



# Children are . . . Angels From Heaven

Ray O'Brien, Editor

Vol. 10 January to December 2007

## Board of Directors

Raymond C. O'Brien

President and Founder

Patricia A. O'Brien

Treasurer

Jean Marie Gaunt

Secretary

Jean Donaghey

Function Director

Cathy Dekow

Web Master

Joanne Cobum

Steve Powers

Rita Comelio

Cathi Duffy

Ronald DeFronzo

Karen Donaghey

Directors

This year's newsletter is dedicated to Angels that have been called back to Heaven.

Robert & Regina Healey

Cheryl Gngas

Ruth and Ronaldo

David Gunning

Linda Pratt

Carl Asker

Ruth Walsh

Cheryl (A Child in India)

John McBride

Bob Murphy

Captain William Fick

David Fick

Margie Magruder

John Regan

Cheryl Madden

John Leblanc

Teresa Flammia

Emile A. Rose

Williams & Junta

Anna Mancini

Anthony Fiorini

Bob Homer

John Oralli (Huck)

Joseph Contardo

Ronnie

Kevin

Debabrata (A Child in India)

Norman Krouk

Edward Powers

Steve Squires

Vikram (A Child in India)

Tom McGee

Frank & Mary

Teresa Pothier

Tootie Kiela

Douglas A Redman

Philip (D) Maloney

Carmine Ciuggio

Harold Wright

Hazel & Fred Nickerson

Rose Mary Teresa

Charlie Barbour

Howard Hill

Aidan Jake Goodwin

Jason Hayes

Ann Margaret DeSouza

James W Linardy

Edna J Linardy

Serophina Dhanwar

Michael W Collins

Marie Phantom

## Do It Now . . .

*I expect to pass through this world but once, any good thing therefore that I can do, or any kindness I can show to any fellow human being, let me do it now. For I shall not pass this way again. . . .*

## Hi Everyone —

Another year has passed and so has another trip to Calcutta, India in November 2007. As all of you know, I visit poor children every year in Calcutta at Thanksgiving, as a way to say **Thank You** for my three **beautiful** children who were adopted from that city. My trips started in 1996 when my oldest daughter Joanna, six-years-old asked me “Dad what is India like?” Because all three of my children were escorted during the adoption process, I had never traveled to India. I felt it was my obligation as a *Dad* to find out about the country my little girl was born in. Over the past twelve years of visiting the children of Calcutta, I too, have learned so much about the world we live in. Some of it is very sad, people living in the street, children not being able to go to school, or babies in an orphanage. It is very different from life here in America. I find it very hard to understand. The children I meet are very poor and yet they are the happiest children I have ever met. I do whatever I can to help these children all over the world, for the simple reason children are children, no matter where they are born or live.

Because *Angels From Heaven* has grown, many people all over the world now help me. Some people reach out to help me long term with many different projects to help the children, others help with just a few special projects. Either way, we touch many children's lives in a small, special way. It is not easy work! We have no payroll of any kind. The only reward is the smiles from the children. This work could never be done if it was not for all of you giving your time, energy, and efforts.

Last year we accomplished many things in our mission. One was a special trip by train to visit children in Rourkela, Orissa, India. It was a very good trip and everything went well. I have found that over the years, much of our work not only helps children in India and other parts of the world, but also children here in America to learn about the world we live in. I am proud of our work and the people who help *Angels from Heaven*. Times are not the best in America but yet the American people still stand tall to help poor children in the world and ask nothing in return. That is a story in itself. The next few pages of this newsletter will tell some short stories of our work and how we try to help people in need. **Our work truly is a labor of love, and I hope you enjoy the newsletter....**



## Arrival in Calcutta

As many of you know I always leave for Calcutta just before the American Thanksgiving in November. I travel at this time of the year because it is a time to give Thanks. This year's trip was a little different as I left for Calcutta the Friday before Thanksgiving to give me more time to visit the children as I knew this was going to be a very busy year. My sister-in-law, Jeanne, drove me to the airport. We arrived at 1 p.m. for a 6 p.m. flight. I knew security would be tight and I had two large 70-pound duffle bags full of donations for the children along with a large carry on bag so I wanted to be early for check in. Everything went perfect, within 45 minutes I was all set the paperwork and bags were processed for the trip. I was ready to travel! It takes about 18 hours to fly to Calcutta India with about nine hours additional waiting in airports for flight connections. It's not an easy trip to make especially in economy class. Arrival in Calcutta is always around 2 a.m.. It takes about one and a half hours to claim my baggage and clear Indian Immigration and Customs. Its now about 3:30 a.m. local time, I leave the airport and take a prepaid taxi to my room. My room is about 25 kilometers from the airport. On the way to my hotel, I see lots of goats in the streets going to the market. I also see many people sleeping on the side of the road. This makes me very sad. After about 35 minutes the taxi arrives at the building where my small room is. It is very dark and a rickshaw is parked almost in the middle of the locked front gate. The rickshaw driver is asleep on a blanket beside it. I am very careful and step up to the iron gate and yell in saying "hello!" Again a young hotel worker from past years' reaches out with the key to unlock the gate. He gives me a big handshake and says, "hello and welcome." I am taken to my room #6 with my heavy bags trying to be quiet so as not to disturb others. I open the door to the room and I see something that I've been looking forward to for many hours, my bed. I am beat! I have been traveling for over 30 hours. I left the U.S.A. on Friday it is now Sunday. I am happy to be in Calcutta and look forward to seeing the children and the many places that I visit each year **after a good night's sleep.**

While in Calcutta & Rourkela...  
Some of the places that I visited:

Society of Indian Children's Welfare (SICW)  
Missionaries of Charity  
Loreto Day School Sealdah  
St. Vincent's Home  
Salvation Army Girls School  
Don Bosco Ashalayam  
Adarsha Hindi Vidyalaya School  
St. Teresa's School  
Sabera Home for Handicapped Children  
K.M.C.P. School  
Providence Sisters Girls Home  
School of Angels Village School  
Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy  
St. Catherine's Seniors Home  
Rehabilitation Centers For Children  
St. Ignatius Church  
Ghoghea Primary Mission School  
St. Joseph Girls Primary School  
Chiranabin Home for Mentally Handicapped Women



*Mominpur School*



*Municipal School*



*Angels from the Street Children*

## Girl Scout Troop 283 Morse Elementary School Overland Park, Kansas

Early last year approximately seventeen Girl Scouts, ages nine and ten, had a clothing drive to help the children in Calcutta. The girls worked very hard to gather good used clothing to send to me in Boston where I sort and repack everything and ship it on to my contacts in Calcutta. It was a beautiful project and everything worked out. There were so many nice clothes, (about 100 lbs) that I sent the donations to three different places I work with. This way the Girl Scouts in Kansas could see more of their hard work going to many children in Calcutta. The first box was sent to the Municipal School, the second sent to St. Teresa's School for the Angels from The Street Program, and the last box was sent to the Institute of Social Work at the Mominpur School. It took a few months for everything to go full circle but in the end the girls of Troop 283, Morse Elementary School, Overland, Kansas received a nice Thank You letter and lots of photos of the good work done. It was a great project for everyone involved. The kids in Calcutta received beautiful clothing and the Girl Scouts in Kansas learned about the world we live in and how easy it is to help a person in need. A Big THANK YOU to everyone in America and India who stepped forward to help with this special project, especially all the children.

## Stuffed Animals from Key Largo, Florida to Orissa, India - via Boston



*Daughters of the Cross*



*Charlie Fonk*

Last year I got a call from my cousin Laura Tutt (formally Mason of Medford, MA) in Key Largo, Florida telling me her daughter Tabitha wanted to send me some stuffed animals for the children in India and asked if I could use them. Laura said there were many of them. I talked to Sister Mary in Orissa, India about this and she said yes the stuffed animals would be very welcomed by the children. It was a

matter of coincidence that a co-worker named Charlie Fonk was going on vacation to Key West and was going to pass right in front of Laura's house the following week on his return trip home to Boston. I told Charlie the story and asked if I gave him a big duffel bag would he pick the animals up and bring them to me when he flew back home. Charlie, being the kind of person he is, said yes, and I made arrangements for him to meet the Tutt family and pick up everything in Key Largo. It worked out great, as everything was sorted and boxed and sent to the Daughters of the Cross Sisters in Orissa. When everything arrived the Sisters were so happy. Some of the animals were used as prizes during the feast day and others were given to the children. It was a very happy day for all the children. Thanks to the efforts of Laura and her family and the kindness of Charlie Fonk.

