Journal Mission Philippines.

April 24 to May 5th 2007-05-06 Back to Top

Damugetti Negros Island 26th April 07

I had left my hotel at 5 AM and the taxi driver took me to the docks A long queue awaited me and the security guard told me they were not sure of the ferry's destination. There seemed to be chaos in the ticket office with only one serving and three stupid girls moving bits of paper and talking while doing nothing. By and by they opened another window and I jumped quickly to be third in the queue. I managed to get my ticket at Ps 800.

I was shocked when I saw the old Sea Cat Ferry it was nothing like the big modern ship I last travelled on anyway I got on board and settle into an uncomfortable seat designed for the small Filipino people. It took 4 hours and we had stopped at another island. I disembarked and refused all the offers for a taxi or Pedi bike and walked slowly to the gate. There was no one to meet me? What to do? I stood by the gate wondering and praying when a blue van arrived yes it was Pastor Tapang. He had expected me at 8 AM on another ferry but Praise the Lord he found me.

I settled into the small space and set the air con (opened the window) and we set off for my accommodation which was the local University, a small room clean with air con for Ps650. We then went to Pastors daughter "Bethel" for a meal which was mostly Filipino food. She told me of her work but alas she made another appeal for money. When will they learn "Faith"? Then after a photo I went to the bank to exchange money at 92 Ps to a pound. I bought some groceries cornflakes and milk. I have Ps 20.000 for the remaining 8 days.

I rested on the bed from 12 to 1PM before went to the Provincial jail to speak to 23 women prisoners. I was greatly blessed and the response was a joy to behold.. I was back in my room at 5 PM

Saturday. 18 September 2004

. I have prepares a word for Sunday evening. Saturday. 18 September 04.

Philippines

DV I will visit the following Jails Prisons in the Philippines.

Pray for a harvest of souls.

Pray for Safety.

For our driver Joel a Christian. The roads are rough.

For our accommodation, in some places there is none!

Latest News. Monday Night. 7 PM

I have waited for the itinerary but it has not arrived I fly tomorrow leaving 5 AM takes nearly 35 hours mostly waiting airports in the night William and Vianney have gone to Samar Island to arrange the prison meetings

On Leyte they had arranged 17 prisons and there were others to be arranged. So maybe 30 or more. Then there are four prisons on Cebu.

. Just booked my return hotel in the Cesario. I was told this would cover me for the early morning flight on the 11th. Outside my hotel room is the poverty of tin city. How dreadful. 8,40AM Now ready to go to the pier to book my ferry. Lord I need your help.

I waited in hotel lobby Pastor Ruben did not arrive I felt constrained to priorities the ferry. The doorman told me the bank did not open until 10AM So I knew I must get on. The Lord guided me aright as the ferry was leaving at 11AM. I arrive in Ormoc at 1 PM PTL. Ferry just arrived. Just about to get under way 11AM. A group of blind musicians were playing music. 12, 40. A blue sea passing islands, Is it Elite Island?

Landed safely at 1.05. Very hot. Fess taxi took me to hotel which is beautiful.

Later 7 PM.

I decided to venture out but I was bombarded with terrible Disco noise. It must be the Filipino disease

24th September.04

Met William and Vianney prayed.

Hallelujah The Lord greatly helped me as we went to our first prison. There were 40 again and maybe ten more listening around. The Lord touched hearts all glory to God

The literature was distributed and the translations of the testimonies the guards

were supportive. Maybe 20 responded to the word and many shook my hand. .It was truly wonderful... PTL.

On to Ormoc prison where once again the Lord opened the door .Around 50 listened intently to the message. On appeal all responded Hallelujah Glory to God.

Polompon 3. 35 PM.

Another prison in the jungle. They had been waited from 12 midday Oh dear! They sat and listened intently and perhaps 14 responded PTL: On to a local lockup with under age youths. Again the Lord added his blessing when 8took litrature. All glory to God. 5PM. We are on the road again

Naval I am sitting in the jeepney in the fish market in Naval. It is another island but still in Leyte.I am tired. Where will I stay tonight? William has been on his mobile phone to his uncle who is the police Major here. I would love to have a hot bath and flop into bed.

It's now 8, 35 PM

We drove from Naval town out into the sticks finally up a track to meet Williams's uncle. His wife is away and all the team has unloaded the luggage and there is a horrible video on blasting out. It reminds me of Dons Cabin where disco music plays into the early hours preventing any sleep This place shocking It is very basic the light is dim the floor is cement the fan noisy. Lord help! Will I survive the night?

Oh dears what have I let myself in for. I was shown the C/R . Comfort room. There is no comfort there, the floor is awash with water No hot water of course and no shelves to hold anything. The top of the loo seat has to do. I am typing this with my keyboard balanced on my Bible and as I am dead tired the keys are floating around in front of me. Lord what will I do for a meal? Another unanswered question. Still I must thank the Lord I am safe and as I remember the blessings of the day with over a hundred responding to the Gospel I rejoice. Hallelujah.. Vianney came in with a cup of coffee. She is cooking a meal for me. Before you call I will answer.

