt my parents’ work and my younger brother’s future. In communist Hungary, priesthood was the despised status of a reactionary. Thus I followed my other interest, architecture, which to me resembles priesthood as a generalist approach to life.

Architects, like priests, need a great sensitivity to carry out their work. Both professions rely on a combination of art, analysis and the opportunity to be part of many, many different lives. Let us just think of the priest who meets so many different people and the architect who has to be able to design all kind of building functions.

I graduated in 1985 from the Budapest University of Technology and Economics with a bachelor’s degree and master’s degree in architecture (at that time in Hungary, students could receive multiple degrees in the same year). After graduation I had the opportunity to work for two years as an architectural engineer.

Then in 1987, following God’s call, I went to Austria to enter Divine Word

Missionaries. Some people thought it would be difficult because I had to (illegally) move to neighboring Austria to study for the priesthood; Hungary’s government had shut down all seminaries, including those operated by Divine Word Missionaries. But, no, it was not difficult. I felt neither the gravity of the decision nor the difficulty of the change.

Because I didn’t need to take a language course, the confreres in Austria easily accepted me and enrolled me in St. Gabriel seminary. I made postulancy and novitiate and completed all study years in Austria without significant challenges.

Although I was a candidate for the priesthood, during my studies I came to understand that God was calling me to be a religious missionary Brother. Without inner struggles, I applied to the Generalate for Standeswechsel (“change of status”). It was accepted. Finally, in February 1994, I earned my master’s degree in theology at St. Gabriel.

A few days later, in a van donated by the Austrian province, I drove myself to the northeast and my first mission assignment: Belarus (which five years earlier had been the Soviet Socialist Republic of Byelorussia).

MY FIRST MISSION: CONSTRUCTION DIRECTOR

In Belarus, I easily adjusted to the local languages (Russian, Byelorussian and Polish). I quickly learned that the Byelorussians had experienced a stricter form of communism than we had in Hungary. After decades of atheist communist



Teaching at the University of San Carlos



Lunch with University architecture teachers



Bro. Béla was one of the designers for the Cebu, USC Library

persecution of religion in Byelorussia, construction was the major activity in the nation's new Catholic dioceses. Churches were needed. Once again God led me to the correct place at the best possible time. In 1994 Cardinal Kazimierz Swiatek appointed me as construction director of Belarus' four Catholic dioceses, which counted some 1.5 million Catholics.

All Catholic building projects went through my office. We had our own design and architectural history research studio, too. I got a planning license and became a registered architect in Belarus.

On the weekends I taught Christian philosophy at Catechetical Institute. When the director became a bishop, I took his place. Despite my encounters with hardliners who still believed in the Soviet communist system, I enjoyed working in this friendly country from 1994 to 2000.

I left the former Soviet Union for a formation course at the Chicago Theological Union. Although my time in Chicago was brief—only six months—it felt amazing to be a student again.

After Chicago I was sent back to my home country. Like the rest of Eastern Europe, Hungary had changed since the fall of communism. The seminaries had reopened, and I was appointed formator in the Hungary Province.

This was groundbreaking news. I was the first Brother in the history of Divine Word Missionaries, to be appointed as novice master—historically it had always been a priest. The Generalate in Rome announced that if the novitiate was open to Brother candidates, then a Brother was allowed to lead it.

MY SECOND MISSION: TEACHING IN THE PHILIPPINES

In addition to being novice master I also taught philosophy and sacred architecture. Later I served as treasurer and vice provincial of the Hungary Province.

Though I loved all these duties, I hoped to return to architecture. Divine Word Missionaries' Russia and Belarus region requested me back. They had a task: to remake a former Stalinist culture house—in the middle of a large housing estate in Moscow—into a Catholic church.

I was excited about this possibility, but then I got an email from our superior general. He said that I had already built many projects; now would be the time to teach how to build. Where? In the Philippines. At the University of San Carlos.

