

I am planning to visit the Philippines again later in the year when we expect the new building will be complete. The Sisters will have the challenge to care for these delightful children and support their social, physical and academic growth. I will also hope to spend time in Marakina (in Manila) and Cavite (south of Manila) to visit the home for expectant mothers.

PLEASE DONATE TO THESE FANTASTIC PROJECTS and look out for the next fundraising events in Melbourne.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS MAKE THESE PROJECTS HAPPEN.

With all best wishes, kind regards and thanks.

Nelson

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PLEASE SEND CHEQUES TO THE DAUGHTERS OF DIVINE ZEAL

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NEWSLETTER

From Nelson & the Sisters

Update for two major projects at St Joseph's home for poor children, Laoag:

- Rebuilding the existing home is complete
- Work well underway on the new building

August 2011



Dear Friends,

I have just spent another three weeks in northern Philippines, at Laoag, where so much has happened since my last visit in May. I am so excited by what is being achieved at St Joseph's home for children.

In the May newsletter I reported that work had commenced on refurbishing the existing building for the younger children. Well, work is now complete and I was so happy to participate in the blessing ceremony. The children are now in their home!

The photo on shows how happy the eight girls are about their new home. Now that work is complete, they are able to settle down, together with the three Sisters who care for them.

Equally exciting, work has commenced on the new building that will be home for older girls, as these young women become more independent and their personal and educational needs mature.

YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS MAKING THESE PROJECTS HAPPEN.



Rebuilding of the existing home is complete and I was able to participate in the blessing ceremony with the Sisters and children while I was visiting during May.

The photos at the left show the new mezzanine/study area for the children and the new kitchen. The refurbished dining room and one of the refurbished bedrooms is also shown. In addition, the bathroom and laundry have also been totally renewed.

This work cost about 2 million Pesos (over \$45,000), funds that you have donated directly, and by attending functions and buying my Recycled Art Cards: Thank You Cards, Birthday Cards and Christmas Cards.

The refurbished building is home for the eight girls, together with the three sisters who care for them. The Sisters will now be able to provide a home for up to eight additional younger girls. I can tell you that they are so proud of their new home and so happy.

YOU HAVE MADE THIS HAPPEN BY DONATING TO THE PROJECT

The new building is also very exciting. The drawing below shows the architect's impression of the building. It is being built adjacent to the street, so you will enter through the covered way on the right hand side to reach the existing home that has just been rebuilt.

The new building will have two dormitories and facilities on the upper floor, to house at least eight older girls as they complete senior studies at college and university. There will be an entrance, library and infirmary on the ground floor. The raised roof in the centre covers the stairs that also provide access to the laundry drying area on the roof at the left.

I am incredibly happy with progress of work on the new building. The workmanship and attention to detail is impressive. The photos show how the concrete frame is almost complete and roof trusses are about to be erected. Walls, painting, finishes, plumbing and electrical work still has to be done.

We have already been able to contribute one million Pesos and expect to have raised a further million Pesos shortly. Mother Elna and the Sisters are confident that we will be able to raise the total cost of about 5 million Pesos (about \$110,000). They are therefore proceeding with work and expect to complete later this year.

We are actively seeking gifts of the remaining funds and ask you to contribute generously. Please participate in any fund raising activities and

PLEASE DONATE TO THIS FANTASTIC PROJECT NOW.

