# It's Our

MCA MISSION NEWS
Fall/Advent 2015

"Safeguarding the Dignity of Every Human Person."

# OFC

4-5

DO YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CANOSSA HEALTH AND SOCIAL CENTER ?

You can by asking your teacher or parent to download MISSIO. Here you can meet, see, pray with, get to know and help children at the Center as well as many others who live in mission lands in Africa, Asia and other places around the world.









More than half of the children in this photo were sick with TB when they were toddlers. Now they are happy, healthy second graders!

## CANOSSA HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL CENTER

"We are trying to help 300 children a year to stay free of tuberculosis(TB), to have more nutritious meals, and to receive an education – all at our center" explains Sister Maureen.

The center is the Canossa Health and Social Center in Manila, Philippines where the Sisters have been providing medical care and nutrition for the past 35 years. The Philippines has one of the highest rates of tuberculosis in the world. These children are also most at risk for catching it and often remain undiagnosed and untreated.





CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN

MCA was created over 170 years ago because of the belief of French Bishop Forbin-Janson in the power of children's prayer and faith. Today, MCA continues to follow the vision of Bishop Forbin-Janson – "children helping children." After learning about the great needs of the world's poorest children, young people- YOU-are invited to pray and to offer financial help so that children in the Missions today may know Christ and experience His love and care.

To read more about the history of MCA, visit:

http://www.onefamilyinmission.org/ hca.html

#### **ADVENT**

The Catholic Church has designated the four weeks preceding Christmas as Advent, a time to "prepare the way of the Lord" for His coming as our King and Savior. We prepare for birth of the primary missionary, Jesus, who came to earth to share His love and grant us a path to Eternal life in Heaven. While it is nice to receive and give presents, let us not get caught up in the glitz of commercial presents and take the time to prepare for this priceless gift we receive from God. Consider finding a project to support with your group or family on missio.

SUN 11.29	MON 11.30	TUES 12.1	WED 12.2	THUR 12.3	FRI 12.4	SAT 12.5
12.6	12.7	12.8	12.9	12.10	12.11	12.12
12.13	12.14	12.15	12.16	12.17	12.18	12.19
12.20	12.21	12.22	12.23	12.24 Christmas Eve	12.25 Christmas Day	



Let us pray...

Good and gracious God, I place myself in your presence and ask for your blessing.

Give me your light to illuminate my life as your missionary disciple.

That I may see the world with a positive outlook and remember that You always walk with me.

That I may see the light beyond the clouds that appear in my life and soon find new direction and energy.

That my actions and words always seek to reflect Your luminous love as bright as the noonday sun. Amen.

### JESUS AT THE CENTER

God is always watching us with eyes of love. His love for us is without limits and always seeks our good.

When bad things happen in this world it is not because God is punishing humankind. They happen when people stop listening to God and fall into what God wants us to avoid. This is why God gave us the Commandments and the Beatitudes for our happiness- if we live them we will be happy. They help us to keep Jesus at the center of our lives. We, you and me, are the Church of God who lead others to meet and know Jesus. People can best meet Jesus by finding Him in believers than in buildings or books, (except for the Bible, of course). What? People can look for Jesus and find Him in believers? How can this be? What about churches? Yes. believers first! Because before people can see Jesus in the church building they need to find him in the Church which is you and me! The presence of Jesus, in our center, in our lives is what attracts people who do not know God.

How can we help people find and know Jesus?