Although many thought I might struggle with this new offer, in fact as soon as I read the email it became clear that instead of a cold Russia, the tropical Philippines would be my next home. After short prayers, I repounded, "Yes, please send the appointment as soon as possible."

Since 2007, I have been a faculty member of the Department of Architecture at the University of San Carlos. As officer in charge of the Department of Architecture I began to regularly present research papers at the annual conference of Architectural Researchers and Educators. Research into Filipino architecture became my focus—first for my own orientation, later for professional reasons.

As a missionary, and a foreigner, in the Philippines I made a special

effort to understand the people, the culture and the architecture. I listened and I asked questions. And when I questioned the famous and influential architects of the Philippines they readily replied. This was the beginning of my research in architectural communication in the Philippines.

My book “Heroes and Laborers” is the fruit of this meticulous work. It was the first Filipino book to present interviews with architects of the archipelago.

AS EDITOR OF AN ARCHITECTURAL MAGAZINE

When I arrived in the Philippines, I noticed that university architecture students and teachers did not publish their writing. If San Carlos was to become a research university and be rated among the 100 best universities in Asia, writing would be crucial.

A university magazine could fill this void. The dean, a very open-minded architect, said if I could prove the worth of a magazine, he would give it a green light.

Now editor in chief of *Lantawan*, the university’s newly founded art and architecture magazine, I made working on it an elective subject. Many students signed up for it, which proved the magazine’s sustainability.

The title *Lantawan* means “viewpoint.” The journal examines historical and contemporary

architecture in national and international contexts. We sell the magazine nationwide to the architecture and fine arts audience.

AS EDITOR OF SVD BROTHERS FORUM

My Brother vocation is very important to me. I believe that Brotherhood is more than an intellectual and spiritual commitment.

Most Divine Word Brothers work in practical fields: they have vocations in the real world. It is my hope that in the future the Brothers’ professional knowledge will be recognized and used to benefit the growth of our society. This was on my mind during our congregation’s XVIth General Chapter. As Brothers, we were invited to a meeting. The meeting’s goal was to create a group that would promote networking, address the decrease in Brother vocations and build Brother identity. The interactive forum was called *SVD Brothers Bulletin*.

A year had passed, no one had started a forum, so I volunteered. The forum had three conditions: It would be under supervision of the Generalate; have a Spanish version; and would continue as long as it remained relevant.

Twelve years later the bulletin had developed beyond a newsletter and into a true forum. The Philippines - South Province took over the project, and it was renamed *SVD Brothers Forum* to reflect its real content.

Clarity

If I were I asked about a summary of my life’s work after 62 years on Earth and 34 years as a Divine Word Missionary, I would mention one word: clarity. Clarity in common tasks, but also sober clarity in the differences—so that we can solve our practical challenges, make our endeavors successful and bring the Word of God to many people. ♦



The university’s art and architecture magazine



Brothers Forum



My work with former street children, Community Scouts



HEALTH CAMP DAY for BRU MIGRANTS

By Ivan D'Silva SVD

Divine Word Missionaries bring aid to tribal group in India

Divine Word Missionaries long have been tasked with looking after the neglected people of the world. I recently had the opportunity to bring vital medical care to a displaced people known as the Bru.

The Bru are a tribal people here in northeast India who have suffered many hardships since 1997, when they became the targets of ethnic violence in their home state of Mizoram. That persecution caused 37,000 Brus to flee to the neighboring state of Tripura, which is where my mission parish is located.

As the result of years of negotiations between the governments of Tripura, Mizoram and India's central government, a Bru resettlement camp opened in April 2021 at Haduklau, a village located about 6 miles from my church, Holy Spirit Parish, in Ambassa. Haduklau Rehabilitation Camp is a





37,000 Brus fled Mizoram and took refuge in Tripura's refugee camps.

resettlement area that offers a permanent home to Bru refugees who choose to stay in Tripura (many refuse to return to Mizoram). It is one of 16 resettlement areas in Tripura.

