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The Ortigas Newsletter *August 2025*

Dear Ones in Christ Jesus ~

What a joy to connect with you once again! We generally say that PEACE comes after the STORM, and we are so glad that after the flood we underwent a few months ago, we are making peaceful progress.



Our Cuba Arrival



Our young missionaries' participation

The last time I communicated with you was right before our mission's trip to Cuba. Yup, that was quite the experience, as usual, except that it seems that every trip gets more and more challenging. For the last 3 years in a row, the electrical black outs throughout the entire country are much more frequent and more prolonged. This time around, we only averaged about 6 to 8 hours per a 24-

hour day. And with heat and humidity as bad as it is in a Caribbean island, things get very physically exhausting, and there's



New Believers Get Baptized

absolutely nothing they can do about it. Our services with children, adults and any other setting was the same – be prepared for power outage because it was going to happen. Nevertheless, with or without electricity, we never lost any service or meeting; we simply learned to improvise. This is not to say that we never lost any sleep over it, especially when we were sweating profusely at midnight or the first

hours of the early morning. Of course, knowing that our beloved Cuban brothers must undergo these hardships every day and every night, compelled us to accept things as they came. This year, we took two “newbies” from our church and God accomplished so much in and through all 5 of us. What a joy to see our young people take on these challenges and not back down because of the inconveniences. What a great sense of satisfaction that God allows us to mentor the next generation of short-term missionaries. I shared a seminar called: Your Divine Design on several opportunities with different people. I baptized 9 new believers, performed a wedding ceremony and had several counseling opportunities.



A fun day every day during our VBS



Our Ollie and Levi at VBS

Our beloved Maranatha is marching on. I continue to stay busy preaching most Sundays of the month, meeting with our facilitators every other Monday night and then supervising their Life Group meetings throughout the week, mentoring the new leaders, teaching baptism classes, counseling, visiting, etc. Yes, it can be very physically exhausting, but the joy and spiritual rewards are truly out of this world. As to other great news, we had a great VBS program this summer. What a wonderful way to see our own Maranatha people take ownership

of this great ministry! We were so glad to have Ollie & Levi with us during that fantastic children's ministry.



My Friday Night Life Group

All my dear women have or are currently undergoing health issues. Sarai continues to battle lupus and working from home. Priscilla had to undergo a surgical procedure a few days ago. My wife and I were able to be there for our grandchildren. Sylvia is just recovering from COVID and Mary continues to experience major abdominal pains. She continues to visit her family doctor and other specialists, but there's nothing conclusive yet as to the source of her discomfort. The trooper that she is, she presses on with God's grace. As to our March 27th house flooding and losing our little Nissan Kicks, we are doing much better now. The garage still needs some minor arranging, but we are back in operation.

We had originally planned out a trip to Panama to visit my wife's relatives back in March, just 4 days after the flood, but things change fast when your dwelling gets inundated. So, now that things are somewhat "normal", we plan to resume our plans to go down there on September 9th.

To those who give and pray and encourage us along the way ~ THANK YOU so very much! May the gracious Lord continue to bless each one of you. For those who would like to participate in our ministry, please do reach out to us or to our TBM headquarters.



A day after the flood

By God's Grace; For God's Glory,

Frac & Mary Ortega

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