

CARITAS

T A I W A N

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In 2010,
CARITAS Taiwan
celebrated its
30th year of
service to the
Chinese schools in
the villages of
Northern Thailand.

Publications and Translations

- * Monthly Newsletter
- * Translated into Chinese Pope Benedict 16th Messages and published them in the Catholic Weekly News
- * Published 3,500 booklets on “Spiritual Exercise for those who are working in the Social Service of the Catholic Church” based on the Spiritual Exercises organized by Cor Unum
- * Printed story book for children about the life of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, India – 1,000 copies
- * Compilation of CARITAS Taiwan Newsletters from (vol. 251-300) – 100 copies
- * Response to International Relief Operation
- * Reproduction and distribution of the documentary film “ $\pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ ” for Climate Change Awareness
- * CARITAS Taiwan Website, Youtube and Blog

Lenten Campaign



- * Theme: “Love Begets Justice”

- * Translated: Pope Benedict 16th message for Lent 2010

- * Distributed: Educational booklets, Banners, Charity Envelops, VCD, Offering boxes

- * 50% of the funds raised in the Lenten Campaign was used to help the poor in Taiwan and the other 50% was used to help relief operations abroad.

- * Printed copies of the illustrated story book about the life of Mother Teresa



CHINA CONCERN

CARITAS Taiwan works with projects in the different rural areas of in China to help the local people develop their poor communities and to give assistance to areas that were hit by natural calamities. The projects include construction of school buildings, construction of roads, organizing summer camps, building of water system/irrigation, and the holding of public health education seminars.

In Taiwan, CARITAS is one of the core members of the Planning Committee of CHINA FORUM. China Forum is a venue where different religious congregations meet quarterly to share about their mission experiences in Mainland China. CARITAS Taiwan actively participates in the forum as resource person.

Continue to collaborate with CRS (Catholic Relief Services), CI (Caritas Internationalis), other NGOs and with the local people in China for emergency relief



One of our volunteers was a Lama named Kon Chen. The house of his family totally collapsed during the earthquake in Qing Hai. Kon Chen searched tirelessly for his family until he found them all safe in his cousin's house in the mountain. The Tibetans, believe that when one is doing merciful work, great fortune should follow.

April 2010 Earthquake in Qing Hai

With the help of our long term collaborators in China, CARITAS Taiwan immediately responded to the needs of the earthquake victims in Qing Hai. Food, water and clothing were immediately delivered to the devastated site.



Long time volunteers from Xining posed before the delivery truck that carries the basic supplies to Qing Hai.



Loading of supplies to Qing Hai.



Children collecting their share of thick blankets.

Because of water supply shortage, these girls are washing their feet on dirty water.



NORTHERN THAILAND



CARITAS Taiwan continues to reach out to the poorest children in the villages and communities to bring them the opportunity of education.

Thousands of books were donated to CARITAS Taiwan

CARITAS Taiwan received thousands of children's books from a school in Taiwan and from some CARITAS friends. The books were sorted out and were mailed to the schools in Northern Thailand.

It was the first time for most



of the students to see so many colorful books and they were overwhelmed and excited to read them.

During the distribution of the books, the children were taught how to take care of the books, to share and exchange the books with other children after reading and to tell their teachers and friends about the stories they have read.

In 2010, CARITAS Taiwan commemorated its 30th year of service in the Chinese schools in Northern Thailand.

- Printed 5,000 copies of Newsletters
- Promoted the Volunteer Teachers' Program to professional teachers
- Conducted Summer Teachers' Training – participated by 457 local teachers from 60 different schools.
- Subsidized the tuition fees of 1,107 students and the salary of 20 teachers
- Held flea market to raise funds for the project in Northern Thailand
- Gave help to the student volunteers of Taiwan University (Taipei), Providence University (Taichung), and Wen Chao University (Kaoshiung)
- Granted student subsidy to 12 students from Northern Thailand who are studying in Taiwan
- Printed and distributed 1,000 pieces of souvenir bookmarks for CARITAS Taiwan 30th year of service in Northern Thailand.
- Received donated books for schools in Northern Thailand
- Sent 50 boxes of clothes for the Refugee Camp in Northern Thailand
- Distributed 1,000 dictionaries to the different schools

VOLUNTEER TEACHERS & STUDENTS

“Reaping the good harvest...”



The two young teachers are some of the students who used to be subsidized by CARITAS Taiwan and are now serving as teachers in the local schools. They did not only learn to like teaching as a job but they understand the importance of giving education to the youngsters in their communities.



Peter Zhu was also subsidized by CARITAS in Northern Thailand until he graduated in Economic Law in one of the universities in Taiwan. He shared his experiences to the young students to encourage and inspire them to have the determination to finish their studies in spite of their poor life. Peter also worked part time in Migrants Desk in CARITAS Taiwan where he gave assistance to the Thai Contract Workers and Thai Chinese students.



Each summer CARITAS Taiwan brings to the local teachers in Northern Thailand some thing new to learn.

