

May Newsletter 2021 Volume 18 Issue 5

Easter 2021

On the occasion of Easter this year, the priests of the Kontum diocese were assigned to celebrate Easter Mass in the villages to avoid crowding, and risking the spread of the Corona virus, so the Catholic Christians attending Easter mass at the old Wooden Church were limited to a small number of people. What a beautiful sight they witnessed!



Above, the old Wooden Church as seen from the **Outside**
Below, from the **Inside**

In This Issue

- Easter Celebration
- Thank-you Letters
- Y Nuong the Angel
- Pigs in a Pig Pen
- Amazon Smiles



For the orphans of the four Vinh Son orphanages (3, 4, 5, 6), this year they could attend Holy Easter Mass at their own orphanage, but for the ones at Vinh Son 1 and Vinh Son 2, they could attend Easter Mass at the old Wooden Church. All the children got dressed well before the time of Mass and were seated solemnly in the pews of this historic building.

Ms. Martha describes Easter joy in the face of the pandemic



Lucky now the situation of Covid 19 pandemic is temporarily stable in Viet Nam so all the daily activities in Kontum have become normal as before. However, in order to prevent any uncertainties caused by Corona Variant virus, everyone must take care of themselves and keep the social distance.

In past years, the minority ethnic Catholic Christians in the remote and nearby villages would gather in large numbers in the courtyard of the Wooden Church to join Easter Eve and to attend Holy Easter mass at night. But this year, due to the Corona virus spreading in Viet Nam, the Vietnamese State gave some strict measures to limit the crowds and their means of transport. Their guidance asked everyone to stay at home and take care of their own health.

For Easter this year, the children of VS1 and VS2 didn't partake in any pastoral activities (song and dance performances), like they would do for all Holy celebrations, which would make them very happy and joyous. Despite the pandemic situation this year, they simply attended the Easter Mass peacefully and calmly, wearing nice clothes and holding a bright candle in their hand to welcome the Risen Lord. Every child was eager and enthusiastic to attend Easter Mass.



Easter Eve with the rites of fire and bright candles of waiting the Resurrection and then the Holy Easter Mass began at 6.30 Pm and ended at 9.30 Pm. After that everyone came home in the joy of our Lord Christ Jesus who overcame death and He has risen gloriously amongst the deaths: The Lord was indeed resurrected forever and ever. Alleluia Alleluia. We hope the joy of The Resurrection still goes on in everyone's heart not only on Easter Eve, but always during their lives.

Thank God for a solemn Holy Easter Mass could be celebrated despite the existence of the Covid 19 in 2021. The Sisters and all the children of the six Vinh Son orphanages prayed for the Board members and donors of FVSO. We wish you happiness during the Easter season and throughout the year.

**Letter from Y Chan (pictured right, with the white hat)
She is studying Hospitality Management in Kontum**

My schedule is less this month because I have already studied and completed a few subjects. I feel quite relieved and less stressful than before. After classes in school, your child spends some time hanging out with friends to make the mood happier and more relaxed. The whole day my school organized a camping, today I also play hard, so now I'm a little tired. I will send a picture of me with my friends, wearing masks because of the pandemic.

Always the same, no matter how a day passes, what happens. But when I write letters like this for you, I feel better in my mood. I don't know why it is, but I think it's probably because I can share with someone about my passing day.

Thank you very much, you and all the benefactors, everyone who not only helps us, but also the friends who always accompany us.

**We are proud of all our
Scholarship Students!**



Y Thuan (Left) is pictured in the center of the bread display

I have finished my exam and will start my internship this March. I am very happy that I passed this test because I was nervous. **(Thuan has begun her internship at the Phu Quoc Hotel on Phu Quoc Island)**

The school has given us a huge gift of the products we made ourselves, from the weighing to ingredient mixing to the forming and baking phases. The finished products I have sent back to Vinh Son 1 and to my aunt and uncle in my village. I will never forget the Association that helped me while I was studying.



A Popular Little Girl

Y Nuong is 5 months old, and is growing so fast and healthy. She is friendly and always smiles. Y Nuong is a little angel with a round face, chubby cheeks and sparkling eyes. Her skin is bright with a hint of pink on her cheeks, her face looks like two peaches.

Y Nuong can say some simple sentences when she is hungry or when she wants attention. Whenever she is angry with something, she will scream and cry her lungs out until someone comes and comforts her. Her daily meals still drink a lot of milk, and there is no sign that she will stop drinking it. Y Nuong is the joy of the children at Vinh Son 2. I like it the most when I see her merry face greeting me every morning. We love her and always hope the best things for her.



“Now, that’s a serious Pig Pen”



On March 27, a family in Saigon came to visit and generously donated pigs to the Vinh Son 6 orphanage. At present, they have 50 pigs. The Sisters and children are very happy to feed and care for the pigs, which will eventually be consumed or sold at the market. FVSO funded the Pig Pen.

FVSO Contact Information

**FVSO: P.O. Box 9322
Auburn, CA 95604-9322**

Email: FriendsofVSO@gmail.com

Web: www.FriendsofVSO.org

You Shop. Amazon gives.

amazonsmile

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization, at no cost to you. Shop at smile.amazon.com, and find the same convenient experience with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. Just type in the Vinh Son Montagnard Orphanage to make your choice.

Legacy Fund Update

The goal is:

**\$2 million dollars
by March 2027**

Legacy Fund Balance

\$913,861



Words of Wisdom

I have an idea I want to test, for combining old peoples homes and orphanages. Old people are lonely without children, children are lonely without parents. Why not bring them together?

Zhou Xun

Orphanage Facts

About 775 Montagnard children live in 7 orphanage facilities in the Kontum/Pleiku areas of Vietnam.

\$12 per month provides each child one nutritious meal every day.

Orphanages are run by the Sisters of Miraculous Medal (Vinh Son) and St. Paul Chartres (Sao Mai).

Officers & Board Members

Patrick Leary
Nga Wynne
Gene Mapa
Bart Ruud
Clyde Lewandowski
Michael Little
Pat McKee
Dave Chaix
Hank Gonzales
Ken Tokutomi

President
Secretary
Treasurer
Senior VP
1st VP
2nd VP
3rd VP
Board Member
Board Member
Board Member

Donation Information

Checks should be payable to FVSO or Friends of Vinh Son.

FVSO is a humanitarian, non-profit organization approved by IRS code 501©(3). Donations are tax deductible.

Donations are accepted year round and are also available on-line.