## St. Paul's School — Wellesley, MA

For the past few years in June, the children of St. Paul's School donate used school supplies to the children of India. At Halloween, in October, the children donate approximately 200 pounds of candy to people and places all around the world through the efforts of *Angels from Heaven*. Below is a list of where all the candy was shipped to this year. I have received a beautiful Thank You letter of appreciation from all the places the candy was sent to.

1. Walter Reed Army Hospital, Washington, DC
2. Children's Hospital Center For Families, Boston, MA
3. Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA
4. Nazareth House, Boston, MA
5. New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans, Boston, MA
6. Pine Street Inn, Boston, MA
7. Rosie's Place, Boston, MA
8. Saint Charles Children's Home, Rochester, NH
9. Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany
10. East Boston Youth Hockey Association, Boston MA
11. Many Children in Calcutta and Rourkela, India

**Thank You St. Paul's School.**

## Deposit Cans

It was another banner year for the deposit cans. More and more supporters of *Angels from Heaven* have joined in to save them. It may only be a 5 cents refund for each can or 4 cents for a glass bottle in Massachusetts but when you add everyone's can or bottle donation together and have a person like me to count everything and be accountable, it adds up.

Here are the totals for 2007 and the on-going Grand Total .....

As of December 31, 2007 the total for the year was \$1,179.02. The Grand Total for all the years combined is \$3,573.43.

Thank You to everyone who is part of this program

## Can Tabs

The total of Can Tabs collected this year was 14.5 pounds. The tabs again this year were turned over to Mr. Lloyd Wentzell who is a member of the Shriners. The Shriners use the tabs as a way to buy needed equipment for the Shriners Hospitals. The Shriners Hospitals help children free of charge and do a great job. If you think it is easy to collect the tabs, just try filling one small cup full of them. It takes forever! Thanks to everyone for another great year of helping the children at the Shriners Hospitals.



*Packing up the candy.*

## My First Full Day in Calcutta . . .

At 8:00 a.m. I hear a knock on my room door. It is VJ the boy who looks after me during my visits. He is happy to see me again. We shake hands and he helps me empty my donation bags and sort out everything. It goes very well.



At 10:00 a.m. I walk down Ekbalpore Road and go to church at St. Ignatius. I am sad not going with my Indian Mum who is now in Canada. As I enter the church I sit in the same place under the statue of the Saint with the dog by his side. I am very happy to be back in Calcutta and be with the people I try to help in some small way. The church fills fast with many people waiting for the service to begin. It was a nice service all about love and kindness. After mass I meet many of the people I have met over the years and we talk and laugh together. I am sorry to hear the parish priest from years past Fr. Fernando has been trans-

ferred to another parish. I will miss him as I knew in my heart he always looked out for me during my visits.

After church I go to see Sister Francis Ann (a medical Sister) and the women at St. Catherine's Seniors home. Sister is happy to see me. She greets me with a big smile. Mr Ray you are back again! We talk for about 20 minutes. Sister tells me one of the Seniors has just passed away and two others have broken hips so she has been very busy. I set up a lunch date for Chinese food for the following week. I know I am taking up Sister's time so I say good by and walk around the corner to St. Vincent's Childrens Home. These children were the first children I ever visited way back in 1996. I love these children. Many have come, and many have gone, but our love for each other is still the same. I only stay for about 45 minutes as this was an unannounced visit, a surprise. Sister Jayanti is in charge this year. I tell Sister about my previous visits and myself. I tell her we always have Chinese dinner and set up the "special" Christmas tree each year before I end my trip and leave for home. Sister understands and when everything is arranged I say good-bye to everyone. The children all give me sad eyes and do not want me to leave but it's study time for school and I know it's best I say good-bye. All the children walk me to the door and wave as I leave. My final stop of the day is very special. It is at the Mary Cooper Home for Seniors visiting a very special person named Mrs. Muriel Martin. She is a good friend of the Xavier family. Muriel is such a wonderful person, always helping others and never herself. She reminds me so much of Margie Chisholm of Medford MA. Both true workers of God helping everyone. I remembered last year during my visit with Mrs. Martin that she was having a small problem walking, so I brought her a donated cane.

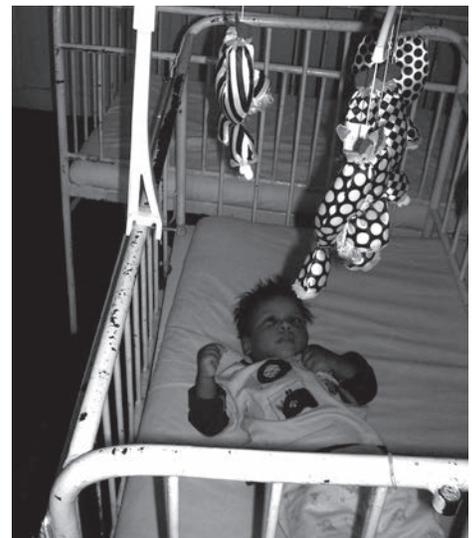


She was so happy I remembered her. We sat and had an interesting talk for about an hour. She told me about her husband Reginald, and her son Gary, as well as she always wanted to be a nun. Muriel is 80 years old and has seen many things over the years. As I was leaving, Muriel said *Angels from Heaven* is special as it is about love and helping others. She wanted to be a part of it and handed me a donation for *Angels from Heaven*. I said Thank You and good bye to this sweet woman . . . . .

From here I went back to my room on Ekbalpore Road. As I walked down the street the young boy who lives on the sidewalk with his parents that I see each year ran out to the street to greet me. I say hello, the boy does not speak English. So we just hold hands and walk to my guesthouse. When we arrive I wave good-bye and go to my room. It's only 6:00 p.m. but my body is so out of time I feel like I've been up for a week. I am beat. I have a coke and chips for dinner and go to bed. It's been a good first day in Calcutta and I am very happy to be here.

## Society of Indian Children's Welfare

SICW Orphanage and Center to help poor children is always a happy place to visit. This year was no exception. I met the entire staff as well as all the children. It is a place I like to call home as one of my girls came from this orphanage many years ago. There were many children at SICW, nineteen babies and many handicapped children. I brought with me many children's clothes as well as a black and white clown crib mobile. As I have said many times God guides me on my trips to Calcutta to help these children. Here is one reason I know why. When I entered the baby area I said hello to all the Massies and to the Doctor in charge then I turned to see all the cribs in the room. The babies were so small I could not see them. With permission from the staff I picked out one crib and walked over and started to attach the mobile. I did not know until I was finished that the child had a crossed eye. When I wound up the mobile to make it go, the baby looked so beautiful laying there watching the clowns go round and round. It's times like this that you never forget.....



## My visit with Mother Teresa

Each year I enjoy a visit with Mother, at the Mother House of the Missionaries of Charity. This year's trip was a little different from my other visits. Earlier in the year a good friend of mine, John Regan my mentor in truck mechanics, had passed away and before I left for Calcutta a brand new little baby named Rosemary, was having medical problems and needed our prayers. When I knocked on the front door of the Mother House a young novice nun answered. I said hello and told her I had visited many times before on my annual trip. I asked if I could visit Mother's tomb. The Sister said yes. I knelt at the foot of Mother's tomb and said a few personal prayers. After my Prayers for the many Angels that have been called back to Heaven I felt the peacefulness of the



room and sat in a chair next to the tomb near the open window. I thought about all the good times I had with Big John and how I missed him. I also thought about Rosemary and her family and hoped things were better. I would say a few more prayers and then look around at Mothers photos hanging on the walls and then read the words on her tomb and thought how I met her on my first Calcutta trip in 1996. Mother had helped so many people during her lifetime never asking anything for herself only the strength and wisdom to help others in need. In the end God called her to Heaven like he will call to everyone on earth. Many times I do not understand life, and then death and how each of us can be called to Heaven at any time, young or old, ready or not.

I sat at the Mother House next to Mother for about two hours trying to understand things and asking God to help me move forward in understanding and accepting life and then death. I also asked God to look after Rosemary and my friend John. I am sorry to say I was not told when I was in Calcutta, only when I returned home, that baby Rosemary had passed away. To this day it makes me so sad.

