

## What I Did

For the last month, I have helped to collect and pack donations such as clothes and food for the poor and money to help the families pay for their children's tuition in the Philippines. Through the Tedoro Banzon Foundation, I was able to help out the less fortunate and follow in Jesus' teachings of being a servant to others. God is present in each and every one of us, and by serving the marginalized, I am also serving Him. I did this because I believe that it is important to help serve those in need. I am very fortunate to have many opportunities here in the US, which is not always the case for everyone.





I visit the Philippines every few years, and doing so has really opened my eyes to the reality of the world, especially in parts of many 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries. Ever since then, I always knew that giving back to the poor was something I wanted to be involved in and to take a part of because I want to care for those who need it the most. After seeing the smile on the little kids' faces from receiving our donations, it made me really proud and feel so fulfilled that I was able to bring joy to others.

## The Catholic Social Teaching Displayed

The Catholic Social Teaching that my discipleship displays is Option for the Poor and Vulnerable. This is because in the Last Judgment, it instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first. By donating to the poor, we are giving up some of what we have, and giving it to those who truly need it as a necessity to survive rather than keeping it for our own personal use. We are blessed with much freedom and opportunities that not everyone in the world gets. It is important for us to not be selfish and to share with others our own blessings that we have received from God. Our spiritual wealth should come first, and not our temporary worldly wealth like money.