Under the resettlement agreement, each family in the Haduklau camp receives 1,300 square feet of land to build their home. They also receive a one-time cash benefit for housing and sustenance, free rations and a \$70 monthly allowance for two years. Philip Apeto, the settlement camp administrator, told me that even with rations and the monthly allowance it is still quite difficult for families to acquire basic necessities like rice, vegetables and medical care.

Prior to the resettlement agreement, Bru refugees in Tripura lived in tents in refugee camps. The resettlement area is somewhat of an improved version over the tent camp, with tiny tin-roofed houses built close together. The settlers still face many perils. Problems range from malnutrition to unhygienic sanitation to water-borne illnesses such as dysentery.

Healthcare for the people of rural India relies upon primary health centers—clinics that have facilities for



A prayer for refugees and migrants

Lord, we pray for women and children around the world.

You asked us to weep for their oppression, and we pray that we may see their gifts, their strengths, and their plight as you do. Lord, as we see you wounded on the cross, help us to recognize the wounds of our brothers and sisters throughout the world. Let your spirit guide us to bring your light and hope to refugees and displaced people as we join together to build a world of love, justice, and peace for all.

—JSR

Hindustan Times



**two doctors,
two nurses and
staff worked from
early morning
to late evening ...
treating more than
300 people**



**... even with
rations and
the monthly
allowance it
is still quite
difficult for
families to
acquire basic
necessities,
like rice,
vegetables and
medical care.**

minor surgeries. The primary health center nearest to Haduklau is very far away. Only patients with serious illnesses or injuries are taken there because the cost to transport them is high.

To help the Bru migrants get some much needed medical assistance, Holy Spirit Parish and the Oisho Bani Society—a nongovernmental agency overseen by Divine Word Missionaries—have organized health camp day at the Haduklau camp.

Apeto asked me to organize a medical health day last August (Oisho Bani had coordinated an earlier health day in June). At the time of the August health camp, Apeto said that 302 Bru families had “more or less” settled into their homes, while another 586 had arrived to construct their houses.



The Times of India



For the August health camp day, two doctors, two nurses and other staff worked from early morning to late evening. They treated more than 300 people, diagnosed ailments and dispensed medications. The patients were mostly women and children who suffered such common illnesses as colds, coughs, fevers and allergies as well as dysentery. Those who showed symptoms of malaria were tested for the disease. Thankfully, no one tested positive.

It is my hope that these successful health camp days will help bring a healthier and better future for the Bru people. I would like to thank the donors who helped us to buy sufficient medications and the doctors who gave their time to attend to the Bru people—the new residents of the Haduklau Rehabilitation Camp. ♦

Thank you for your prayers & support!

Support Divine Word Missionaries in our mission to change lives and give hope for a better future.

YOUR GIFT WILL MAKE AN IMPACT!



Make an IMPACT! Give a monthly sustainer contribution **change someone's life forever!**



Join the Vineyard!

Your monthly gift, no matter the amount, sustains our life-saving programs and works hand-in-hand with our missionaries in the field.

Your gift will be sent to our missions overseas to be used in some of the most poverty-stricken areas of the world.

Your monthly sustainer gift will make an IMPACT like no other!

visit our website at

www.svdmissions.org
click DONATE-GIVE MONTHLY



Your gifts make an IMPACT around the world!





Please take the people of the Philippines into your heart.