I remembered during one of my visits with John at a hospice home, I gave him a small Mother Teresa statue he loved. One day while he was sleeping the nurse took his shirt from the back of the chair and had it washed. Little did she know John carried the Mother Teresa in his shirt pocket. When John woke up and found his shirt gone, he said where is my Mother Teresa statue? They found John's shirt in the laundry room. The statue was in the pocket with the head broken off. John was very upset! I called him to say I would bring him another one. He said no, I want this one so in short the head was glued back on the statue the best we could do. When John did pass away about a month later, resting with him in the casket was his small Mother Teresa statue with the glued on head. I really miss my friend John.



The one thing Mother and I did in 1996 together was say a special prayer. She touched each one of my fingers on one hand and said **U, did, it, to, me, I, can, make, it, better, as she folded both my hands in prayer.** The only thing I can do now is remember Rosemary & John each night in my prayers and ask them to join all the other Angels in Heaven to help all of us in our work to help others in need through *Children are Angels from Heaven.* When I left the room I met up with the same Sister at the door. I thanked her and gave her a small donation from all of us to help the poor.

## Sabera Home for Handicapped Children

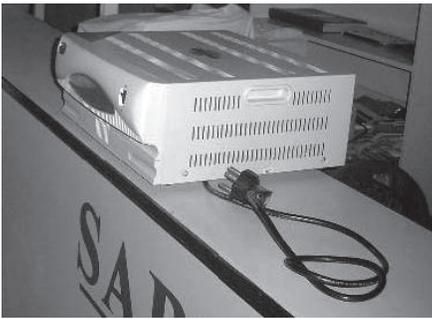
I enjoy my visits to this home very much. The ride from the city is about one hour by taxi or car. The home is very clean and the children are well cared for. I admire the entire staff each year for doing such a good job with the children. I have known many of the Massies and children for many years. I have watched with my own eyes as the children grow each year. I love these kids and I will do anything to help them.

After many handshakes and hugs from the staff as I entered the building upon my arrival. I was taken right to see the children. This year I could see there were many more handicapped children. I went to the side of the bed of every child and said hello. I know many by name Isha, Dasi, Twinkle Twinkle, Samita etc. During my visit I also met an old friend named Simson. He was giving some of the children physical therapy. I can't tell you how nice it was to see him working with the children exercising their arms and legs so they will not become stiff and twisted. It was great!

A wonderful family in Medford MA always remembers the little girl who had a crossed eye that *Angels from Heaven* funded to be fixed a few years ago with the help of Dr. Dadina. Her name is Dasi. This year Kathy brought me a bag of small gifts to give to her. When Dasi was



Dasi



Electrical Inverter



brought into the room to greet me. She was so happy and gave me a big hug. The Sabera staff worked to help me give these special gifts to this little girl. (Dasi has no family only the staff and children at Sabera.) As the gifts were given to her the staff would help, putting on a new coat or a new pair of shoes on Dasi. If I live to be 1000 years old I will never forget her happy smile.

During the year I write Sabera and ask how the children are doing and if they needed anything. I got a reply this year that they were in need of a battery powered electrical inverter to run four lights and two fans in the children's area for when the electrical power goes out. A generator would not work because of the noise and exhaust.

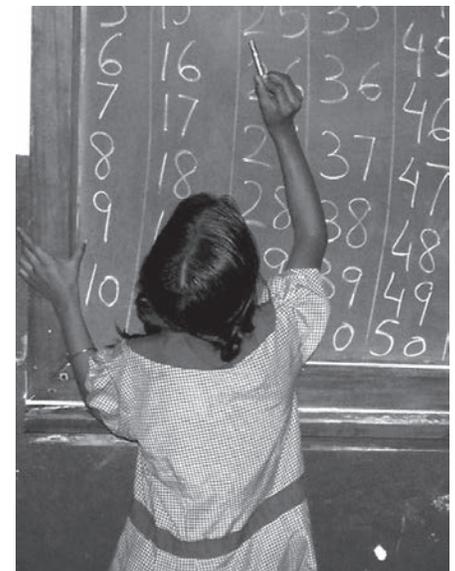
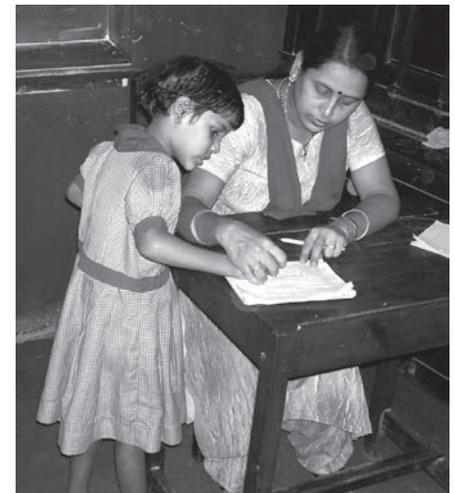
Please understand these children are handicapped and many times children's seizures are brought on by the body getting hot and over heated. It is very hot and humid in Calcutta most of the time. I am very proud to tell you that a special donation was given to *Children are Angels from Heaven* by Rosemary and John from Pittsfield, NH to help purchase the inverter in memory of a good friend named Douglas A. Redman. It did take time to complete the project but everything worked out and the staff was so happy with the new equipment.

When it came time to say good-bye, I always get sad. I know many of the children I may never see again. I walk around and revisit every child in the handicapped ward and say good-bye. As I do, I say a small prayer to myself for each child that God will look over them. I also gave a big hug to every child. Tears always fill my eyes when I do this. I remember these children all year long in my sleep and in my dreams. I wish I could do more for them.

## St. Teresa's School

St. Teresa's School is a big, well-known girls school in Calcutta. The principal of the School is Sister Teresa. She is one of the busiest people I know in Calcutta always looking after her students and staff as well as the school. Two years ago Sister and I had a nice talk regarding families and children who lived under a bridge not far away from the school. It bothered Sister that besides living outside under the bridge each night the children were not going to school and not getting any education at all. During our talk sister said I have the classrooms and what we need is funding to help these children. Right then and there The Angels from the Street Program was born. *Angels from Heaven* funds the project A to Z and Sister supplies the classroom and the teachers.

There are between 40 to 50 children who walk from the bridge to the school every afternoon for about a two hour class. The children have been split into two classrooms according to age. Mary and Alice are



the teachers of each class. I could write a book on this project. It is so beautiful. The children are always eager to arrive and learn every afternoon. The teachers teach general math problems, as well as writing, drawing, arts and crafts. They also learn about health and hygiene. Each afternoon the children are given a snack and once a week the children are given a big bag of good quality rice to take home for their family. On the day of my visit the snack of the day was sliced bread and butter. Sister Teresa accounts for every single rupee (dollar). I am mailed a report with receipts every few months to show photos of activities and money spent. I take my hat off to Sister Teresa, Mary, and Alice for their outstanding work for the children. This project is very expensive each year but worth every penny. On my last visit I gave the children a math test. They were great, never missing the answer. That tells me the program is working well. Thank you for your continued support for this needed project.

## Loreto School Sealda and The Rehabilitation Centers for Children

Each year in Calcutta is another year I visit Sister Cyril of the Loreto School. Sister is a wonderful, hard-working person for the children. Her work is truly never ending. In 2006 Sister along with her Staff, helped me build a playground (Drake



Field) made at The Rehabilitation Centers for *Children by Angels from Heaven* and the Pittsfield, NH Rotary Club. In early 2007 so many children wanted to swing on the swings or go on the slide after dinner, that a street light was requested for the area. I agreed to have this project done during the year and would go see it when I arrived in November.

Upon my arrival to the Loreto school it was good to see old friends and Sister Cyril. We went over the paperwork for the street light that was installed, and Sister thanked me for helping the children at the Hospital. One of Sister Cyril's staff members who was in charge of the project, Avijit, escorted me by car to the Rehabilitation Hospital. During the ride we had much in common and lots to talk about. He is a man who loves to help poor children. When we stopped for a traffic light not far from the Loreto School, a young boy came to the car window. He was hungry and asked for food. Avijit told him to go to the Loreto School on A.J.C. Road and see Sister Cyril. Sister will make sure you have a good hot meal and look after you. As we drove away the boy waved to us.

