



JUNE NEWSLETTER, 2020

www.hopeforthechildren-indonesia.org Please share this newsletter with others and ask them to go to our website and find out more about us.....

Sponsorship - for children - yearly \$240, half-yearly \$120, quarterly \$60, monthly \$20. You may use a **Direct Credit** facility through the Bank - ask me for details.

For University students - \$300 yearly, for 2-4 years, depending on the course.

For Pastors - \$480 yearly, for 4-5 years..... this is intended to assist the 'growing' of a church, allowing the struggling pastor to attend to day to day needs and keep his family whilst working with his congregation. Sponsorship is intended to assist families send their child/children to school.

Please put your sponsorship due date on your calendar each year - and I will put a small reminder in your newsletter if necessary. Many thanks.

Donations can be towards -

Petrus support

Administration

HFTC support of rural pastors

HFTC building projects

The Ricebowl

Please outline how you would like your donation to be spent. Thank you.

OH CORONA, CORONA

Suddenly the sun is hiding behind the dark cloudy sky.

The world is crying, tear drops falling.
Parents leaving their children - orphans.
Men leaving - widows
Grannies so lonely.....
Why....why....?

Girls and boys going to disco for what?
Drinking, gambling, others are starving..
What a waste in life.
Repent, repent.....

Then, it is enough and HE sent
Someone Who saves the world.
The Corona disappears.....
In the far distance we hear the similar
voices again -
laughter of children going to school.

...
.This poem was written during a
sleepless night.....

by Petrus Widjaja

He sent it to me for the newsletter....

Java Journey '21.....

I did think that May next year sounded really good, but now I am sure that we will not be ready by May and the Java Journey '21 might have to be much later than that!! Obviously, we will have to wait and see how quickly our borders open to other countries. I will let you know when we are able to book a flight over there. I do hope that you will be interested in joining us. Then, let me know!!

I would really like my 25th Journey to be a great one! If meeting and having fun with some of our sponsored children and perhaps some of their families, along with the people who oversee the HFTC program appeals to you, please come. We have many lovely trips into the hinterland of East Java and enjoy every moment of discovery and the hospitality of the locals.



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Please pray for Petrus, Sri, HFTC helpers, sponsored children pastors and sponsors. Thank you.

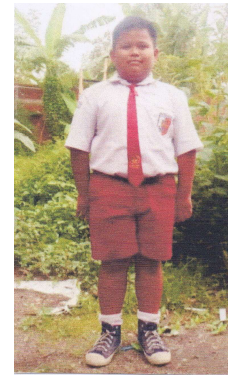
Petrus and Sri have been staying at home throughout this Pandemic. He has help getting the mail, which isn't collected as often, and doing other HFTC tasks. The money for families, including gift money, is being transferred by electronic means to the leaders of each group, each month, then given to our families. Please do not expect to receive mail from your sponsored child in a hurry, as it is all taking much longer at the moment. At the time of writing this, there are 25000 people infected and more than 1500 deaths. Sadly, some doctors and nurses have also died. Surabaya, the capital of East Java, will be in lockdown for another fortnight. On the other hand, Malang, where so many of our folk are, will have the lockdown lifted on Sunday, 31st May, for 14 days only. The authorities must be testing what happens when restrictions are lifted within one large area.

Tens of thousands of people have lost their jobs, and the poor are getting poorer. The Government gives assistance to those who have lost jobs because of Covid19. and to the very poor, but it is not enough. Petrus says it is better than nothing at all. Often the poor people spend the money on things which they do not need and not on the necessities which they need for living. Because of Ramadhan many people visited the markets to buy biscuits and clothes, for the celebrations.

The lockdown means that people cannot go from one city to another, but they can go to various villages. They cannot go to densely populated areas or to some specific areas.

Schools are closed and most students are doing their work online from home. However, the poor (and that means our children) do not have computers at home, so they are doing work that teachers deliver to their homes. **Endang** (the Principal of the Christian school we visit) has done some of that, but teachers in small, remote areas, like Sihati's, visit their students from house to house because they do not have wi-fi. In private schools the school fees will be used to pay for the teachers salaries. In public schools the teachers are paid by the government each month. Poor Christian schools are relying on the small fees they receive and the goodwill of the teachers and the church or groups who support them.

The Pastors meetings have not happened for 3 months now. One of the Pastors, **Sarudin** and his wife both caught the Virus after attending a seminar in Surabaya and were very sick. Sarudin, in particular, was very ill and his wife looked after him. They are both well again now.



Wahyu Prastyo, born on the 15th April, 2010, is currently in grade 4, soon to move into grade 5, we hope. He needs a sponsor please.

Some of **Sihati's** congregation do not have jobs and have sold what they have to survive. Sihati gives out food parcels or gives them some money for rice, etc. It is not easy for most of the rural pastors at this difficult time. In Sihati's garden there are banana's, coconuts and casava growing. The fruit was stolen overnight - people are desperate.

Remember the picture and little story of **Hadi Prayitno** in the last newsletter? He, his wife and their 2 children have moved into their 90% finished house/church. They are happy to be in the house even though it is not finished. Because of the pandemic, Hadi is selling fried peanuts in small plastic bags to small shops in the village.

Yohan Furentino, born -24th July, 2012. In grade 1, soon to move into grade 2, as the new year starts in July. He also needs a sponsor..... There are many children right now needing sponsors, so if you know someone who might like to help, please tell them.....



If suffering went out of life, courage, tenderness, pity, faith, patience and love in its' divinity would go out of life, too.