

Mother of Perpetual Help Center Thailand

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***Wishing you and your loved ones a Merry
Christmas with a very Happy and Blessed New Year***



Dear Friends of Thailand,

Where does the time go? Another year gone by, a New Year to look forward to and hoping it will be a good year for you and your loved ones.

This years fund raising was successful once again thanks to you and so many others who have come to our aid once again. Grants from funding agencies are becoming less which means that Mother of Perpetual Help Center really depends for the most part from our annual fundraiser in the States as well as grants through St. Augustin's in Germany.

The Center continues to receive more and new cases in need of care. One or the other has been able to go out on their own or in some cases return to family leaving space for new cases. Most who are under our care are permanent residents as they do not have a home or place to return to, this is fine we can continue to care for them and give them a loving, caring family spirit.

Wishing you much happiness and good health during the coming year and looking forward to meeting so many of you again next summer.

Blessings in Abundance,

D. Lunders

Br. Damien Lunders, SVD

Poor Family Living Conditions



Living conditions in rural areas are quite different from those of families living in the cities. Often a home is just a make shift house put together with used timber and metal sheeting from other homes. With grants from Germany the Center had been able to make good improvements to homes for about 30 families during the past two years. These funds have been exhausted; thus, no further expansion of this project. We are however; waiting on a project to help the poor with self help projects as a kick start for them to begin activities which will give them some income for the family needs.

Ban Mae Marie—Mother Mary House

Ban Mae Marie has become a haven not only for children, but for the overflow of adult patients from Villa Marie hospice at MPH Center. Our children/teenagers and beyond are at varying stages, some are able to attend school, others because of disabilities have not gone to school and cannot attend the ordinary schools. All at BMM take seriously their responsibility to help out with various jobs, all participate in activities at the parish church, St. Michael the Archangel.



In the past few months four new children have come to stay at Ban Mae Marie, Three of them are not HIV, but because of poor family conditions and family problems either the father or mother is not able to care for the child—in some cases the problems are drug related; thus, abuse of the child. One of the new boys was living with his father who has very bad health problems and was having difficulties to care for him—the father has now become a monk at one of the nearby temples so Mr. Mix is able to visit him from time to time.



Most of our children are able to attend one of the local schools to continue their education. Two who are not able to attend a school are being home schooled by a former Lover of the Cross nun who has responsibility for all living at Ban Mae Marie. They are happy here and all assume duties which help to create a good family atmosphere.

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www.svdmissions.org

*Donations can be sent through
our Mission Office at Techny, Illinois
(Please specify for Thailand mission)*

Word Missionaries
Mission Office
1835 Waukegan Road
Techny, IL 60082



Remember Mother of Perpetual Help Center in your 'Last Will and Testament' to ensure a long lasting care for the many poor and needy.

Children's Programs—2023



Two newcomers for care at Ban Mae Marie are Mr. Bom (above) who has been sent to us from the Province of Khon Kaen. Bom is 12 years old with the brain of a 4 year old, he has never had the opportunity to go to school and is now being home schooled at Ban Mae Marie.

Ms. Phlaeng coming from within the Province of Nong Bua Lamphu was sent for our care as her father is addicted with the use of drugs. It is not known where her mother is. Phlaeng is 11 years old and will now be able to attend one of the local schools with other kids from the Center. Mr. Bom is HIV, Ms. Phlaeng and 3 other children at Ban Mae Marie are not HIV. Because of poverty and problems such as the drug use in families, children have been put under our care.

Villa Marie Hospice



Patients come to Villa Marie from many sources, hospitals, parishes and from many other Provinces. Often local patients prefer to go for help to other Centers as they are afraid of their illness being known. Many come with physical or mental disabilities, some being blind. Some are with TB and need special treatment with medications for up to six months before being able to mix with other patients.

Children's Programs Cont'd

Holy Childhood in Rome has given yearly grants to help children of poor families with school uniforms and schools supplies. This program has been help to at least 300 children of varying ages each year for the past 20 years. Families are most grateful for the extra support which helps their children to further their education



Aids Education and Awareness

This year for the first time in 20 years the Center does not have funds through grants from Misereor and Kindermissionwerk in Germany so the usual 20 schools going through the Aids Education program is not being undertaken; however, Center staff is available to any groups who wish to make use of their expertise. So from time to time staff with other volunteers are invited by government or NGO groups to give seminars on Aids and other drug related problems. Mother of Perpetual Help Center has been very fortunate over the years to receive funding for these important activities.