Avijit and I reached the Rehabilitation Hospital in about 30 minutes. We met the men who installed the light on the grounds. Please note this is a very expensive light. It is solar powered with a battery to store the energy to run the light all night long. It was determined that the light should be mounted to the outside wall of the hospital with the battery placed inside the building. The solar panel was installed on the roof of the building. It really worked out great! Everyone was so happy. During this visit I met every child of the hospital. The Pittsfield NH Rotary Club sent many T-shirts to give to the children. I also had plenty of candy from St. Paul's to give them. I made sure every child got a T-shirt and candy along with a few school supplies. It was a wonderful day for everyone.

## Salvation Army Girls Home Behala, Calcutta

Behala is a very busy part of Calcutta. The Salvation Army has a girls home here where Captain Patrick and his staff care for 140 children. If you remember in 2006, Captain Patrick asked me if I could help with a fresh water drinking system for the home. I said I would do what I could. In May of 2007 The Revere, MA High School Empty Bowls Hunger Banquet donated \$685.54 for this project through Amanda Jenkins. I asked a man named Bernard Maung of Don Bosco Asalayam to help with this project and to survey the need and give me estimates of what would be needed to complete the project. Bernard completed all the paper work and sent it to me. I had passed the drawings and sketches on to everyone at *Angels from Heaven* via email. With that a few more donations came in and I gave Bernard the green light to move forward with the project.

I am sorry to say soon after the paperwork was sent to me Bernard's son was involved in a motorcycle accident and suffered severe head trauma. The driver, his best friend, was killed. Needless to say Bernard did not go to work and all projects were put on hold so he could look after his family.

It took until November 2007 (a six month gap) before Bernard's son was better and the project was started. When I arrived in November, the pump house was being built and things were moving along. This has been a very difficult project to get completed. As of this writing, the water system has been finished and the children are drinking clean water. Captain Patrick has had a cement step made for the children and also had everything painted. He sent me some great photos. I look forward to seeing everything first hand FINISHED in November of this year during my visit. Thank you for your patience and understanding. I will have more in my next newsletter.



November 2007

## Adarsha Hindi Vidyalaya School

This school is small but very busy with children. I find the staff always full of love to help the children. There is a need for everything at this school, school supplies being number one. I always find the children very happy and eager to ask questions and learn. One thing I admire about the school is the class day always begins with prayers. I feel bad every time I visit and meet the senior class as I know my visits with them will end. Many of the children I have visited since they were small. The Principal, Mr. Ashok Tiwari, is a very nice man. I enjoy my visit with him and his staff very much. This year because of shipping problems, I did not have many donations to hand out, only a few school supplies and candy for all the children. Many times when I am walking in the street one of the children will give me a big wave and yell "Hello Uncle." I can tell by the school uniform they are from the Adarsha Hindi Vidyalaya School. This makes me happy....



## Fishing Village School School of Angels

A staff member from the Institute of social work escorted me to visit the School of Angels Village School that *Angels from Heaven* has funded for the past few years. It was about a 45 minute ride by car. When we arrived I met all the students and staff. I brought with me many school supplies for the children along with some candy. The school is very



small with only one room. There are many young children who attend class here and like all other schools in India the children wear a school uniform and love school.

This year with the help of Nupur Sanyal and Anwesha Bhattacharya *Angels from Heaven* was able to purchase a large blackboard for the school. My only request was that it was big enough for the last child in the last row to see it clearly. I remembered when I was a young boy in school I had bad eye sight. I sat in the last row and I could not see the blackboard well and my marks reflected it. I wanted to eliminate this problem at this small school. The school had the blackboard decorated when I arrived to see it. During my visit the children had a program of song and dance that was very nice. In 2006 during my visit I had

given the Music teacher a harmonica and through an interpreter I told her I would be back in 2007 and I wanted her to play a pretty song for me on it. She shook her head yes as I said good-bye. Well long story short, during this visit the same music teacher held up the



harmonica I had given her and wanted to play me a pretty song she learned to play. I will never forget how beautiful she played the harmonica, I was truly in shock. I never thought she would play it that well. She played *We Shall Overcome.... Someday*. Wow was it nice.... With that I ended my trip at this small school The children and teachers gave me flowers and fruit to take with me.

It was a great visit to the school. In many ways I was the student. I learned much about people and culture on this short trip. I look forward to returning next year.

## St. Catherine's Seniors Home

Each year I visit the seniors of this home along with Sister Francis Ann, a Medical Sister of the Daughters of the Cross. Sister is hard working and looks after everyone. I asked her if I could have a Chinese food dinner for the women of this home. Sister asked if I could have lunch instead, as many of the older women go to bed early. I said sure!

I set everything up and had the food delivered. It arrived exactly at noon. Everyone had a great time. There were five different plates to choose from. I remember asking an older Nun who was 100 years old and confined to bed, "Sister how was the food?" She said in a gentle sweet voice "WONDERFUL....." I was so happy to see her smile along with all the other women of this home. It was a nice afternoon for everyone.



## St. Vincent's Home

St. Vincent's will always be special to me as they were the first children I ever visited in India. A Sister named Sister Teresa Anthony always did all she could to help me in my work. I will never forget Sister for her love and kindness to me as well as the children. This year Sister Jayanti was in charge. I spoke to her and told her I'd like to visit the children and set up the special Christmas tree I brought the home about seven years ago. We set up a time and date to have a nice evening with the children that would not interfere with the children's schoolwork. *Angels from Heaven* bought Chinese food for everyone and the children had a great time dancing and just having fun. I know almost every child by name and what even makes it better is these children speak English so we can communicate with each other very well. It really was a fun time for everyone including me...



## Providence Sisters Girls Home

The Providence Sisters Girls home is just down a few streets from where I stay on Hossain Shah Road. This is a small, happy home run by the Providence Sisters. Twenty young girls live here. I have met many of them from past trips. This year I bought Chinese food to eat, and had a great meal with the Children and Sisters. We laughed and talked about the past year and in general had a wonderful time. The children love to learn Indian dancing. This year two of the girls got all dressed up and did a few of the dances. They were really good. When I was leaving everyone lined up at the door to say Thank You and good-bye. It is always the sad time of a visit. I waved good-bye to the children at the front gate and the Sister in charge walked me to a taxi. She asked the driver how much it would be to take me home. He said 30 Rupees. Sister said it was too much and said follow me. She walked me to the end of the street and asked another driver he said 20 Rupees. I got in the taxi and waved bye to the Sister as the driver of the cab pulled away. Sister was trying



to look out for me. If I got overcharged for the taxi ride by 10 rupees it would be money that could help another child. When you are poor or helping the poor people every penny is always accounted for with no exceptions.

## Chiranabin Home for Mentally Handicapped Women

A friend had asked me to visit the children at this home if I had the time. I always try to visit as many children as I can. This is a girls home in a small village located far away on the Bombay Road, a small highway I had never traveled on before. When I arrived in the village I was greeted with a wonderful welcome of boys playing drums and having flowers put around my neck by one of the women staff members. I walked a short distance to meet the girls at the home. The children were all outside waiting for me. It was very sad to see these children. I greeted them in the kindness, friendliest way I know how. All I had was candy to give the children as it was at the end of my trip. I shook each child's hand and said hello as I handed out the candy. After my meeting with the children a small Indian lunch was given with the staff. I wanted so much to give a donation to this organization but my funds for this year were very, very low. I will remember these children in the years ahead if I can raise more funds to do more. For now I feel bad but I did the best I could. I did take the time to visit the children as asked and I will remember the children in my prayers each night.



## My Rail Trip To Rourkela Orissa India

This is going to be a hard story to write about in a few paragraphs. I did so much in Orissa and visited so many children, I honestly feel I could write a book about it. Today is Thursday, Thanksgiving Day in America November 22. Sister Nirmala from The Daughters of the Cross had been sent from Rourkela, Orissa to be my escort. We left Calcutta by rail at 5:30 a.m. from Howrah Station. It was an 8 hour rail ride. Much of the ride out in the countryside. It was very interesting looking out the window of the train and seeing the miles and miles of rice fields, all being cut by hand! It looked to be very hard work. When we arrived in Rourkela around 4:00 p.m. Sister Mary, who arranged the visit along with other Daughters of the Cross Sisters, were waiting for us with a car and driver to take us to St Josephs Convent School. I had 2 big bags of donations with me for the children. The car arrived at St Josephs Convent School in about 20 minutes. During the ride I could see Rourkela was very different than Calcutta. It was a very rural area with many big trucks on the roads from the big steel mill that is located here. Trees line each side of the roadway. The roads were quiet and smooth not many beeping horns, instead lots of bicycles were the mode of transportation.



