

# NEWSLETTER



Fundação Obra Social  
das Religiosas Dominicanas Irlandesas

**WE PARTICIPATE AND WALK TOGETHER TOWARDS THE MISSION**

The Obra Social Foundation of the Irish Dominican Sisters, through its centers (Colégio Bom Sucesso, Centro Sagrada Família and Casinha Nossa Senhora), would like to wish all its readers a very happy family vacation, with lots of joy and hope.

With regard to the event that brought employees together on July 11, I'd like to share some events that are very relevant to our institution.

- Reflection on Pope Francis' Message at WYD - All employees received the book "Speeches and Homilies of Pope Francis at WYD", after a Mass of thanksgiving and witnessing the meeting with the Pope in Lisbon.
- Importance of the Awards for 25 years of work - As usual, souvenirs were presented invoking "Our Lady of Good Success", thanking these employees for their work and spirit of mission.
- Thank you to the Irish Dominican Sisters - Support given for the realization of projects in line with the Foundation's mission - Access ladder to the CBS children's terrace for planting organic products; Equipment for children to play on the CNS terrace and the possibility for all CSF employees to spend a weekend in Fatima on pilgrimage and socializing.

I'll end on a note that was printed in all the Books, an allusion made by Pope Francis about the waves of Nazaré: "Keep riding the waves of charity, be surfers of love".

**JOÃO SALES LUÍS**

**Presidente do Conselho de Administração**

---

# NEWSLETTER

---



Fundação Obra Social  
das Religiosas Dominicanas Irlandesas

**WE PARTICIPATE AND WALK TOGETHER TOWARDS THE MISSION**

Back from my most recent visit to Bom Sucesso, where I took part in the quarterly meeting of the FOSDRI Board, I am full of admiration for the work being done by the Foundation and the three centers in its care: Colégio Bom Sucesso, Casinha de Nossa Senhora and Centro Sagrada Família. A Mass of thanksgiving for all the staff and friends, celebrated by Friar Nunes, was a truly vibrant celebration of the 23-24 school year. I remember a phrase from the book that the school produced in 2015 "A Story of Courage and Faith": 'At CBS, CSF and CSN, everyone learns to learn, to discover, everyone learns to have courage and faith and also to live in truth'.

João Sales gave away a copy of Pope Francis' book, "Speeches and Homilies of Pope Francis at WYD". During his talk, João spoke of the wonderful experience of these days of WYD in Lisbon. He quoted the Pope: "You are not here by chance. The Lord has called you, not just these days, but from the beginning of your days... God calls everyone by name. At the beginning of your month of vacation, my prayer is one of thanksgiving for each one of you, asking God to continue to bless you and your families and that you always believe that God has "called you by name".

**SISTER BRIDGET**

**Congregação das  
Religiosas Dominicanas Irlandesas**

# NEWSLETTER



Fundação Obra Social  
das Religiosas Dominicanas Irlandesas

**WE PARTICIPATE AND WALK TOGETHER TOWARDS THE MISSION**

We've finished another school year. We give thanks to God for all the good things we have experienced and for all the less good things we have been challenged to experience. With God, everything can make sense. But let's not just look at what has passed: in September we will start a new year, full of dreams and hope... Hope... This is God's gift for us to live deeply in 2025 - the Jubilee Year of Hope!



**FREI JOSÉ NUNES O.P**

**Capelão F.O.S.R.D.I.**

# PASTORAL WORK WITH DOMINICAN SPIRITUALITY

POR COLÉGIO DO BOM SUCESSO

"Everything has a history, everything has an origin, even if there was a miracle at the beginning?

This is the case with the image of Our Lady of Bom Sucesso, carved in wood, which for centuries has earned the devotion of so many generations linked to the Bom Sucesso Convent!

Legend has it that one day, a man, either a pilgrim or a fisherman, arrived at D. Iria's house carrying a small wooden statue wrapped in a yellow cloth. He called for the lady of the house, but when she came to the entrance, the man had disappeared, leaving behind a small wooden figure! Dona Iria immediately thought that the image had been sent by Our Lady, for whom she had great devotion! She immediately had it dressed in white with a blue mantle and named it Our Lady of the Conception. The years went by and, in 1639, D. Iria succeeded, at the end of her life, in founding the coveted convent for Irish nuns persecuted by Protestants. The house's patron saint had yet to be decided and there was a great diversity of opinions among the community. So they decided to hold a vote, writing down each person's suggestion on a piece of paper. However, when they opened the ballots, they all came up with the name of Our Lady of Good Success! This was how the name was given to the convent and also to the image of the founder's devotion, whom we invoke in our prayers every year:

Our Lady, our Queen and our Mother,  
In the name of Jesus and for the love of Jesus,  
We implore you to take our cause into your hands  
And grant us a speedy resolution. Amen"



# EDUCATION AND FAMILY

## POR CASINHA DE NOSSA SENHORA

The participation of families in outings organized by the nursery strengthens the sense of community among the families themselves, the nursery staff and the children. Sharing experiences with each other allows ideas to be exchanged, friendships to be strengthened and a network of mutual support to be created. This sense of community is often supported by religious and spiritual values, which emphasize the importance of caring for each other and building strong bonds within the community.

During the month of May (Family Month), three outings were organized - Belém Gardens, Padrão dos Descobrimentos and Algés Beach - which were attended by fathers, mothers, grandparents, uncles, aunts, brothers and sisters. These events provided fun and learning for the children, but they were also significant moments of family and community connection, aligned with principles of faith, respect for nature and the strengthening of human bonds.

Being in these natural, tranquil and historic environments inspires feelings of peace and harmony, essential elements for physical and spiritual well-being.



# FAMILIES WITH SOUL

POR CENTRO SAGRADA FAMÍLIA



We would like to close this school year with a word of thanks to all the partner organizations that have supported Centro Sagrada Família (CSF) over the past few months.

As a Private Social Solidarity Institution, we recognize that one of the main advantages of collaborative work is the synergy generated by the combination of different resources, knowledge and skills between social responsibility companies and the CSF, promoting the construction of a fairer and more equitable community.

Over the course of the year, we welcomed more than 40 companies for different activities, from cleaning the outside space to gardening, painting interior and exterior spaces and a strong role in the Famílias com Alma social project with the reinforcement of products for the charity grocery store. All these activities generate added value for the companies and their employees, as well as a commitment to making an ethical and positive contribution to society, promoting social, environmental and economic well-being.

