

A Fateful Encounter

What started as a fateful meeting with a feisty Sr Jacinta in Singapore's Good Shepherd Convent Restful Waters ended with the setting up of a RO (Reverse Osmosis) water filtration system in the Vietnam school which provided free education to 300 children. In between, God showed me and fellow Singapore missionaries many miracles.

There were many challenges to this project; the RO system is costly, as a fairly large item it is a logistical nightmare to transport, the journey and handling could damage the RO system's finely calibrated meters and valves, it was a combined site-survey and installation in one trip and I was not sure if the time allocated to set it up would be sufficient.

But we needn't have worried, God showed up and, sponsors found us, for the RO system. Our carefully thought out plans, to coincide the RO shipment with our arrival in Vietnam, came to naught when the RO system was held back by Customs. Arriving only on Thursday (the eve of our departure)! Again, God showed up and we were able to get it started and running the very same evening! Along the way, God provided us a very skilful plumber to run all the piping and a very dedicated Sr Agnes who, though she has never done it before, successfully navigated the onerous Customs clearance process.



Truong, the plumber with Sr Theresa



Sr Agnes with Sr Assumpta

On the eve of our departure our gracious host, Sr Theresa, treated us to the best alfresco dining experience at the school courtyard. There was a mouth-watering variety of Vietnamese cuisine cooked by Sr Josephine and the many candidates. In the midst of this dining experience, hearing the joyous laughter of the Sisters and candidates as they fellowship with one another, I felt a great sense of our Lord's presence amongst this community.

Now back in Singapore and reflecting on this trip, I realised that Jesus' exhortation to trust in Him (Matthew 6:25-27) was flesh out for us when our RO system did not arrive as planned. Thank God for His providence and may He cover the Sisters and candidates of RGS Vietnam with His abundant grace.



*Shalom and God Bless
Roger Tan*