When we arrived at the compound of St. Joseph's Convent School I was welcomed by 32 other Daughter of the Cross Sisters including Sister Flora the Provincial Sister in Charge. All the Sisters and working staff had friendly handshakes and a very warm hello for me. I knew I was in a different place in this world, but I knew the Sisters would look after me. I was taken to my room in the guesthouse. My room was beautiful. It had a bathroom, a nice soft bed with mosquito netting, and one thing I will NEVER forget was a flower vase on a table with fresh cut flowers in it and a card next to it that said Loving Welcome.

I wash up and rest for about an hour. Then I go downstairs and meet Sister Mary she arranges a complete tour of St. Joseph's Convent School. I learned many things. The children have to learn how to grow things in small gardens around the school. The Sisters raise animals to eat and grow vegetables in gardens. Nothing is wasted and everything has a purpose. The school is big, 1300 students. It is late and it is time to eat dinner and go to bed. The Sisters are surprised I do not eat Indian food, and I have soup and oatmeal for them to heat for me. It was really funny. The Sisters could not believe that was all I was going to eat and they had no idea how to prepare it. With that, I went to the kitchen with the Sisters and gave a short cooking class. Everyone was laughing and smiling while it heated. When the oatmeal was done, it was brought into the dining room where I sat and ate my meal with all the Sisters sitting at the table with me looking on in disbelief. While I was eating and looking around I noticed a nice sign on the dining room wall. It said Daughters of the Cross called to Proclaim and Manifest God's Tender Love through Compassion, Justice and Peace. After dinner I said good night to the Sisters and went to my room and where I slept like a baby.

### Friday, November 23

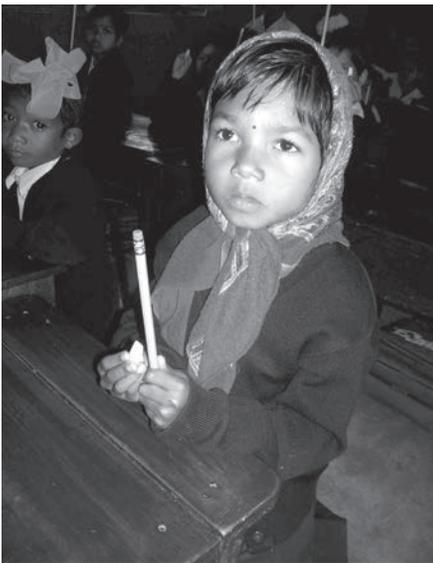
When I woke up and went to the kitchen, the Sisters made my oatmeal for me and made sure I was ok and slept well. The Sisters told me that four very large boxes had arrived at the school from the First Congregational Church of Melrose, MA. In the boxes were lots of school supplies for the children in Orissa. They were collected during Vacation



Bible School in August at the Melrose church and were a gift to the children of Rourkela from the children at the church. The shipment was set up and arranged by



Maura, Brian, Jen, Heather, Jim and others at the Melrose First Congregational Church. Sister Mary and all the other Sisters in Rourkela were so excited to open all the boxes and see the school sup-



plies. There was everything from pens and pencils to rulers and paper as well as many crayons and other supplies. More supplies than I can list in this newsletter. Everything was sorted out and brought to two schools to be distributed to the children of each class. St Joseph Primary School located within the compound and a village school about one hour away by car named Ghoghea Primary Mission



school. I am so proud to tell you that every child in each school received some of the supplies sent to Orissa from children of the First Congregational Church in Melrose MA. It was a very happy time for everyone. To even add to the excitement of the children and the day I had been given many hot air Balloon T-shirts from the Pittsfield NH Women of Rotary Club to distribute as well as Old Man of the Mountain T-shirts from two stores at Hampton Beach, NH named Life at the Beach and Tibetan Boutique. I also had lots of Halloween Candy to give out from the children of St. Paul's School in Wellesley, MA as well as three special gifts to the most deserving students; a beautiful Mother Teresa necklace made by a young girl in America named Kiki, Children's Rosary beads and also a regular pair of gold colored pretty beads.

I even had small musical instruments and a few dresses sent to me from Amber in Delaware to give the children. The day was just beautiful, full of love and happiness for everyone young and old.

At about 4:00 p.m. the sisters and I head home from the village school. After a nice ride we arrive back at St. Joseph's Convent School. I go to my room and wash up and rest before supper. At about 6:30 I walk to the kitchen for supper. I am looking forward to my soup as it has been a long day. Sister brings in my food with lots of bread and butter on the side of the plate. It was great! At that point Sister Floria came to the table and said to me, "Mr. Ray you are not eating very much food and we are worried about you. I know you do not like Indian food but will you eat a potato for us. We would feel so much better." I said "sure." Sister

had a potato boiled for me and brought it to the table. It looked good. Sister sat right across from me while I took my knife and cut the potato in half. Then took my fork and scooped the potato out of the skin. Sister looked at me and shook her head. She said "Mr. Ray that is not how we get the potato out of the skin in India. You have left far to much



potato inside the skin to throw away. Here in India that much would feed a small child.” Sister had another potato brought to the table and taught me how to peel it the Indian way with no waste. She took the potato in her hand and peeled the skin off like an orange. I took another potato from the plate and did the same. The other Sisters who were all around the table watching us clapped their hands in happiness when I finished peeling the skin off. I put the potato in my plate. Sister Floria put her potato in her plate and we both enjoyed a nice plate of potatoes together for supper.

To this day I have never forgotten my potato peeling lesson from Sister Floria. It makes you think you

are never to old to learn.....

### Saturday, November 24

It was arranged during the year that on this day *Children are Angels from Heaven* would sponsor a field trip for the children to the local zoo and have a picnic for 65 very poor children. Many of the children had never been in a car or bus before and also had never visited the local zoo to see the animals. Sister Mary and all the other sisters arranged everything from A to Z. At 9:00 a.m. all the children, Sisters, and I boarded a big bus in the Saint Joseph Convent School yard. The children are all small and there are about 65 of them. They were so excited getting on the bus with the Sisters’ help. When we were all seated the driver started the engine. The children all looked at each other. As the driver

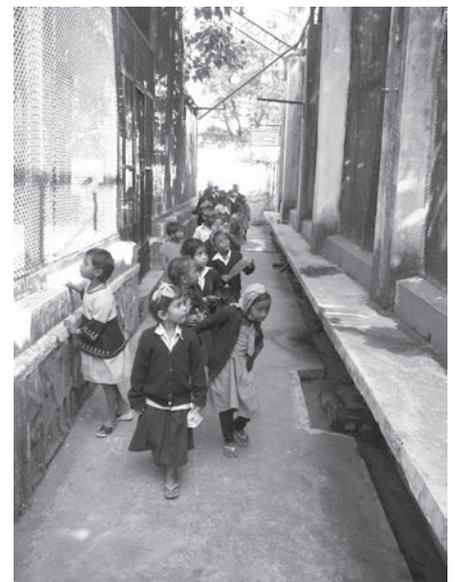


made the bus move forward one of the children looked at Sister with fear on his face and said, “Sister” Why are the trees running away?” Sister had a big smile and told the child it was ok and to hold on. After five to ten minutes on the bus going down the road the children began to talk and smile again and enjoyed the ride with the wind blowing through the open windows on their faces.

We arrived at the Indira Gandhi Park Zoo and picnic area in about 25 to 30 minutes. All the children were so excited. Sister Mary got all the tickets and we entered the park. The children could not believe the animals. There were monkeys, deer, bears, birds, a crocodile and many more animals to see as well as swings and slides to play on within the park area. The zoo/park also had a small train ride and a paddleboat ride to go on. The smiles of the children told the whole story. After



a wonderful morning and early afternoon of looking at all the animals and enjoying the rides and play area, the Sisters arranged to buy ice cream for the children. The children sat in circles in groups of about ten. It was so funny. As the Sisters were passing out the Hoodsie style ice cream in a cup with a wooden spoon, the children were putting them in their bags to take home to share with their family as this is the Indian way, to always share things. Sister laughed and said no, they had to eat the ice cream. The children did not understand the ice cream would melt, as many never had it before. After more rides on the swings



and slides we walked to the front gate to board the bus for the ride home to St. Joseph’s Convent School. It was about 2:00 p.m.. When the bus pulled into the school yard the children were so happy waving and smiling out the windows of the bus. While we were away on our zoo trip the Sisters who stayed behind at St Josephs Convent School had prepared a



nice lunch to give the children for when we returned. The children sat again in big circles and enjoyed a wonderful lunch and some more candy when they were done. It finished off the day perfect. As the children were leaving and waving good-bye to me a few of the parents came over to me and shook my hand to say Thank You. I honestly did nothing. The people who made this day so special for the young children were the people



home in America who funded the trip and the Daughters of the Cross Sisters who did all the work. I did very little except take a few photos and get in the way.

