



*We can do no great things, only small things with great love – Mother Teresa*

## **Messengers of Love – Letter from the President**

Nhat Linh was 3 and Le Huyen was 1½ years old when I started to sponsor them. Linh always had a smile on her face and seemed to be a happy child. But Huyen had a very sad face. She rarely smiled. Huyen was abandoned by her mother at birth and was raised by the nuns. Linh's mother died when she was 10 days old, and her grandmother brought her to the orphanage since she was too poor to raise her. I wrote them letters and sent money to help the sisters with the essentials. I gave them birthday, Christmas, and Lunar New Year (Tet) gifts. For Christmas, they received a Christmas card and new clothes, new toys, candies, favorite foods, wrapped in special gift wrap and delivered personally by Santa Claus. For Tet, they received new clothes, new shoes, and essential items, such as shampoo, toothbrush, and toothpaste.

I have since sponsored three more orphans, adopted a boy, and asked family and friends to sponsor the rest of the children at the Ho Nai orphanage. Huyen is now a happy beautiful child with a smile on her face. She is 6 years old and is in Kindergarten. Linh is now 8 years old and is in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. The children at Ho Nai orphanage have all blossomed into healthy and happy children.

Each year, there are thousands of children like Nhat Linh and Le Huyen who are abandoned by their parents for various reasons. These children end up on the streets or in orphanages. Children who grow up unloved and abandoned will experience low self esteem and emotional insecurity, which could adversely affect their future. I would like to extend the invitation to all of you to reach out and sponsor a child to love and support. A mere \$15 support per month will not only buy basic essentials such as food, books, clothing, and school tuition, but the child will also receive a gift, cake, and their favorite food on their birthday, as well as a Christmas and New Year's gift. We will make sure that the money will be spent on the children's physical, emotional, and spiritual needs and that they will know that these are from the love of their sponsor.

Through your gifts and love, you are making a positive impact on a child's life and brightening their future. Their future will be improved because as they have been physically and emotionally nurtured, so too will they be more likely to do the same to others. Soon there will be no more orphans left unloved. That is my dream. Would you please help me fulfill this dream and the dreams of the children?

If you cannot commit to personally sponsoring a child, you can always help financially through yearly donations or a monthly pledge. You can also support our Christmas/New Year gift programs, or other building projects that we have.

Please join us in becoming a Messenger of Love to the world, especially the orphans.

Thank you and God bless.

Theresa Tran