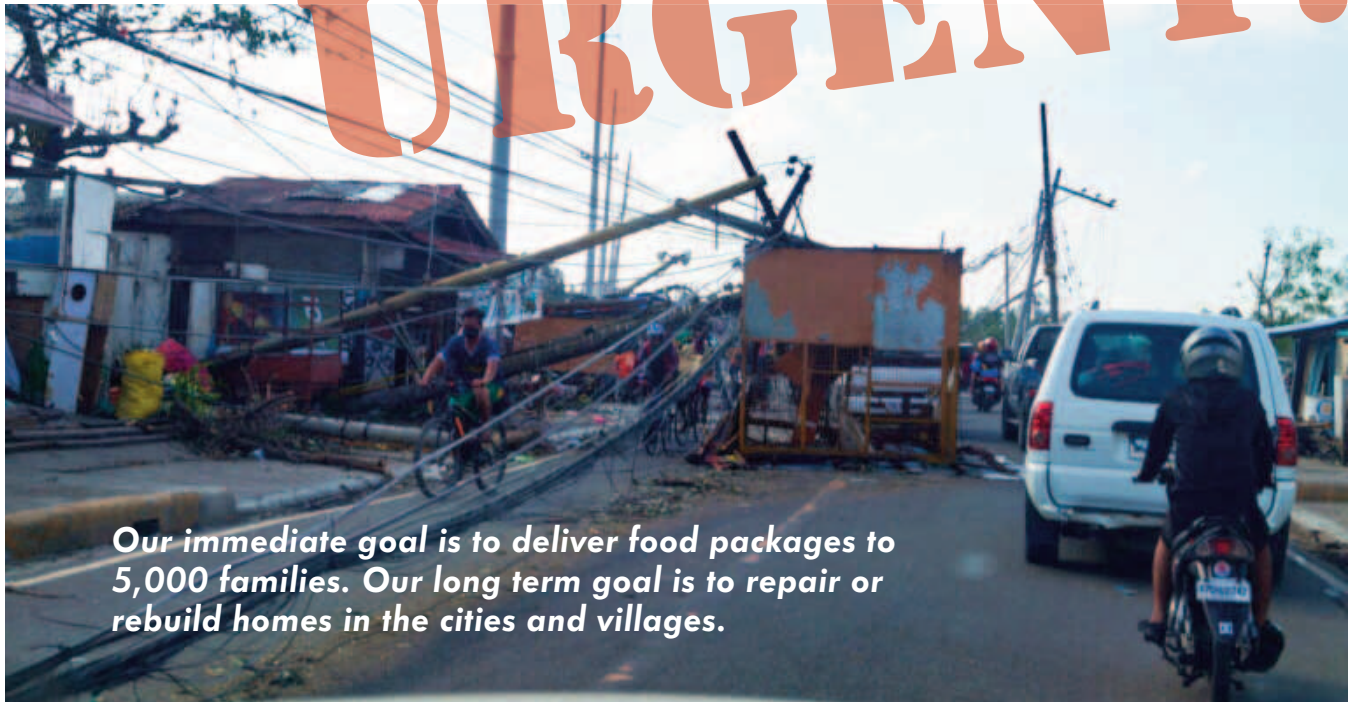
URGENT: FOOD PACKAGES NEEDED TO FEED 5,000 FAMILIES



On Dec. 16, 2021—just about a week before Christmas—super Typhoon Odette ripped through the southern Philippines. It was the worst storm to hit this country since Typhoon Haiyan in 2013. More than 400 people perished because of Odette, and the storm caused approximately \$459 million in damage to infrastructure and agriculture. Especially hard hit were Mindanao, Leyte, Bohol and the whole south of Cebu Island, including Cebu City.

Millions of homes were damaged or destroyed. Roads became impassible. People lost access to

URGENT!



Our immediate goal is to deliver food packages to 5,000 families. Our long term goal is to repair or rebuild homes in the cities and villages.

clean drinking water, food and fuel. Power outages lasted a month or longer. While we are thankful no Divine Word Missionary was killed or injured in the storm, nearly all our communities—those we serve—and the mission projects we provide in the Philippines - South Province were gravely affected.

Thanks to our URGENT Fund, Divine Word Missionaries are already in the field. TODAY we are asking you to help replenish this URGENT Fund so our missionaries on the scene can provide immediate needs of food and shelter to the people of the south Philippines.



URGENT!

**OUR IMMEDIATE GOAL IS
TO DELIVER FOOD PACKAGES TO
5,000 FAMILIES**

Your help would be greatly appreciated. Any gift large or small will directly benefit the people of the Philippines still reeling from Odette's impact.