Later. Had chips but could eat meat. Went through the map with William .He still could not grasp the simple thought of going from town to town without retracing our steps. And that is what we have done in a big way. However the Lord knows best. I tidied up my room have neither top sheet nor mosquito net, but mercifully I do have a fan.

I persuaded Vianney that I should prepare my rolls for tomorrow... I charged my

batteries and shut the window as the cat was wining, Good night

5 AM Sat 25th Sept Naval.

What a dreadful night. The sticky heat the lack of bedclothes the noise of the fan. If you switched it off it was too hot if you kept it on you could not sleep because of the noise. I slept fitfully awake and up at 2AM to open the windows to let cool air in. Then at 5AM someone got up and switched on the video or TV others were praying. So Lord a new day and possibly two prisons in Naval then we go down south to BayBay .pronounced Byebye. It's a long way hopefully to camp there the night. Lord I need some hot water.

Amazing and wonderful. Glory to God; the prison was a church Hallelujah with powerful praise. The Word went forth with power.

There was a wonderful response and many were moved by God. The Pastor prayed for us I shook all the men's hands, All took litrature.

We came on to the second jail where two prisoners were prepare a meal. One woman was tearful but eagerly responded to the Word. I believe she was saved. I had to rebuke Joel as he wanted to play boom boom in the van....

So now we set off. BayBay. It's a long journey. Lord lead and guide.

Later 1,15pm

On our way to Ormoc 23klm, Joel is driving. Nick drove for a while but it was hair raising often swerving to the wrong side of the road. Only the Lord kept us safe. Just arrived in Bato 5,30,

1,35PM Ormoc PTL

Arrived in BayBay 3.20 PM and went to the first prison .Amazing scenes followed. All glory belongs to God: More than a hundred responded to the word. It was truly amazing, Then on to the next prison where again the Lord blessed his word It was a small lock up jail and I was told there was one lunatic among them. However they listened intently and the lunatic was the first to respond. Just arrived in Bato 5.30 PM.

There was some delay as Vianney went in search of accommodation. Joel turned the van around and we headed out of town. I groaned as we got more and more into the country? Why are we returning? Where are we going? Joel said it was 2 klm I groaned again as this may mean anything from one mile to twenty!

We stopped outside a pension which I had remembered seeing earlier. They had a room for P1000 Vianney was doing her usual thing I said I said I was sorry but I could not pay for accommodation for four people...

We got my case and I talked it over with Vianney. She said they had a room in town for P400 so I gave her P1000. We talked it over with Joel and they agreed to see to their own accommodation. Lord Mercy. This is all too much for me. So I ordered a fan and a top sheet. I found the water hot but the shower was useless, spraying every thing but me... I was shocked at the color of the water while washing my hair. It was black. Urrgg.

The TV does not work so I will try the radio. It does not work either. .Vianney returned looking tired bringing my cornflakes... So Lord I commit this journey to you.

Bay Bay to St Juan

Sunday 26th September. Crashed out before 9 PM last night I had to get up in the night to put on some coverings as I was cold I also heard some peculiar noises I thought the catholic woman was crying out, maybe demonized? I had enjoyed another hot shower and cornflakes I feel clean again P.T.L...Today we go to Massin where there maybe two prisons, then on to SoGood St Bernard St Juan. DV. Lord lead and guide... Despite the air conditioner the air is hot and the room confining a little oppressive?

5.PM

We set off at 1.20PM The motor scooter man said he would wait and take us to the other prison in Bato. Inside I was shocked at the conditions of the prisoners. A hell hole indeed. It was also a difficult situation as the long corridor was split into three sections and I could not see the men's faces. I decided to preach while walking up and down. The Lord greatly blessed my simple message on "Sin Judgment and full and free pardon"... I told them it was not the bars that held them captive but the devil had chained them in sin...

I walked up and down so that I could look them in the eyes and see their faces and then after the appeal prayed a sinners prayer in each section. There was a wonderful response with maybe over 80 or 100 responding. I shook most all by the hand and then we went into a side section where there were two cells, one containing eight or ten men and the other a solitary prisoner, a woman... Once more the dear Lord helped me to tell the glorious message of salvation. Again another ten responded to the Word.

All the while I was preaching, I noticed the woman silently weeping and listening intently. She too responded as God had prepared her heart...It was very precious and Vianney was also weeping.

Vianney exchanged addresses. And I was led to give her P500. We left the

prison with grateful hearts...I was pleased to see the motorbike man patiently waiting.

We set off for Bato arriving at 3PM... I sat waiting as the prison guards came and went. Then two lads came out and sat down. I was shocked when I realised that I was to speak to them, but the Lord gave me the story of "Naaman the leper" and I prayed for them I felt the younger lad was listening the older hardly dared looking in my eyes. The policeman who had been listening thanked me and we left. So now to rest and prepare for tomorrow. Lord, lead and guide.

Monday 27th September,

Vianney knocked at 5AM*: William had a motorbike ready we set off at 5, 30, Now I am sitting in jeepney ready for journey to Massim. They are now loading fish and goods o the roof. A crate of fish inside. I have a front seat .Hallelujah, 6 AM. Lord lead and guide. We are still waiting for more passengers, Lord.

