

NEWSLETTER



Fundação Obra Social
das Religiosas Dominicanas Irlandesas

WE PARTICIPATE AND WALK TOGETHER TOWARDS THE MISSION



The Social Work Foundation of the Irish Dominican Sisters, through its Centres (Colégio Bom Sucesso, Centro Sagrada Família and Casinha Nossa Senhora), wishes all its readers a Happy and Holy Easter with lots of Joy, Peace and Hope.

- On 18 March, the Foundation celebrated its 32nd anniversary with a staff meeting, attended by the new board of directors, Sister Bridget and Sister Elizabeth. By the end of the year, we hope that the three centres will be helping to educate more than 1,000 children and young people, as a result of increasing the capacity of the crèches by 64 children. We are all committed to education with Christian values.
- The detailed report on all the activities associated with the Foundation's Social Project - *Famílias com Alma* - is now available. I recommend that you read it and I challenge you to collaborate with the IRS.
- Another unmissable book by Pope Francis - *Hope - Autobiography*. In the introduction, the Pope says: We Christians must know that hope does not deceive or disappoint: everything is born to bloom in an eternal springtime. In the end, we can only say: I remember nothing in which you are not present.

JOÃO SALES LUÍS

Presidente do Conselho de Administração

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VERITAS

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Alleluia! It's been a while since we've heard it. Let's sing Alleluia and thank God for his son Jesus who came into the world to show us what the Father is like. A Father, like in the parable of the son who was lost and was found again (Lk 15:11-32), who, despite everything we've done wrong, when we return to the Father, will be welcomed with hugs and kisses and even a party. How marvellous!

Yes, we will sing Alleluia. Jesus is risen and invites us to this new life. The Easter event illuminates our lives and also calls us to be a light to the world, i.e. to our families, communities, schools and workplaces.

May it be so!

Happy and blessed Easter to all.



SISTER BRIDGET

**Congregação das
Religiosas Dominicanas Irlandesas**

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The celebration of Easter fits perfectly with the motto of this Jubilee Year of Hope and the motto 'Pilgrims of Hope'! In fact, we live in the hope of the total victory of life over death: - from the resurrection of Jesus we also hope for our resurrection to eternal life; - and from the resurrection of Jesus we also believe and hope (committing ourselves to this) that the deaths of this life (wars, enmities, poverty, loneliness, sadness...) can be overcome!



FREI JOSÉ NUNES O.P

Capelão F.O.S.R.D.I.

PASTORAL WORK WITH DOMINICAN SPIRITUALITY

POR COLÉGIO DO BOM SUCESSO

The month of March was particularly rich in moments that brought the entire Bom Sucesso school community together!

One of the highlights was the visit of the Irish Ambassador and the Minister for Public Works and Heritage, who came to the school as part of the Saint Patrick's Day celebrations. The enthusiasm of our students, especially those in the 1st Cycle, was great, as they enjoyed the close and friendly contact with Minister Daren.

Also this month, we celebrated the 32nd anniversary of the Foundation (FOSRDI) and were once again able to count on the presence of Sister Bridget and Sister Elizabeth. It was very important for the whole community to hear the Sisters' message, which reminded us of the four principles on which Dominican life is based: Prayer, Community Life, Study and Preaching.

The Sisters emphasised the importance of community life, which goes beyond the idea of being together, and is defined by the desire to share, to fight for the values that define us, to show solidarity with those around us and to unite in the ideal of including everyone, everyone, everyone!

The encouragement we feel every time we meet the Irish Dominicans gives us a lot of motivation to believe in our mission and to continue sowing the seeds for a more humane and dignified future!



EDUCATION AND FAMILY

POR CASINHA DE NOSSA SENHORA

Hello spring!

In spring there are colourful walks,
Families and children full of love.
We plant seeds of books and stories,
To create memories together:
Of what we can discover together,
In nature to contemplate and feel.
With time, affection and tranquillity,
Our spirituality grows.
This is how bonds and connections are born,
When living from the heart.



FAMILIES WITH SOUL

POR CENTRO SAGRADA FAMÍLIA



Solidarity 24/7

Solidarity is increasingly becoming a way of being. Because it is demonstrated not only in one-off acts, in actions we take, in events we take part in, but also in the way we act towards others, how we put on others' shoes, how we conduct ourselves with empathy, honesty, understanding, collaboration, truth, affection.

Solidarity doesn't blossom or sprout in spring, it's not about sharing on one-off festive dates, but it must be fed, nurtured, cherished, throughout our time in this life.

True solidarity lies in giving, without expecting anything in return other than a smile on a face other than our own. Giving not only material goods, but also time, attention, listening effectively to what comes our way. Because at the end of the day, being present will always be the best gift we can offer the other.

See the Activity Report for 2024 here.



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