June 2025



Dear Pastor and Church,

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."
(II Corinthians 5:17)

CHURCH UPDATE

This verse was really validated as we witnessed the changes and spiritual growth of some of our young men and ladies in our congregation. We have five people who recently got saved and baptized in our church. They came from different backgrounds, and each had a different story to tell.

Micah and Lyka Cantomayor are sisters. These two young ladies were invited by one of our young men who was their cousin. Lyka was the first to come and attend our church services and activities. A few weeks later, Micah came with her sister. After a few weeks of Bible study with them, they accepted Christ as their Saviour and have been baptized already. These two have opposite personalities, yet you can see how much they adore being in God's house, teaching and singing with the little kids of our church.

Antony Agustin is a young man from Julita, a town 35 minutes from our place. He came from a broken family. His mother left him when he was still a baby, and he had never gotten to know her until now. He grew up with his father and older siblings. When you are around this man, you can feel his longing for a loving and complete family. He started coming to church through the invitation of one of our young men. By God's amazing grace, he accepted Christ as his Saviour during the Youth Camp in Borongan, Eastern Samar. He is now baptized and is faithfully attending our church services and activities.

Kim Tenedora was again invited to church by one of our young ladies. He also came from a broken family, living with his mom, stepfather, and step-siblings. His life is a suitable example of persistence. For him to be able to come and attend church, he has to endure long hours of work, planting bananas and other things his stepfather asks him to do. Despite what he is going through, you can see the delight in his face every time he is in church, surrounded by his friends and his pastor. Kim also got saved during the Youth Camp in Borongan, Eastern Samar, and is now baptized, pursuing his desire to be in every church service.

Jhunerick Catantan is a college student who occasionally visited our church. He lives in MacArthur, a neighboring town about 45 minutes away from Burauen. Before he became a member of our church, he used to live in a boarding house near his school. Due to financial difficulty, he failed to pay his monthly rent and was forced to leave the house. When he first asked me if he could stay in the church together with some of our men, I was a bit hesitant. I'm thankful I made the right decision to let him stay. Now, after getting saved and baptized, he is one of my handymen, always ready to fix anything that is broken.

I share their stories because I feel burdened to do more for and invest in the lives of young men and young ladies. This summer, God allowed me to preach in three different Baptist Youth Camps. As I preached and looked at these young people, I somehow saw myself in them. They may have come from different walks of life, but they all have one thing in common—they have a soul that needs a Saviour. If God sees fit to use their lives, He will, just like how He changed the direction of my life when I came forward during a Youth Camp and surrendered my life to full-time ministry. The road was not easy, but it was worth it. To God be the glory; great things He hath done!

FAMILY UPDATE

My wife is doing pretty good a year after her surgery. Sofia, our firstborn, just turned 18, and in a few weeks, she will enroll in college with Medical Technology as her course. Hadassah, our middle child, will be in 8th grade, and Amelie just turned 4. We decided to wait till she's 5 before we enroll her in kindergarten.

I will be in the U.S. for a few weeks for my yearly furlough. I will be glad to come and visit my supporting churches. If you want me to come and give you an update, please don't hesitate to contact me. My U.S. number is <u>773-829-1215</u>, or you can email me at tophilippines12345@gmail.com.

Please continue to pray for us and our church. Thank you for your faithfulness and may God bless you!

In Christ,

Parish Javier and Family Missionaries in the Philippines