7AM Arrived in Massim; PTL.

Its 7 20 AM. We have arrived in the first jail. The jeepney was P100 and Motorbike. We have two prisons. and then we go to SoGood.

The Lord is helping us I feel so sad for these prisoners who are in hell hole conditions. Twenty thirty or 40 to a cell The local locks ups seem to be the worst with ten men crammed into a small cell lying o wooden pallets or bunks but with sanitation and nothing else. Lord mercy for them.

The jail is not far from here just around the corner so we can leave our cases here while we go. Then DV to SoGood for one jail and then DV ST Juan

Later

Amazing and wonderful All glory to God. Around 80 or maybe 100 responded to the Word. Now in second jail. They are setting up amplifier God blessed maybe another 50 souls

God be praised. SoGood Amazing. Another 20. responded to the gospel;

We said goodbye and headed for the bus stop where we found a bus going to ST JUAN. We quickly loaded our luggage and set off. I shocked when we descended into the river bed the rocks and rough ground sending the passengers flying through the air... The journey was horrendous with the air horn blasting out as we hurtled along across wooden bridges along the rough new road that they were building.

I hung on so tightly that my arm muscle became painful. The driver climbed out at his home to get a clean shirt, then amazingly climbed up higher and dropped into the drivers cab via the drive and around the bends...When I dared look out I

saw the beautiful blue sea and the rugged coastline that is Southern Leyte.

St Juan 3.35.PM. Pronounced san won!

Arriving tired and sticky hot we booked into the local Hotel which charged me P850 for the two air con rooms. I switched on the air conditioner and we left immediately for the prison. It was a small lock up jail divided into two sections. After signing in I spoke a few words of life to the inmates and I believe one or two were touched by God. Then I was surprised when I was led along the corridor to find another small lock up with four prisoners and two more looking through an aperture above,.

As I spoke none would look me in the eye save the lad on the top bunk... He turned out to be the one who responded to thy Word positively. I shook them by the hand and we left. Suddenly I was dead tired. I knew I smelt bad. We wandered to the seafront cafe where I sat on the veranda drinking coffee then bought water before returning to this hotel......

An amazing journey across very rough roads. More of those terrible bridges made of lumber and unsupported. Only the Lord keeps safe. We went to the police station where four policemen and one prisoner listened to the gospel message. The Lord blessed. There was a panic at the bus stop. Suddenly an old jeepney arrived a real wreck. While loading our cases William got me the front seat. Oh dear. It was terrible. Talk about a bone shakes my bottom still hurts. We went over the rough mountain tracks, over the dozens of broken bridges with the rotting timbers. Only the Lord kept us safe.

Now we are in Habanbgan again. The jeepney broken down. William is talking but the man is working on the gearbox I think the selector. Lord we need your help. PTL!

Now begins the most arduous part of the journey. The jeepney drove around the corner, then loads of people descended and crammed aboard with their luggage The sacks of rice followed with young men hanging on the back and some climbing on the roof.

There were around twenty at first with my large suitcase and boxes and bags. Well loaded we trundled off down the rough stony rocky track. Gradually more and more managed to clamber aboard making space where there was none.. Old

and young I counted nearly forty inside and maybe another eight outside. One of the roughest journeys began with jolts and bumps and head hitting roof spasms. The worst being when we crossed one of those derelict bridges. My back hurt I could not move only hang on. It must have lasted nearly three hours arriving at 4. 30 PM.

On disembarking from the jeepney we stretched and banked the dust out from the case which was covered in it. Across the road Vianney was talking to some woman. She came across to ask if I would consider a room with a fan for P50 each. I was shown upstairs and found my simple plywood room with a basic toilet and no flush. Just a water tap and a dustbin with a scoop. Ah well for one night...

So I carried up my cases, strung up my mosquito nets (causing some merriment as it was hung to high, leaving a foot gap for the mosquitoes to enter).and broke open the cornflakes...My room is a small comprising of plywood but the wall only reaching 6ft with a gap above. The whole place is dark two rooms being lit by an economy lamp. A small room contains a lavatory bowl no flush only a tap. There are two double beds and lots of net curtains to cover the dark wood. You can hear every move in the next room.

But for P150 for three rooms you cannot complain. Today Lord willing I will try to send and email home. I am at a loss for news? Praise God I am returning to Aboyog and Libertad. . It is 7.10 AM and the Bam boat is now approaching. We go to Libertad directly as the jeepney is not until 2.PM. Now on board 7, 20 AM.

The rain has stopped PTL. So Lord grant me the words for tonight. Lord you speak. 7 55 Stopped to load coconut

Tomorrow we set off at 5.30.AM, DV on a motorbike well two of them carrying my cases to the port and we get a Bamboat to Aboyog city where we proceed to Aboyog penal colony, and thence to Libertad for an interchurch meeting. Lord what is the word..

Later 6.30.PM

Just back from a swim in the ocean. There was a full moon as I joined William and Vianney for dip. Wonderful to get rid of those aches and pains. On the way back Vianney was walking in her bare feet over the stone path when something slivered by.

