

Update on: SOS Children's Village Calbayog 2015



John Paul getting ready to give his rose to his SOS mother

Greetings of peace from SOS Children's Village Calbayog Family!

Every year, SOS Children's Villages here in the Philippines celebrates Mother's Day with a unique presentation of each village. Let me share how SOS Children's Village Calbayog celebrated Mother's Day in 2015.

Surprise

SOS mothers devote their lives to taking care of children that need love and support. They welcome each child as their own and form a lifelong bond as they live under the same roof. In their home, they share memorable moments and life lessons. Each year, the village organizes Mother's Day after the awarding ceremony of Sports fest, to thank them for their undying devotion, love and care for SOS children.

This year was a little different. It was a surprise! The children sided with the staff and went to great lengths to conceal their little secret. As the special day got nearer, some of the SOS mothers were starting to get suspicious.

Their Special Day

After the awarding ceremony, when the SOS mothers were about to leave, the emcee asked them to stay a little longer. Clueless, they remained in their seats. They were asked to sit on the stage. Some mothers were hesitant to come up, and were accompanied by their children. Next, a heartfelt song started to play.

One by one, their respective children came to the stage, smiling while carrying a beautiful red rose and a wrapped present. They gave their tokens to their mothers and some to aunties as they kissed their cheek and thanked them.

"All of us were unaware of their surprise! I just sat and my heart was beating rapidly. Suddenly, I saw Bernard coming towards me. He gave me my gifts and a rose, and hugged me tight. My heart was overflowing with happiness", said Auntie Rowena, a future SOS mother.



Bernard giving his gifts to Auntie Rowena

John Paul, being the youngest of Nanay Amy's brood was the last to give his gift. *"I couldn't help but smile when Nanay saw me carrying my rose. I am always thankful for the fantastic meals she cooks for us every day, reading us bedtime stories and most of all teaching us a lot of life lessons"* John Paul happily shared.

The SOS coworkers also prepared cakes, which the children helped prepare. Their day didn't end there. The children then shyly huddled in a group. They slowly recited the poem they

had prepared. The mothers and aunties listened as the children described how important and loving their mothers are to them. After the recital, the children were given a standing ovation by their mothers.

“That was perhaps one of the most memorable Mother’s Day celebrations. We all appreciated their surprise”, said Nanay Amy, SOS Mother.

Dearest Friend, what an honor for me to continue to update you with the happenings in your sponsored village. I am excited to share more in the future. Every generous person like you makes a difference in the life of individuals in need. Until next time!



The children reciting their poem

Yours sincerely,

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