**OUR LONG TERM GOAL IS TO
REPAIR OR REBUILD HOMES
IN THE CITIES AND VILLAGES
OF SOUTH PHILIPPINES.**

***We thank you in advance for your
generosity and compassion.***



URGENT!

Super Typhoon Odette left a devastating toll in southeastern Philippines when it struck, killing hundreds of people and leaving more than 300,000 displaced. Our URGENT fund supports emergency aid like food, water, medicine and shelter.

**A gift of \$15
will pay for a food
package that
contains drinking
water, 11 pounds
of rice and other
essential foods.**

**A gift of \$450
will help pay for
building materials
to reconstruct a
small home.**



***May God bless you
for taking the people
of the Philippines
into your heart.***

www.svdmissions.org/urgent

Ways to Give...

The easiest way to give is through cash gifts. But creative gifts of assets can include stocks, bonds and property (real estate and personal property such as artwork). These can not only provide you with charitable deductions but often offer additional tax savings as well.

Here are some ways you can help...

Cash, checks and credit card donations

Donation of appreciated Securities

Donation of retirement plan benefits

Life insurance donation

Donation of real estate

Donor-Advised Fund

Bequest

**Remembering
Divine Word
Missionaries
in your
Will
is a powerful
way to leave
a meaningful
legacy**



**Contact us at
800-275-0626**

**for information on bequests or
to talk more about different
way to include
Divine Word Missionaries
in your Will
or estate plan.**

Seek the advice of your financial or legal advisor.

**Divine Word Missionaries
P.O. Box 6099 • Techny, IL 60082**

**Have you already included us
in your Will?
Let us know so we can
Thank You!**

EDITORIAL

You might have noticed something different on the cover of our magazine. This is a combined issue. Let me explain why.

As our previous issue, Summer 2021, was ready to hit the presses, we learned that the presses weren't exactly ready to be hit. A new form of COVID was just beginning to evolve and it was taking workers out of the lineup. Also, the supply chain crisis was holding back paper.

As you know, the magazine finally got printed, but it arrived in your mailbox only a few weeks before the next issue, Fall 2021, was scheduled to mail. So, to save money we decided to play catch up and combine the Fall 2021 and Winter 2022 issue.



As we were finishing up this issue we got word that a natural disaster hit one of our mission countries. About a week before Christmas, super Typhoon Odette (also known as Rai) tore through the southern Philippines. Days after the storm, Divine Word Missionaries on the ground posted that virtually all Divine Word Missionary communities in our Philippines - South Province were affected by the typhoon.

More than 400 people perished in the storm, and widespread damage was reported in Mindanao, Leyte, Bohol and the whole south of Cebu Island, including Cebu City. One of the articles in this issue was written by Brother Béla Lányi SVD, who teaches architecture at the University of San Carlos in Cebu City. I reached out to Bro. Béla to check on his status. He said he is doing very well, reporting that "SVD encountered no personal injuries but our property was heavily damaged." He added that the Divine Word residence where he and his confreres live still had no power three weeks after the typhoon hit.

Millions of lives have been upended by this storm. The Mission Center has started a disaster relief fund to help the people of the Philippines. The money we raise will help to feed the victims of Typhoon Odette and also repair their homes.

To donate, please visit
www.svdmissions.org/urgent.

On behalf of our missionary priests and Brothers in the southern Philippines and the thousands of people they serve, we thank you for your generosity.

Yours in the Divine Word,

Bro. Daniel J. Holman SVD
Bro. Daniel Holman SVD
Mission Director

Contact me any time, my email address is:
director@svdmissions.org

**Thank you
for your
prayers & support!**

www.svdmissions.org



See how quick and easy it is to request a Mass online

MASS REQUEST.

online MASS REQUESTS



**snap our
QR code**

**Bookmark our
site for easy
access!**



dwmmassrequest.org