She half screamed and nearly stepped on a snake. William stoned it to death with a blow with a stone. Lord keep us safe from all evil in Jesus name.

Wednesday. 29th September 04

Up at 4.35.AM, I had a Word from the Lord in the night for Libertad. "Thy people shall be willing in the day of my power" Psalm 110 v 3. It has started to rain. The bike arrived and in set off on the back with my heavy case strapped to the side... We crossed a few of those derelict bridges but the Lord kept me safe. The main danger was the slippery roads but the Lord kept me safe.

5 40 AM. I am at the port waiting for a Bamboat.

Gradually people got off and things eased

9.30. AM. A wonderful journey along the river, It was refreshing the sea the sights and sounds, the flying fish. Wonderful! We saw some slow boats and when we entered Aboyog estuary we came across a boat which broken down without petrol so we towed them in Once more we had to walk a narrow and slippery plank to get across to the shore.

We took a pedibike (bone rattler) to Vianney's cousin's house. Then after dropping our luggage set off for the internet cafe, for email.

We found the place but we were unable to connect. due to the bad lines? Lord?

I searched for cakes or anything to eat while Vianney went to the market to buy food for meals in Libertad. William negotiated a place for me in the jeepney to sit beside the driver which may help and it leaves at 1 PM. So DV we will be there at 12.30. PM. Meeting tonight in Libertad. I am sitting in the jeepney. Vianney cooked egg and chips and got very hot. It's cool here in the harbor. I only am taking a change of clothes and water.

I have a set next to the driver high up and hope comfortable. Although there is nothing on the seat, only a piece plastic bag. certainly it will preferable to yesterday's effort. So Lord keep us safe Lead and guide us Guard us, and pour out a blessing upon the people tonight.

12. 45

William told me that his aunt has passed into the presence of the Lord. He said that there will be unsaved in the meeting tonight. So Lord helps me to preach the gospel. Thy will be done,

Wednesday 29th September1, 25, PM

We are sitting in the taxi van still waiting to go. They do not start until every seat is full People are loading stuff on and we gradually fill up. Lord help! A terrible journey. The road certainly has been improved but at Libertad. The contractor has

churned up the track it is a mud bath. So we trailed up the path avoiding the worst parts until three little boys came to help carry our bags. Mine was very heavy so I sweated buckets. As there were no washing facilities in our hotel, I left having cleaned my teeth only. So I do not smell nice.

The facilities here are non existent, so later we go to the river to wash. I met the Pastor Marlow Ruffin from last year who greeted me warmly. He had been gardening and had found only one lonely sweet potato...I told him he must pray more. Vianney is making coffee so I will sweat some more. It is running off me now. We had a cup of hot coffee and I perspired then walked down the track very muddy, and jumped the ditches, to the river side. William got in first but it looked very rocky. I followed and slipped and nearly slide away but after crossing the heavy current I found the current les strong and eventually sat on a big rock and let the cool water wash over me.

Vianney joined us but got out early as the current was too strong. William has requested a Gospel message. Lord you lead and guide. Apparently it is in the open air so it should reach many more than the church... Lord your will be done.....It came on to rain heavily. Later we prayed together and trailed down through the village in the slippery mud. We were led to a dark hut and entered to find a lamp illuminating a dreary scene. Two or three women languished on a plinth one breast feeding an infant. The mosquitoes were busy in droves. I was surprised there was no candle burning to at least drive them off.

At 7 PM there was no sign of a congregation, it was bleak. I told William to start the meeting he said that the people were assembling later we must wait. I said "No its 7 PM, let us start the meeting". So we moved the table away from the center light and commenced. The Word. "If the light be in you is darkness how great is that darkness".

The Lord greatly helped me and the word went forth with power. I could see that it was having an effect. I made an appeal but there was no response. ? I believe they were in a state of shock never having heard of judgment and repentance? Vianney led some choruses' one being Lord Jesus comes into my heart.

I talked with William as we walked back up to the hut about making suitable arrangements and paying attention to the detail. Especially instructing and teaching the people I suggested that he use his authority to control the meeting and add some discipline. He defended their culture and said I should not compare the Indian with the Filipino people. Not realizing I was referring to the

revival that is happening in India. Anyway we went to bed. There was a disturbance as a Karaoke alcoholic singer broke forth in the early hours. I remembered my ear plugs and they proved effective... Then at 3 AM the dogs started to yelp and howl as someone walked through the village.

Thursday 30th September 04.

Preparing for the second leg in Samar Island. William says we have eight more prisons to go.

Thursday 30th September. Libertad Barangay Jungle region Abuyog.

6.45.AM. Libertad

Libertad is a village in the jungle. It is Williams's home village and his parents have a house here as he farms nearby. I was told that it is an increasingly prosperous village, as the villagers now grow crops harvest the coconuts. It lies beside a river where they wash their clothes and bathe themselves. The road through the village is muddy and rocky.

On the on outskirts of the village the heavy earth moving equipment has churched up all the tracks leading to the village into a quagmire of muddy pools very large in size making it almost impossible to proceed.

