

Subject: **Re: Saint Charles Caritas Ministry: month of February 2025 addendum, and 24 years of service anniversary this March 2025**
Date: 3/3/2025 9:10:55 AM Pacific Standard Time
From: chetsua@gmail.com
To: saintfrancis2001@aol.com

Thanks for all who keep the Caritas going. Praying for all always.

On Mon, Mar 3, 2025, 8:49 AM Merlyn Baker <saintfrancis2001@aol.com> wrote:
Dear Friends of Saint Charles Caritas,

God, thank you so much!!!

"Trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be"... Saint Teresa of Avila

Thank you so much to all benefactors, volunteers, friends [(including the entire Colina family, Brother Joe (24 years volunteer), Brother Ken, the Matthews, Christine (22 years volunteer), Alex & Lulu)], priests (Father Fernando, Father Burt & Father Anthony), sisters (Sister Babylyn, Sister Josephine and all the Sisters in TJ/Ensenada), deacons (Ken, Andy, David & Mick), for your continuous support to Saint Charles Caritas Ministry. Right after the 1 pm mass, the nuns/volunteers and I will buy the Sisters congregations' their food for the children charities. I'm thanking God for you daily that He may grant you His peace, good health, graces and blessings to all of you. Also, thank you to the children in this charity who continuously praying for us. **I THANKED GOD FOR ALL OF YOU!!!**

Short narrative: *This March 2025, the Saint Charles Caritas is now 24 years of service to charities in Mexico (24 years), in the Philippines (6 years) and in the USA (24 years). James Paul (aka Jim) and Merlyn Baker founded this charity in 2001 with the blessing of **Father Dennis Mikulanis**. The Bakers were glad that Father Dennis loves the poor. At that time, the Bakers did not think about running a charity since both of them had full-time jobs and on call for their management jobs. But God prevails on this. The time management came in for both, with God's grace.*

Before 2001, looking back on their experienced, realizing that they were trained to be ready to run a charity. Before this charity, the Bakers had been volunteering at St. Vincent de Paul under Fr Father Joe Carroll. The Bakers were also catechists, teaching the students' confirmation, and also were Extra Ordinary Ministers under Father Fernando Ramirez. Jim was assigned to jail ministry while Merlyn's ministry of the sick, and she had been involved with other non-profit professional organizations.

*The charity has now expanded from 1 charity in Tijuana to 4 plus charities today, (and was 9 charities before, but the religious communities had closed). The Philippines charities started during 2019 pandemic time through Sister Babylyn Dulfo SA, Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement, and now 9 charities that we are helping in Cagayan de Oro and 1 in Paliparan, Cavite today. The Bakers also included the Pastoral Charity Fund of St. Charles Church to help in the community who is in dire need of help. This started during Father Fernando Ramirez, pastor at that time, and to this day, this ministry continued. The Homeless Help in the South Bay started in November 2013, later named after Jim since he started the charity. Jim passed away December 25, 2013, but continued the distribution of food until pandemic time had arrived, and few months later after the pandemic, this program was halted. The rest of the narrative about Saint Charles Caritas are sent via emails and WhatsApp on a weekly and monthly basis in the form of a newsletter. Everyday this charity is a work in progress. **God, thank you!***

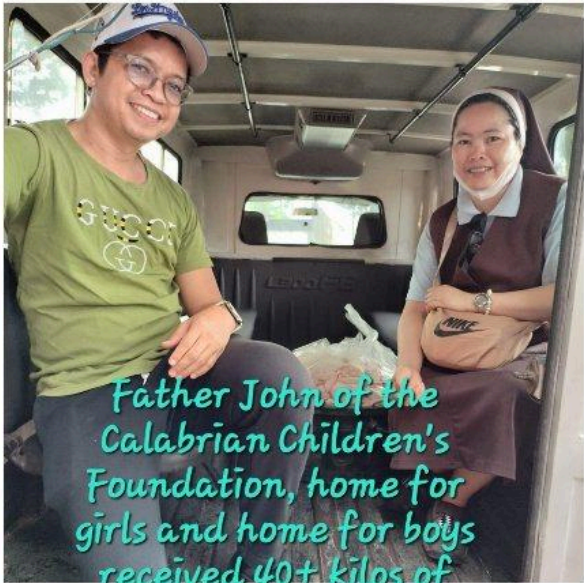
Caritas schedule in March:

- **March 15 & 16, Saturday and Sunday are the Caritas Days.** We are all volunteers from Mexico, Philippines and U.S. **100% of your donations will be used to buy basic food, cleaning supplies, basic necessities and projects.** Please see the nuns on Sunday and core of volunteers on Saturday. **We have zero overhead costs and no administrative layers.** We are helping charities such as the Children Development Center (formerly an orphanage), Home for Girls, Home for the Elderly, Teach the Children How to Pray, 2 Child Development Centers, Children in Barangay 26 zones 1 to 6, Students Transportation Allowance Program, Catechism in Barangay Consolacion 7, Calabrian Children's Foundation (home for boys and home for girls), Canossian Children Oratorio, and little Gabriela (long distance adopted). Thank you for your generosity and may God bless you with His abundant graces and good health. 🙏🙏🙏❤️