It is now about 4:00 p.m. I asked Sister if I can send an email home from the school computer. She takes me to the school and gets everything turned on. I spent one hour writing one of my letters home to everyone, only to have the power go off just as I was finishing it. Needless to say I lost the email and nothing was sent home. "That's India!"

At 5:00 p.m. Sister asked me to visit the Hostel children who live at the school. There are 180 children who live here all girls. I will never forget my greeting by these children who range in all ages. As Sister and I walked closer to the building, I could see the children were all outside on each side of the walkway. As I got closer to the building the children started clapping their hands for me as a sign of welcome. I could not believe how long

the line was that the children had assembled. It went down the walkway around the building in the hall and to the front of the room. It was fantastic; something here in America we would see for the President to arrive. I did not know what to say. I was really taken back by the children's actions. I gave a short talk to the children about school and how important it was to always try your best and get an "A" for effort. I also told the children about *Children are Angels from Heaven* and our work. After my short talk the children gave me a big round of applause and a group of them walked up to me and gave me some beautiful flowers. Sister got me a chair and the children sang and danced for me. It was a special moment to remember.

After the song and dance ended everyone went outside in the yard area. I had with me some tennis balls and frisbees. The kids had no idea what the frisbees were so we started to throw around the tennis balls. Next thing you know, I'm teaching the children and Sisters how to fly the frisbees. What a BLAST everyone had. We stayed outside until you could not see in the darkness but having a fun time playing with the balls and frisbees. When the night ended, two of the girls had big drums to play music on and everyone was dancing in a big line to the beat of the drums. I could not believe it! It was a night to remember seeing those children so happy. When all was done I said good-bye to the children and Sisters and walked back to my room to get a good nights sleep for my next day in Orissa.

### Sunday, November 25

I wake up at 6:00 a.m. for a 7:00 a.m. outside church service. I left the school area with the Sisters and went to the church area of the compound. It was just a short walk. As we arrive I can see hundreds and hundreds of people waiting for the Mass to start. I notice that 90 % of the people sit on the ground on a piece of cloth or a newspaper. Everyone is dressed in their Sunday best. Every single woman had a kerchief or scarf on her head. It was a long but nice service. Many people come from far away each week to the service. I enjoyed it very much. After Mass the Sisters and I went back to the kitchen area of St. Joseph's Convent School and had breakfast. Sunday is special as everyone has eggs. At 11:00 a.m. the sisters got ready to go for the Procession of Faith march through the streets of Rourkela. My legs have been hurting and Sister tells me I do not have to go. We stay on a rooftop and watch everything until everyone is out of sight. About an hour later, sister told me the Sisters want to buy me a shirt with the Orissa colors on it so I am taken to a small shopping area in Rourkela with two Sisters to look for a special shirt. It's embarrassing to write this but not one store had a shirt to fit me. I am just too big! Instead the Sisters buy my family some napkins with very pretty Orissa colors on them. As we walk around the square I notice a pastry shop so I bought two big trays of sweets to take home for the Sisters. As we continue walking and talking I told them what a wonderful night last night was and asked if I could buy all the children a special treat for dinner maybe some Chinese food. Sister tells me if you want to get the children at the hostel a special treat for dinner get them some chicken. The children would love it! The Machinist Union Local #447 had sent me a large donation for this year's trip to be spent for the children. I felt this would be a perfect project to spend the donated money on. A wonderful chicken dinner, with rice for 180 children, along with a nice dessert for



everyone. The Sisters took me to the best place in town they knew of to place the order for the food. It was ordered, to be delivered tot the hostel at 8:00 p.m.. We finished our shopping and went back to St. Joseph’s Convent School. Its now about 5:00 p.m. I took a nice bath out of my bucket and then I met Sister Mary and another Sister and had a nice walk down to the river to see where the children crossed a bamboo bridge to come to school. We also stop at the local cemetery where I have brought flowers the children had given me last night to put on the grave of a 100-year-old Daughter of the Cross Sister who had passed away about a month earlier. It was a nice walk out of the compound area and in with the local people.

At 8:00 p.m. I met the other Sisters and went to the Hostel and greeted the children. The food had arrived on time and looked great. Everyone was all smiles and happy. The food was in the biggest pots and pans I had ever seen. Before the food was passed out all the children stand and we say prayers together. Thanking God for everything. When we finished our prayers to give thanks, the children got in a line and the food began being served by the Sisters. Everything worked out perfect. I stayed till 10:00 p.m., with the children then went back to my room to pack as I was leaving for Calcutta the next morning.

**Monday, November 26**

I had a nice sleep and woke up early. I went to the kitchen to have some soup and potatoes. The Sisters tell me they are sad to see me leave. I tell them God let us meet each other on this visit, if we never meet again we can carry each other in our hearts. I took a few photos of everyone. Before I left for Calcutta I had a few things to give away to the children. I had two board games, a hat and a pair of small boots. I asked the Sisters if I can go to the Hostel and give away the board games to the girls. When I returned I went with Sister to the school. Sister introduced me to a very young boy. I gave him a Stop & Shop hat from Mario and put the small children’s boots on his feet. I won them at the Pittsfield, NH Rotary Club penny sale. He was very happy and surprised. When I returned to the kitchen to meet Sister Nirmala and another Sister who will escort me on the train back to Calcutta, I find all the Sisters waiting to say good-bye. The car is pulled up to the building, our luggage is put in and now it was time to say good-bye to all the Sisters in Rourkela. It was hard to say good bye or find the words I felt in my heart for these wonderful Sisters. They taught me so much in just a few days. I said Thank You to everyone and told the Sisters I would miss them and will not forget what I learned in Orissa. My last words to the Sisters talking out the window of the car as it pulled away were words I never knew before this trip. *Jai Jesu*, “Praise the Lord” as I waved good bye to everyone.

We arrived at the train station in about 20 minutes unloading the bags and walking to the platform to wait for the train to bring us back to Calcutta. When I was waiting for the train



and looking around I could see India all around me. A pretty girl with an umbrella on the platform shading herself from the sun, men on the other side of the tracks carrying railroad ties by hand, a cow on the tracks. Women on my right mixing cement carrying it on their heads to men digging a ditch near the platform, I have never seen such hard working people in all my life. I waited for the train for over an hour and during that time the workers did not stop working for one minute. I truly felt bad for these people. Our train finally arrived and we were going back to Calcutta. The train horn never stopped during the entire trip. Every now and then people would walk through the train car selling things tea, newspapers, chips, and at one point a young boy stood in the front of the train car and put on a 15 minute magic show. He was pretty good everyone clapped for him and gave him a few rupees. We arrived back to Howrah station around 10 pm. Sister Nirmala got us a taxi and we went to St. Vincent’s. I carried the Sisters bags to the hallway and said good night to both Sisters and



thanked Sister Nirmala for her kindness to escort me on both the train rides. I walked to my room with my bags and fell right to sleep thinking about my trip and all the people I had met. It was a perfect trip in every way.

## Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy

The visit with these children is always a learning experience for me. I am amazed at how happy the children are and how much they learn at school each day. The Director of Rehabilitation Tessa Hemblin always gives me a warm welcome and a tour of



the facility every year. Here we sponsor two children Soib and Rumpa. During the year a wonderful woman in America named Kathy, had sent a girl she was truly attached to in India, Rumpa, some of her late daughters beautiful clothes. Everything arrived in perfect order and Rumpa was so happy. I am sad to report that another small box had been sent by Kathy during the year and it was lost or stolen in the mail. In it was a letter and some special small gifts for Rumpa. To this day I am still very sad it did not arrive. I explained this to Tessa and she told the story to Rumpas Mother. I did give another small gift to Rumpa's Mom for Rumpa and she understood the problem and accepted it. But in my heart I know this was not how it was intended. It was sent to be from Kathy's hand in America to Rumpa's hand in India without me playing a roll in it other than shipping the package. I had a nice visit with everyone that day it was sad but happy all in one. I have a handicapped boy so I know first hand what it is like to care for a handi-

capped child. The school my boy goes to in Chelsea, MA named Shore Collaborative reminds me so much of the Institute of Cerebral Palsy. The LOVE and Care is so outstanding for the children. After my meeting with Rumpa's Mom I had a short talk with Tessa. She said they finally did get handicapped lifts for some of the school buses and things were better than a year ago. I was happy to hear that news as watching the children getting on and off the buses was so sad. With that I gave Tessa a big bag of candy for all the children and left her a donation from all of us to help the children...