Wearing sandals you had no choice but to wade across some sections. Other smaller brooks were crossed by leaping from stone to stone which requires skill and balance. Without physical health it would be impossible to continue.

In the village hut the lounge area consisted of two large areas roughly divided into a dining eating area and the part the floor being still rough stone set in the muddy floor. The last time I was here this area was congested with chickens piglets and naked children all coming and going in some kind of melee or comedy.. Against one wall was a kitchen with a wooden worktop tiled above on the wall with a gas burner and gas bottle beneath. Out side the kitchen door a small wooden fire was burning on a raised dais about waist height. .Vianney boiled water burning coconut shell as theses apparently burn more quickly than some of the damp wood. Of course the smoke permeates everywhere including the washing hung out to dry

I awoke at 6.20 AM to use the outside loo. It is a dilapidated shed with just a hole in the ground. Unfortunately the ground is all dirty so your clothing must get soiled if nothing else... Vianney is preparing hot water for my wash so I type this out upstairs waiting for my clothes to dry in the early morning sunshine.

Vianney call me and I am pleased to see a large shallow tub full of steaming hot water. I grab my toilet bag and towel and try to balance on two rough planks balanced on the boulders. I soon discover it is an impossible situation. Where do I place my towel? My shaver? My soap? Where do I undress? There is no privacy as the track leading into the village is nearby ten yards. Of course the children on their way to school are intrigued by this half naked white man.

What is he doing? Certainly there is no room for dignity as most Filipinos do not bother to take off their clothes just pours cold water over their head. I finish my ablutions and feel better and then proceed to the loo? It is a partially derelict hut, now with no roof and with a hole in the floor.

A lovely sunny morning.

Lord I commit this day to you and ask especially that you move mightily in the prison this morning. We go at 7.30.AM on the back of a motorbike. Those old derelict bridges are now abandoned and we will have to descend to the river bed and up the other side also the way is all freshly moved earth and I guess we will be splattered. Lord mercy... Tonight we should be in Tacloban City and I should be in Mac Arthur Park Beach Hotel. Lord lead and guide.

Abuyog Penal Colony

Back to Top

We set off at 7.30 AM for the Penal Colony in Abuyog. Lord save souls... The journey began with us walking the muddy and slippery track to the river. We had to constantly divert to avoid the water but eventually came to the swinging bridge. I started to cross quite confidently but then the bridge started to sway as William walked on ahead. Then I noticed that some of the beams were missing, and others lose. So it was time to pray and hang on.

Safely across we met Pastor Marino. After trudging up the hill the hill in the intense heat we sweated buckets. I was streaming and overheating badly. At the top we met Pastor Ricky who had found work on the road construction so was wearing a green hard hat much too small for so it looked like a pimple. At the top we stood for a while then mounted the motorbike. That is four of us. The road was slippery in places and a problem was caused by the dust of a jeepney's in

front.

The Lord kept us safe and we arrived safely in Aboyog to retrieve my case. I am sitting in the yard with the chickens and pigs while my hostess is preparing the fire. I was amazed to see a chicken underneath and two pigs beside it

We plan to return to Tacloban city tonight and I will stay in LNU hotel for the night (maybe) and then we return to the prison tomorrow at 11AM. Vianney is as pleased as they have been granted permission to minister in the prison every Friday at 11 AM. PTL. So on Saturday we plan to rest and on Sunday at Mar Arthur Park and on Monday DV we travel to Samar to Catbalogan Carabagan and possibly four prisons. Lord lead and guide

11 AM

We are waiting for a bus for Tacloban City. Then I go LNU. I then must send email. And change some money, DV.

We have an air con bus leaving at 11, 30.AM PTL Lord keep us safe.

So now I have arrived in Happy Homes. Bob greets me with Davis and Don Don and Douglas. The ceiling looks magnificent, the Pastor has done a great job Wonderful PTL.I inspect all the rooms, they are very basic but lovely, the money given has been well spent.

Vianney takes all my dirty washing and I pack essential things for my Stay at Mac Arthur Park.

So tomorrow we go back to Aboyog penal colony DV, and then on our return, we have a weekend off much needed. Thank you Lord.

Friday 31st September.

I have slept well but awake at 3Am I got up at 5 AM and had cornflakes... Urrgg. The Lord is giving me the word for the prison. Yet I know that is impossible with men. So Lord we return on that journey. Help us. Keep us safe in Jesus name...

Later 715 AM. We are waiting for the Aboyog air con bus. P150 Air con arrived 735 Ricardo was waiting for us. We bought petrol and set off immediately. We took the mountain road at 915 AM. We have just arrived outside Aboyog Penal Colony. Lord thy will be done.

12 30PM:

The LORD greatly helped me as I gave out, "How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation"...The first air con bus was P150 then p300 for Ricardo then p100 to return to Tacloban City

Saturday 1st Oct. LNU. Tacloban City

I'm back in NLU. It's lovely really. Very good service, only P600...Coffee is on its way... I can use internet cafe nearly and possibly get some food. I went first to the internet Cafe and sent ff emails I returned to LNU and after a shower Now after a shower and cornflakes I feel a little more human. I read from 2 Timothy the entire chapter the first time since leaving England. Surprisingly there is little fellowship to enjoy even William does not pray with me I am surprised that they do not realise that we all need encouragement for me.