- *** *Thank you so much to the following:*
- Anonymous donor who earmarked the donation to buy 40 + kilos of assorted fresh chicken from April 2025 to March 2026
- Vinnie T earmarked the donation to Student Transportation Allowance Program (STAP) from February to June 2025
- Sheila M, earmarked the donation to STAP
- Dalene G for the donation of children's vitamins
- Joe B for the donation earmarked to little Gabriela for milk and diapers
- Rose R for the handmade clothes sent for the children

After Caritas Day Sunday, we bought food for the charity congregations for the children and elderly. Also, boxes of food were sent to Cagayan de Oro charities.





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03/01/2025 Saturday from Sister Babylyn Dulfo, SA of the Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement. "There were 75 children of Oro Vista Zone 10 B Barangay Carmen, Cagayan De Oro City. Together with Mrs. Mylene Soner, our volunteer. We distributed the sandwiches with peanut butter spread, chewy snack bars, and lemonade juice. We are grateful to Saint Charles Caritas and Sponsors for your unwavering support for this outreach ministry. May God's blessings be upon you. ❤️"



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03/01/2025, Saturday from Sister Babylyn. *"Our Students of Transportation Allowance Program extended their heartfelt gratitude to Saint Charles Caritas, especially to Ma'am Vinnie and Ma'am Sheila. God's blessings be upon you and your family 🙏❤️"*



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From Sister Babylyn. "Our Students of Transportation Allowance Program were able to organize and distributed the remaining sandwiches to the children of Zone 1 Barangay 26 Osmena Extension, Cagayan De Oro City. There were 50 children who received the sandwiches and lemonade juice. Thank you, Saint Charles Caritas and Ate Merlyn Baker, for sharing your blessings with the less fortunate children here in the Philippines. God's blessings be upon you 🙏❤️ March 1, 2025, Saturday distribution."



Barangay 26 Zone
1, 03/01/25

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From Sister Josephine Gosmo, SSJB "Good evening po ate Merlyn. This is the snacks I prepared sandwiches with peanut butter/Nutella spread and lemonade juice for the 50 children attended the Catechism today March 1, 2025 @ Nuestra Señora Virgen Del Rosario Parish Barangay Consolacion. The children were very happy & grateful to the benefactors/ volunteers of Saint Charles Caritas but most of all to you ate Merlyn. God bless you po always."



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"March 2, 2025, Sunday

A Blessed Sunday everyone! *Our session starts at 9:30 am and ends at 11:00 am

*Always think of God, Blessed Mary, and Papa Jesus whenever we pray and always encourage their family at home to Pray the Rosary. *The opening prayer was led by Cher Regine

* We advised children to always think of Jesus/ Blessed Mother Mary while praying. * Always do a prayer with a heart.

*We thanked God for all the blessings & love. We thank God for being with us, for His guidance and strength in our lives and we thank God for the food that we eat, for the knowledge, wisdom & strength, for all the people around us who make our life meaningful. We thank God for daily protection, guidance, forgiveness, grace, mercy & for being our savior. We always pray to God to stop war all over the world and World Peace for everybody. We always pray for the Saint Charles Caritas Family and Donors and for the healing of the sick. And to our sponsors, our community & volunteers for sharing time & blessings for the kids. We also hope that everyone will always stay safe and healthy. We prayed for Prince Altesin, Regine Tesorero, Analiza Yauna, Janiley Camarista and family, Leovic Camarista, Paul Bell, the Lim family, Aida Garcia, Dalene Garcia, baby Gabriela, Rafaela, Junior, Sister Babylyn Dulfo, the Palmer's family, Saint Charles Caritas, Merlyn Baker, Karen Thomas RN, Jay R Vasquez and Jacquiline Palmer.

*We prayed for JM Argonza & Dante Tesorero fast recovery & healing.

*We sang Salvation Song, Awit sa Ina ng Santo Rosario, Alehuya & Kyrie Eleison.

*Mystery for today's Rosary: Joyful Mystery - Jay R - Rachel - Eunice - Cherilyn - Kyishamae

* Activity 1: Sign of the Cross, and What the children learned (Recap and Summary) * Activity 2: Quiz bee about Pray The Rosary *Memorization (Apostles Creed, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

*Question & Answer about the Bible. * Blessed the food led by Leaders

*Children volunteered to arrange chairs and helped us to clean the area before & after the session, *Assignments: *Pray Rosary at home *Study & Recall the Prayers *Teach your family, friends, and (neighborhood how to pray the rosary *Read

*your Bible and pray every day. *Attend Holy Mass every Sunday*

*Children and Volunteers Food: *Rice with Hotdog & Scrambled Egg, and Taho No. of Children - 60 No. of Volunteers- 3 (Teacher Regine, Teacher Analiza, and Mary Jane)"*



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From Father John Miller. *"Hello Saint Charles Caritas! Greetings and prayers from the children at Calabrian Children's Foundation here in Cagayan de Oro, Philippines.
Here is our report from Feb 24-March 2, 2025 activities: 1. Rosary 2. Holy Mass 3. Morning and Evening Prayer 4. Karate 5. General Cleaning
Food we served for the children: 1. Chicken 2. Peanut Butter 3. Soft /Chewy snack bar*

Thank you so much, Saint Charles Caritas, for your support and for your generosity to the Calabrian Children's Foundation. We always pray for you. God bless you always!"