In the summer of 2010, Teacher Yang Lien-lin from Taiwan conducted 5 workshops in different villages to help teachers identify the values of their teaching job, to gain confidence and creativity in their work and to encourage collaboration among schools principals, students and their community.



Many Taiwanese professional teachers and university students continue to apply for the Summer Volunteer Program every year. For most of them, the experience is not only about teaching but it is also about the life transformation that they experience with the poor people and the simple life in the villages.

JUSTICE & PEACE

Overseas Contract Workers

CARITAS Taiwan also gives services to the Filipino and Thai contract workers through its Migrants Desk. The office gives the following interventions for the protection and empowerment of the migrant workers: education and information, case management, counseling, organizing the contract workers in the small communities, referrals, advocacy for the revision of the Household Service Act which favors the protections of the Domestic Helpers and Caregivers / Caretakers, and visits the detention centers. We also value our collaboration with the Migrants Empowerment Network (MENT).

Filipino Fishermen in Suao

Suao is a fishing port in the north eastern part of Taipei where there are more than 200 seabased Filipino contract workers.

The Filipino Fishermen are mostly victims of unpaid wages and are suffering from poor living quarters while they are paying high costs of board and lodging.

Labor information campaign is also conducted every month to give the workers new updates.



CARITAS Taiwan organized the monthly Eucharistic Celebrations in Suao with the Collaboration of the Daughters of Charity, priests from the Diocese of Taipei and some lay volunteers.

The monthly Masses are held in a Kindergarten School in Nanfang-ao near the fishing port.



Filipino Chinese in Taiwan

CARITAS Taiwan collaborates with the Scalabrini International Migration Network - Taiwan (SIMN) and St. Christopher's Church in organizing the Filipino Chinese in Taiwan.

The Concern Alliance for Filipino Chinese (CAFC) is lobbying for the following:

- Right to Health Care
- Reduce the requirement of 7 consecutive years stay in Taiwan to apply for Residence Certificate (RC)
- Amnesty for all Chinese passport Holder
- Amnesty for overstaying mothers





"As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them." (Luke 24:15).

CARITAS Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau

Spiritual Exercises for Those Working in the Social Services of the Catholic Church



CARITAS Taiwan together with CARITAS Hong Kong and CARITAS Macau organized Spiritual Exercises for those who are working in the social services. The theme of the event was taken from the Gospel of St. Luke's account of the disciples' encounter with Jesus in Emmaus, *"As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them."* (Luke 24:15). The event was a follow up of the Spiritual Exercises sponsored by the Pontifical Council of Cor Unum last year at Fu Jen University in Taiwan.

The Spiritual Exercises were held at the Jing Shan Spirituality Center in Changhwa from the 29th of November to 2nd of December 2010 and were attended by more than 80 participants from different social service centers all over Taiwan and CARITAS Hong Kong and Macau.

Most Rev. Philip Huang, the Bishop of Hualien Diocese and Chairman of CARITAS Taiwan, warmly welcomed all the participants and reminded them that our services are not merely any ordinary work but are a vocation and an expression of our faith. He also shared Mother Teresa's saying that "we are not doing these services because we are social workers but because we are spreading the love of God."

The event started with a very significant reflection on how each one was led into doing or working in social service of the Catholic Church.

A video of an interview with Mother Teresa was presented in relation to her apostolate to the poorest of the poor in India. Her selfless dedication in serving the poor has become an inspiration to many church workers. The sisters from the Missionaries of Charity, a congregation founded by Mother Teresa, came to share about the life of Mother Teresa who has been a 'light' to the suffering people.

Our sense of service springs forth from our experience and from the knowledge that God purposed us to serve others as an expression of God's love as Jesus did when He said, *"I have come to serve, not to be served."*



Pray for the World Day

Every year CARITAS Taiwan joins other Christian groups in Taiwan for the "Pray for the World Day."

Held every first Friday of March of each year, the joint prayer aims to especially pray for a poor country that is suffering either of natural calamity or man made disaster.

This yearly event also focus its concern on the welfare of women, children, and migrant people.



PLANS FOR 2011

For 2011, aside from its regular projects CARITAS Taiwan will continue to work on the following:

Typhoon Morakot

- collaboration with other NGOs for the rehabilitation of the areas devastated by Typhoon Morakot.

- Schooling subsidy program for the young students that were affected by the typhoon.

Climate Change

CARITAS Taiwan gives education and produce information materials for Climate Change Awareness Campaign



President:

Bishop Philip Huang Chao-ming

Executive Director:

Rev. Fr. Peter Mertens

Executive Secretary:

Sr. Emma Lee

Head Quarters:

Central Building, Room 920, No. 2, Chung Shan N. Rd.
Sect 1, Taipei 100, Taiwan

Postal address:

P.O. Box 8 --- 376, Taipei 100, Taiwan

Telephone:

+886 (2) 23 81 21 40

+886 (2) 23 71 85 10

Fax:

+886 (02) 2311 5124

Email:

carit@tpts1.seed.net.tw

Website:

www.catholic.org.tw/caritas/