## Foundation for Children in Need

A few years ago a man named Tom Chitta saw our *Angels from Heaven* work. He contacted me and said he too, helps very poor children and asked if I would be able to sponsor a poor child to go to school. I said Tom I would like to help a handicapped child if I could. He had a boy who was deaf and needed help to go to school. His name is Mahammed. I told Tom that would be fine and *Angels from Heaven* began paying for Mahammed's education each year. I receive two letters and a photograph every year from Mahammed. Everything has worked out great. Tom is right on top of things. Mahammed is now in the 8th grade and doing very well. He loves Math! In this year's letter Mahammed says he had learned how to swim and he helps his Father in agricultural work and helps his Mother in household works. The summer was very hot this year and water was scarce in places. They were waiting for the rains to cool the climate. He celebrated Easter Mass on the 8th of April with his family and exchanged greetings with friends. His last words in his letter to me were, I am grateful to you for the help you are giving. I will pray for you always. Please remember me in your daily prayers.

Your loving Child  
Mohammed Rafi



## Don Bosco Ashalayam

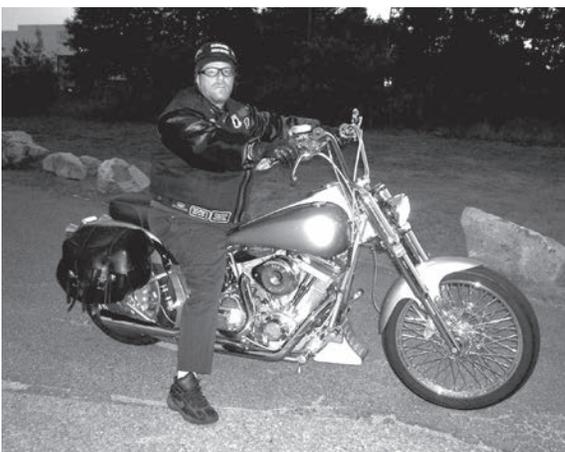
Don Bosco Ashalayam is a home for street children. Please understand street children means just that! Children live under bridges or in railway stations with no place to call home. It is very sad. Don Bosco helps these children as best they can. If you are a very small child you will be sent to school each day if you are older you will be taught vocational training. No child is ever turned away. The only family most of these children have are the staff and other children at the home. Last year with the help of my friend Mr. Bernard Maung we again for the second year in a row have sent 10 more young boys to driver training. Bernard looked after everything. The project went very well. All ten boys passed the driving test and some now have jobs. Each visit I make to this home brings many new smiles from more new children who live at the home. I am proud of Don Bosco Ashalayam and all that it stands for. I know in my heart they do what they can for every child who comes to them asking for help. Many of these children are very small. The staff at Don Bosco Ashalayam has one thing every child is in great need of LOVE as well as understanding. Angels from Heaven is always happy to work with Don Bosco Ashalayam any way we can to help the children.



## Angels From Heaven and Other Charities

Angels from Heaven does its best to help many people all around the world including the United States. A few programs we are happy to be a part of are, Toys for Tots Toy Drive at Christmas, The Pan Massachusetts Challenge Bicycle Ride to benefit the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and also Guide Dogs of America for providing Guide Dogs at no cost to legally blind men and women, C.H.A.D. Motorcycle Ride to benefit Children's Hospital at Dartmouth NH. , A small Charity named Me & My Friend helping Autism here in America, and finally The Walk for Hunger. It is because of your donations to Angels from Heaven that we are able to extend our help to these very worthwhile charities.

Thanks to EVERYONE for your continued support.....



## Free Paper and Parking

I would like to say Thank You to Xpedx Paper Company, 613 Main St., Wilmington, MA for donating all the paper needed to print our newsletter and also for letting Angels from Heaven keep our storage trailer (that was donated by them) parked in their lot.

All of their efforts have been a great help to Angels from Heaven in helping the children. I also would like to say Thank You to all the Xpedx workers for the help and support they have given me over the years. I could not do this work without their help. Xpedx Paper Company is a division of International Paper.

## Special Thanks

A special thanks to Anwesha Bhattacharya in Calcutta for always helping Angels from Heaven. She has completed many projects with our special donations and she also updated the Angels from Heaven web site. Another special thank you goes to Jeet Bathija of Curio Cottage in New Market, for being my right hand man in Calcutta. Since my Indian Mum is now living in Canada Jeet looks after me in every way when I am in Calcutta to make sure everything is going well and I am ok. He even lets me use his telephone to set up appointments. Both of these people are very special and will bend over backwards to help the children of Calcutta. Many times they finish projects that we start here. I am proud to call both of them our friends.

## Union Help

I would like to say Thank You to a few local Unions who help Angels from Heaven, Teamsters Local #25, and Machinists Union Local #447. In a time when America is sending many of our jobs to foreign countries it makes me proud to see local unions and their workers stepping forward to help poor children of the world. Efforts like this make me proud to be an American and call the United States my home.

## Non –Profit Status

We are a tax deductible and legal non-profit organization. Our International Revenue Foundation Status Classification is 501 I (3). This was done by our accountant, Mr. Robert Johnston, CPA of 444 Washington St., Boston, MA. 1-617-787-8520. Rob has done everything for us from A to Z with not one cent accepted as payment. Rob suggested right from the start that the bookkeeping be accurate and available for review by the IRS at any time. Rob also suggested all purchases or payments be made with check or credit card only. Rob has also helped us in many other ways to become what we are today. He is a great guy! If you ever need tax help he is the man to see. Thanks Rob for all your help.

If you would like to make a donation make a check out to Children are Angels From Heaven and send it to 16 Bower St. Medford Ma 02155 or Call me 781-483-1002

You can check out our web site at [WWW.childrenareangels.org](http://WWW.childrenareangels.org)

## Newspaper Printing

Bunny and Victor Stoykovich of Town and Country Reprographics, 230 North Main St., Concord, NH have always, donated the entire cost of printing the newsletter for Children are Angels from Heaven. I am so taken back by their effort and generosity to help me year after year. Bunny sets up the entire newsletter page by page for printing, all I do is send her the written information. It is directly because of this generosity I am able to have extra money in our checking account to reach out to many more children in need. Each year because of so many people working together to help me, Angels from Heaven grows. This means we always need additional newsletters printed. Every time I explain this to Bunny she always says "Ray that's not a problem we are happy to help." I have never met such down to earth people who enjoy helping others. Thank you Bunny and Victor for all your help.

## Highlights of a few letters

Dear Ray  
Thank You for your love and concern for the Special needs children.  
Sarita

RE: Angels from Heaven Oct 2007  
You have to love a guy who puts out 350% and doesn't take credit. You are TOP SHELF in my book.  
Jim

Dear Ray  
What a trip you had. I'm exhausted just reading about it!  
Anna

Dear Ray  
I read the newsletter from end to end. I really appreciate the marvelous work you are accomplishing. You are a true missionary!  
Bill

Dear Mr. OBrien,  
Our Mission Committee would like to donate the enclosed check for \$250.00 to help the children and families around the world served by Children are Angels.  
The Missions Committee

Dear Ray,  
Such good work you do !  
Gerry

Dear Ray,  
It gives me great pleasure to send this check to you to further your efforts to help so many needy children. I have so much respect for all your generous work to help the helpless.  
With Love  
Pat

Dear Mr. OBrien  
I found the web site inspiring and it is so wonderful how you love and help children in India.  
Amber

Dear Ray,  
Thank you for sending me the beautiful pictures of Dasi. She is adorable! God Bless.  
Kathy

Dear Ray  
This check is in memory of our dear friend Philip(PJ) Maloney who passed away in April.. Im sure you will put this to good use for your "Angels"  
Marilyn & Richie

Hi Ray  
Here is a contribution to get those clothes to India  
Catherine

Ray OBrien  
The members voted to send you this \$745.00 for your work with the children. The interest is great for your work with this program. They were happy to send this amount to you. We have you in our prayers.  
Rip Stauffer  
IAMAW # 447

Dear Ray  
Hope this donation will help you continue your work! God Bless and Safe Trip  
Barbara & Neil

Dear Ray  
We got your correspondence about the stuffed animals. It gives us a thrill to know they will be cherished by someone.....  
Laura

Dear Mr OBrien  
The Women of Rotary want you to know how much we appreciated your visit and program to us. Your Newsletter was very informative and interesting.  
Alice

Dear Ray  
Have a safe trip here is a little something for the children!  
Jim

Dear Ray  
Your Father's family would be very proud of you particularly your Grandmother Josephine. She was also very active in charitable causes at St. Agnes church in Arlington.