1 AM.

Just arrived in MacArthur Park:

Now Lord please bless this time of rest in Jesus name.

12, 30. On the beach Wonderful'

Later..3.45.PM. Went to swim. Lovely. Had a hot shower and dozed. Lovely. Lord rest.

Sunday 2nd Oct 9.15.AM

Slept well. Lovely. I walked the empty beach praying I am beginning to relax. Praise the Lord. Now to get more water and change some money. Lord wisdom!!.

1,44pm

Went to buy water and biscuits P130. Returned to watch AXN. Great building wonders. Quiet good. Then more swimming. PTL. A big storm developed with torrential rain it left deep puddles everywhere. It has now all dried up.

9, 10. AM I walked the beach praying. I have some doubts about this madness of travel back and forth...Wrote a list of items for William and Vianney. Lord wisdom!! So now to prepare for tomorrow.

Calboyog to Cebu 5 AM:

All ready to go. Lord lead and guide 6: 15 AM: Had my washing restored clean and fresh. Talked with William and Vianney about their willingness to go alone on Wednesday as it is too far to return in one day. They were shocked but willing. I paid 750 for the taxi. The van is old

6 35 AM Set off. The van has no seat belts and bald front tyres. On a bike no crash helmets Saw Caribou, pigs water buffalo, beautiful birds. Dust clouds on

motorbike.

There are no toilets on route and no toilet paper. Good road for Samar. The Filipino's sleep on every occasion, Vianney bought gas burner especially for the journey, Cantacum 7 30,Road broken up, the dogs have no road sense. In ther Philippines they have no MOT emission test so clouds of filth black smoke pollutes everything. 9.15AM Arrived in Calbaygon. ETA was perfectly right 10.40.AM. The heavens opened with a deluge of rain as we transferred onto a motorbike and even then I was getting wet and struggling to hold my bag. It seemed a long way out of the city. We turned off the road onto a muddy but rocky track and soon the vertebra in my back were protesting. It was painful and tough going.

Eventually we turned onto a cement road and came upon another seemingly derelict building; this it seemed was our destination. It was teeming down and Vianney tried to protect me with her umbrella but the problem was not rain overhead but underfoot

It was flash flood conditions withy rivers of water on the move. My inadequate footwear sandals were underwater again but we made it without slipping over to the foyer. It was deserted. Two police record books lay ready for any stranger to view. Vianney called out Maopie? Hello!! No reply and a search led to none. Where are the guards? Vianney set off to find them returning somewhat wetter to tell me they were having their meal... We have to wait 15minutes while they finished their meal.

After a good ten minutes Vianney obtained permission for us to run the gauntlet over the quagmire of mud and ponds of water... it was truly flash flood conditions. We entered a large dark corridor the place filthy and smelly. Urrgg.

The jail itself consisted with six cells off wide corridor three cells each side. One prisoner was in the corridor and smoking and when I entered he withdrew into a cell and closed the door. There were around ten in each cell. The prisoners listened attentively to every word and they responded eagerly praying a sinner's prayer and responding by showing their hands raised. It was very real, they were sincere and I believe the Lord had indeed touched their hearts.

As I left they were warm and obviously grateful. Outside we ran the gauntlet of the rivers but it was too no avail we got very wet. William had been talking to the driver and they had rigged up some side protection for me out of some old yellow plastic bags. I got in grateful for some protection and we returned bumping along to the road.

We entered the town again soon we arrived at the Prison. The guards were careless and apathetic did not search us and led into a large corridor three times as long a usual. It was crowded and folk were standing around women children men smoking cell doors open. It was a revelation.

I walked down to view the most crowded of the ten cells. These six were full with over ten men in each cell. The Lord greatly helped me with the Word. "They overcame him, by the Blood of the Lamb, the Word of their testimony and they loved not their lives unto death Revelation 12 v 11...... The Lord anointed me withy power and the Word had great effect with almost 100 % responce. Amazing and wonderful. Truly thee Lord was at work. I took photos and one of two young boys. Why are children in prison I wonder?

3,30PM. Returning to the town by motorbike we stopped at the terminal to be told that the last connection to Catbalogan had left and there would be no more that day.

There was consternation and confusion until I decided to go to the bus station. As we set off a bus went by that was destined for Tacloban City and we encouraged our motorbike driver to catch him up (a little hair rising) but it worked. We boarded in a rush and the bone rattler took off...

Later

The bus has broken down, Lord your help is needed, its 5,10pm its pouring buckets. I am in Catbalogan again. We turned out of the old wreck and boarded an air con cab. It took ages before we set off in the dark and eventually the Lord got me back to Tacloban City. I was planning maybe to go to LNU but I realised that there was a hotel right beside me so I entered and booked a single room for 625 Pesos . When I accepted the room I was given a discount and got the room for 500.

Amazing.

Having eaten nothing but a few biscuits all day I ordered an American Breakfast and enjoyed it although it was very meager. I think maybe 150 were saved today. Who can know only God? I cannot quantify what he has done in men's hearts but I do expect to see fruit. All glory to God..