**Calabrian
Children's
Foundation 02/24
-03/02/25**

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Please see below the February donations/expenses. 100% of your donations are used to buy basic food, basic necessities and projects to the charities that we are helping. We are all volunteers, zero overhead costs and no administrative layers. May God bless you all for your generosity and thank you!

Donations received for the month of February 2025:

Saint Charles Caritas Day in February	\$ 3,790.00
Donations dropped off in the church office, via mail out of town & etc.	\$ 995.00

Donation earmarked for 120 hygiene items for children, and 12 months supply of fresh chicken 40 kilos per month from April 2025 to April 2026 by anonymous donor	\$	1,700.00
Donation earmarked by donor for Transportation Allowance Program (from Feb to June)	\$	500.00
Total Deposits	\$	6,985.00
Disbursements February		Feb-25
**In Mexico		
* Casa de Cuna, Children Development Center run by the Sisters of the Sacred Heart	\$	(524.61)
*Santa Teresita, home for girls run by Sisters Sacred Heart of Jesus	\$	(524.51)
*(Asilo) Beato Juan Pablo II, home for the elderly 80 years old and above, run by the Sisters of St. Margaret of Mary of the Poor	\$	(524.51)
*Breakfast/ lunch/snacks during Caritas Day for the Sisters (earmarked by donors)	\$	(229.29)
**In Philippines		
* (1.) Child Development Center (CDC) Preschooler Children, San Juan 2 (2.) CDC in Sto. Nino and (3.) Children Barangay 26 zones 1 to 6 : funds for mineral water, sandwich bread/sugar, fares, and etc., including boxes of food sent via shipments to CDO island. (4.) Food snacks for Oro Vista children (5.) Barangay Consolacion children 7 district (6.) Also, food shared to other charities who run out of snacks for the children. (some funds are earmarked by donors).	\$	(708.49)
*Calabrian Foundation: Homes for boys and girls c/o Fr. John Miller: box of food shipment to CDO island	\$	(376.36)
* Fresh chicken 40 + kilos/month of February to Calabrian Children's Foundation (home for girls and home for boys. (earmarked by anonymous donor))	\$	(120.00)
* Canossian Sons of Charity c/o Fr. Jeephy Simbajon: Oratorio food items for poor children and food shared to Canossian Sisters who run an orphanage and special challenged young adults. (boxing food costs not yet done)	\$	(80.35)
* St. John the Baptist: Barangay Consolacion run by Sister Josephine Gosmo	\$	-
* Toddler's milk and pampers for Gabriela, "long distance adopted child" (earmarked by donor)	\$	(100.00)
*Teach the Children How to Pray the Rosary/Feed the Children run by 2 teachers: children juices, sugar, snack bars, and misc. canned foods for the 3 volunteers who reside in the squatter area)	\$	-
*Teach the Children How to Pray the Rosary/Feed the Children run by 2 teachers: 3 Sundays (catered food and taho, 67 children). \$102.77/3= \$34.25 each for 3 volunteers, (earmarked donation)	\$	(381.00)
*LBC boxes shipment => food boxes to Cagayan de Oro charities. At least 75 days to receive these 5 boxes with promo	\$	(430.00)
**In San Diego, USA		
*Pastoral Charity Fund of St. Charles Church	\$	(500.00)
**Special Project: Mexico		
**Special Projects: Philippines		
* Hygiene products for Child Development Center (CDC) San Juan 2 & Barangay Consolacion children. (earmarked by anonymous donor)	\$	(185.00)
* Fresh chicken 40 kilos/month from April 2025 to April 2026 to Calabrian Children's Foundation (home for girls and home for boys. (earmarked by anonymous donor))	\$	(1,542.00)
* Nido milk for Child Development Centers (2 centers): Santo Nino San Juan 2 (earmarked by donors)	\$	(50.98)
* Students Transportation Allowance Program 2 college students & 2 high school in CDO island (earmarked by donors)	\$	(150.00)
Donation earmarked for Transportation Allowance Program (from Feb to June 2025) \$11 sending charged fee	\$	(511.00)
	\$	-
**Other materials used	\$	-
***Sandwich bags used for children lining up for snacks food in 3 different locations, different sizes of ziploc bags for Rosary sets evangelization, envelopes,& shipping tapes	\$	(125.13)
	\$	-
Total Expenses	\$	(7,063.23)
Balance for this month of February after deposits/expenses	\$	(78.23)

God bless us all and thank you!

Sincerely,
Merlyn Baker and Team
Saint Charles Caritas
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