## In Closing

I would like to say a big THANK YOU to all of the Civic Clubs, Churches, Schools, Business owners, Teachers, Union workers, Non Union workers, Students, and individuals who helped make this a wonderful year for many poor children in the world. I am truly driven by this work to help poor children all over the world because I have seen the results of our work first hand with my own eyes year after year. It was a lot of hard work last year with tons of stress every day with problems one after the other but the smiles of the children were the reward for all of it. Seeing a poor child with a piece of candy or a ball made me so happy. To see a poor child at a blackboard doing a math problem in school was a picture I will never forget. Children should never be cheated out of their childhood no matter where they live in this world. Every child deserves a roof over their head, medical care and schooling. Your overwhelming generosity and trust in me is something I personally will never forget. Together, we have made the world a better place. I look forward to my visit to Calcutta and Rourkela India in November 2008 at Thanksgiving. I can only do this work with your continued help, I cannot do it alone! Thanks Again for your love and support for the poor children of the world. It was a great year thanks to all of you.

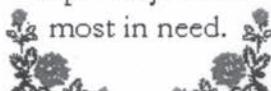
God Bless You,  
Raymond C. O'Brien

### Newsletter Printing and Mailing

It costs about \$2.50 to have the newsletter printed and mailed to your home. I have no problem spending the money to send it to all of you, but I also do not want to waste money if you are not interested in getting it. Please let me know and I will take you off the mailing list. For all of you who do get it and read it, I ask you to pass it on to someone that you know who might like reading it. Any questions or extra copies please call me or write me 781-483-1002, Ray O'Brien, 16 Bower St., Medford MA 02155

### Mission Statement

At birth, all children are equal in innocence and hope. They are not equal in circumstance and opportunity. Birth is not a crime. Yet thousands of children are sentenced to a life of hardship and need by the accident of their own birth. Children are Angels from Heaven strives to help profoundly disadvantaged children pursue productive and meaningful lives.

 <p>284 Salem Street Medford, MA 02155 (781) 395-2121 Fax (781) 395-5802 www.c21advance.com</p>	<p><b>Jim Virnelli</b> 64 VINE ST SAUGUS MA 01908</p>  <p><b>VIRNELLI &amp; CROWELL</b> 781-233-4204 BACKHOE - LOAM - FILL GRAVEL - SITE WORK SEWER CONNECTIONS WATER SERVICES</p>	<p>In Loving Memory of</p>  <p><i>Sheryl Madden</i></p>	<p><b>DAVID PANGBURN, M.D.</b></p> <p><b>ALEWIFE BROOK COMMUNITY PEDIATRICS</b> 29 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE ARLINGTON, MA 02474 781-643-4507</p>
<p><b>Johnston &amp; Papakyrikos</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Certified Public Accountants</b> 617-787-8520</p>	<p><b>Curio Cottage</b> <b>Beautiful Wood Carvings, Brassware, Silver, and Silks</b> F40-41 New Market Kolkata India 700087 Phone: 2252-2608 2246-7964 Email: bathijas@vsnl.com</p>	<p><b>VICENTE BROS. SERVICE STATION</b></p>  <p><b>345 Medford St</b> Somerville, MA Call; (617) 776 0590 Fax: (617) 623 5098</p>	 <p>In memory of <b>Emilie A. Rose</b> who loved to help others, especially those most in need.</p> 

# Thank and Support Our Friends

<p><b>Teamster</b></p>  <p><b>Local 25</b> Boston, MA.</p>	<p><b>xpedx™</b></p> <p>Printing Paper Industrial Paper and Packaging, Janitorial Supplies, Equipment, and more...Delivered</p> <p>800-686-7447 Wilmington, MA</p>	<p>Town &amp; Country Reprographics</p>  <p>Bunny &amp; Victor Stoykovich</p> <p>230 North Main St. Concord, NH 603 226 2828</p>	<p><b>Andrea's House of Pizza</b></p> <p>498 Main St. Stoneham, MA</p> <p>781-438-4274</p>
<p><b>Mackenzie Motors</b></p> <p>Foreign &amp; Domestic</p>  <p>106 Lincoln St. Brighton, MA</p> <p>617-254-9305</p>	<p><b>Pittsfield New Hampshire</b></p>  <p><b>Rotary Club</b></p>	<p><b>Jimmy's Pizza &amp; Subs</b></p> <p>509A High St. West Medford, MA</p> <p>Across from Saint Raphael's Church</p> <p>781 488 8020</p>	<p>Darrell &amp; Laura Mason Tutt</p>  <p>of the Florida Keys Formerly of Medford, MA</p>
<p><b>McCall Trucking</b></p> <p>Mark &amp; Cathi Duffy</p> <p>978-694-9009</p>	<p><b>Ryder</b></p> <p>Transportation Services</p> <p>150 Fallon Road Stoneham, MA</p> <p>781-438-8700</p>	<p><b>Pat's FAMILY DAY CARE</b></p>  <p>Medford, MA 781 483 1002</p>	<p>The Chisholm Family</p> <p>Medford Massachusetts</p>
<p>Mike &amp; Louise Wenetta</p>  <p>Poinciana, Florida</p>	<p><b>Mystic Valley Travel</b></p>  <p>15 Salem St. Medford, MA 781-396-0710</p>	<p><b>CINCOTTI FUNERAL HOME</b></p> <p>421 HIGH STREET MEDFORD, MA</p> <p>781 395 4638</p>	<p><i>In Memory of</i> <i>Aidan Jake</i> <i>Goodwin</i></p> <p>9/13/2000</p> <p>6/13/2001</p> <p>Love, Nana &amp; Papa</p>



**QSA GLOBAL**

40 North Avenue  
Burlington, MA 01803  
(781) 272-2000  
(800) 815-1383  
Fax: (781) 270-6603  
www.qsa-global.com

In Loving Memory  
of

**Danny Healey**

"Wherever there is  
great love, there are  
always miracles."

**Royal White  
Commercial Laundry  
and Dry Cleaners**

13 Warwick St.  
Somerville, MA

617-776-1500  
www.royalwhite.com



International  
Association  
of Machinists  
and Aerospace  
Workers



Local 447



*In Loving  
Memory of  
Fred & Hazel  
Nickerson*



**Truck  
Connection  
West  
Bridgewater  
and  
Broekton  
508-588-9300**



**Kiwanis Club  
of Medford**

20 Forest Street  
Medford, MA

With Gratitude  
from the  
Students, Faculty,  
and Staff  
of  
**Saint Raphael  
School**

516 High Street  
Medford, Massachusetts

Xavier Family



Toronto, Canada

**Suncook  
Valley  
Sun  
Pittsfield, NH  
603  
435-6291**

**JIM'S  
HEAVY DUTY  
SERVICE**



42 Joy Street  
Somerville, MA  
617 629 7700

**PWCO**  
PITTSFIELD WEAVING  
1 Fayette Street  
Pittsfield NH 03263  
603 435 8301  
Fax 603 435 6753  
**PITTSFIELD  
WEAVING**

**Someone  
Who  
Loves  
the Kids  
Tacoma, WA**

*The  
Wells  
Family*

Londonderry, NH



In memory of  
**Robert  
&  
Regina  
Healey**  
who loved children  
and cared about all  
those who were poor.

**Melrose  
Dodge**  
melrosedodge.com  
Online Inventory  Great Prices & Financing  
**Jim Testa**  
617-240-3386  
732 Broadway RT 99  
Melrose, MA 02176

Check our website!!!! [www.childrenareangels.org](http://www.childrenareangels.org)