Tuesday 5th October

. My room is small but adequate with hot water and clean sheets. Certainly fine for P5000 a night I am looking forward to my breakfast

I asked William to drop my case in at ten o'clock. Now Lord guides me to Cebu

and prisons there. Thy will be done. Later. Waked around but no sign of airline bus so I took a pedibike. There are no flights to Cebu.

10 30 AM

Talked over with LER no progress made said goodbye 1115 Waiting in Duopoint terminal paid. Bought a paper p 25 p200 100 each... Lord lead and guide in Jesus name.110PM. Making progress. A little deter. I 40 PM..I arrived safely having witnessed the torrents of rain gushing across the mountain roads. The rivers were powerfully angry with awesome ferocity tearing away anything in their paths. The busses and lorries set up huge waves which hit us with such force the van shuddered... Amazing and still it rained.. Now I am in a beautiful room with air conditioning coffee at the ready and a hot shower awaiting me. I enjoyed a cup a soup and coffee and plan to go out to shop

Lord lead and guide..

Wednesday 6th October 04 Villa Ormoc Hotel

6AM. Awake and feeling refreshed after my rest. Feeling much better after arduous ministry and travel. It is not raining. PTL. 8 45 AM. Swimming in half an hour. It's not too hot but at least it is dry... Then a walk up to town. I pray for a smooth crossing tomorrow...

..

Later 6.45 PM So I am ready for the off tomorrow. I sorted out my case and am looking forward to be on the move I remembered Sheila's gift in the bottom of my case. I am so grateful for this hotel Villa Ormoc has been a blessing and the Lord's provision for my rest.

Thursday 7th October 04.

Slept well. Up at 6 am. Going down for breakfast check out at 7.30 am. Thanks be to God which always causeth us to triumph in Christ Jesus.

Later 7 25AM . I am sitting in the waiting departure lounge of Super Cat. Lord lead and guide keep us safe in Jesus name.

Later..

The noise levels here are dreadful.

10,30AM. A. pretty rough sea but the boat is coping well. Now coming into Cebu ETA maybe 11AM. TAXI 250. Went to bank. Money gone. Valdaviso 50 Rueben 50

Cesario Hotel Cebu Back to Top

Booked in the Cesario hotel for 3400 but found the room dismal and worse smelly of bad drains and damp. I decided to upgrade to the Belavista. for 22 pounds a night as no other rooms are available. I hailed a cab and went to the internet where I heard from Gary about Matthews's birthday cake but saw no photograph, and then did some shopping.

Marvelous I was able to buy a French stick some cheese and tomatoes water 428 then 50 for cinnamon bun. Taxies were 40 each way 80. After a complimentary welcome coffee when I borrowed a knife to cut my roll, (I met a couple from Ormoc swimming pool) then I went up to the roof for swimming. It was lovely. The timing was perfect because soon it came on to rain... Back to my room and worked out my money. 1000P for Dinah and 500P for Pastor Ruben

I managed to get through to Pastor Ruben who is coming at 4PM, he seemed very pleased. Lord reveal your will. ..So a lovely quiet has descended on me and the blessing of God for obedience. It is now three PM so I will rest for an hour. Lord thy will be done.

Belavista room 319. Later.

Met Pastor Ruben and Pastor Rolly. Arranged to meet at 9AM tomorrow to go to municipal jail then another jail in the afternoon I telephone Dinah and made arrangements to meet her at 10 AM on Saturday morning. I liked Pastor Rolly he translated English well and has a good testimony. I am invited to speak on Sunday AM..

Belavista Hotel Mactan Island

Friday 9th Oct

Slept well It was surprising as I crashed out at 8 30 PM so I must have been very tired. I washed went down for breakfast end really enjoyed it I avoided the cornflakes but choose bread rolls and butter then scrambled egg. Lovely. I went up to swim and did twenty lengths. Blessed time of prayer.

Cebu City Jail

Pastor Roly arrived at 8.45AM and we set off immediately in a taxi. He refused any offer of payment saying it was a privilege to serve a man of God. The taxi

driver was a Christian and after enquiring of my details told us of his ministry talking witnessing and counseling folk in his taxi and his church. His name was Isaiah and Ken. Taxi GWR 439 Cell 092-746 77408.

We waited outside the prison and shared with Rolly Pastor Ruben arrived on a motorbike and we entered the jail. And went through the large courtyard to the church meeting place where a service was taking place. After singing a chorus I gave my message on appeal before I had prayed two men came forward around twenty or more responded and I left very blessed.

Mandanau Provincial Jail

There was some discussion about food but I said lets do the Lords work first and we can have food later .So we got another taxi to the bus terminal and chugged along to Mandanau City jail. On entering the park where Pastor Ruben was waiting it started to rain so we ran to the jail and sought shelter. Rolly and Ruben sat eating their rice.

We then entered the jail where I was told 171 prisoners were incarcerated. It was a very blessed time. I was told that there was a British prisoner and an ill thin looking prisoner arrived called Peter. After some talk he disappeared and before the meeting started I invited him to return which he did and sat in the front row...

The Lord added His blessing to the Word but I found that Rolly's translation was slow difficult and not half loud enough . Anyhow the Lord helped us and many were responding to the sinner's prayer and message. I talked with Peter who told me he had active TB, a serious heart condition, that he was innocent as he had paid his money on hospital bills and had run out. Asking the hotel to wait until some more came in. The police had called and taken him in. I suspected he was an alcoholic and later Rolly confirmed this.

I prayed for the lunatic. He was brain damaged I fear. This kind cometh not out but by fasting prayer... We discussed Sunday when Rolly will come at 98 AM to pick me up. Saying goodbye I joined Rolly in a noisy jeepney to the town and caught a taxi to the shopping center where I re stocked up

And gave my last details and flight times. Enjoyed a hot shower and found my room made up with fresh sheets

6. PM. So tired slumped into bed. Slept until 9 PM.

Saturday 9th Oct. Dinah is coming today at 10 AM... bad news from the hotel the swimming pool is to out of bunds from 11 AM Oh dear!!. Word for tomorrow. Prayer Obedience= Faith, Sacrificial life, blessing and Power = Victory. Glory. Hallelujah.

So Lord led and guide in Jesus name. Had some thoughts on India Go to Hyderabad Rest and book ticket onwards to Visaghaptnam then to Bapatla and then DV to Rajahmundry?

And on to Hyderabad then I can get an earlier flight home if needed. Thank you Lord. 7 Am enjoyed my breakfas4. I am becoming an expert on gleaning food. This AM there was some salad. Wonderful!!

I read the paper in the foyer but the constant musac is annoying. Came up for peace and quiet. Praying for the Bigly family in their grief. Lord restrain theses murderers and visits them with justice. (End times)

Later..9, 45 AM Saturday 9th October 04

While I was repacking something ran over my foot. It was quick. I thought that it was black. I kicked my bag and other things my shoes, but no sign of the offending thing. Urrgg.

Later I saw it again. It ran under my bed. I went down to the lobby and told them then came up and spoke to the room boy who came immediately and looked under the bed. No sign of anything. Then on moving the bedside cabinet out ran a rat I left him to get on with it and returned to the lobby. I enquired of my letter but no arrival so far I checked next door with Cesario but nothing.

So I returned to my room to find the rather left down the stairs apparently they are going to put traps out, I filled in the gap under the door with a wedge of towel Lord protect me. I am amazed. That it could happen in India I can believe but in a top class hotel leaves the mind boggling!!!

So now to see Dinah. Lord wisdom.

Later...11.35.

Dinah arrived 10. 10 AM. She had been waiting at Cesario. We collected her bags and talked. She needs to get free from her tyrannical Aunt who has stopped her allowance. She had no money. She is taking her finals on next week. Then she has two years more. I told her about spring and Rosalie and Bob Petley. I shared a few things and we I prayed for her. Gave her the gifts p100. She told me that she has too travel three busses to the hospital so getting rooms near will help her a lot The most expensive room is P3000 but I trust she will get one a little cheaper.. On my return to my room the boy came to clean it I gave him P50 for chasing a rat.

I need now to check my email and I wonder if I could sun bathe. Lord will I get

my letter? I doubt it, somehow only the Lord can deliver?

I spoke to the man at the desk

3.50 AM

Now for some lunch then a rest I think...

3.50 AM Went to shopping sent E Mall. I bought a dolphin present for Matthew a chime. Sent last emails. Karen's was newsy and good. Asked Jidigu did he get a contract? How much was the fee? It seems the plutocracy in India knows no limits. Lord preserve us!!

I restocked on water and apple juice. Thank you Lord.

Sunday 10th October 04

Slept well. Had a hot shower and now preparing for the Word.

Later. I enjoyed my breakfast despite the scrambled egg being cold; I walked on the roof top to find the smog hanging low over the city. Urrgg.

The Church of the Mediator Jesus Christ

Later 11.20 AM

Back to Top

The Lord kept the best wine until last. Pastor Rolly came at 8 10 and I shared with him instructing him as to how the message was to be given. He was open and seemed to understand perfectly. So we set off in a taxi. The journey was short costing only 60P and I was led to the church where again I went through the meeting with Ruben. He had prepared otherwise but agreed to my wishes.

I said we had better start in prayer. Rolly led them and prayed but there was nothing from the congregation. I commenced to preach and the Lord led me step by step finishing with who is willing this day to consecrate their service to the Lord? The Lord blessed and around twenty responded to the Word. When I went to pray the Lord touched a young man. He fell to the floor and nearly brought a whole line with him. The church was both shocked and blessed. Up the line as I continued to pray a young girl swooned away under the power of the Holy Spirit. The Lord is glorified

We eventually found a taxi and I returned very blessed to my room. Bibles cost 100P for a new testament in Cebuano. Maybe we can help Lord?

So Lord my mission is finished. Lord guide me safely home

The Journey Home. Cebu to Singapore. Singapore to Doha Doha to Heathrow Heathrow to Victoria station. Victoria to Polegate . Car to Hailsham . **Praise the Lord**