



# SISTERS Poor of Jesus Christ

NEWSLETTER

Issue 21 - April



*Silence and prayer*

**SISTERS WITH FINAL VOWS RENEW THEIR  
COMMITMENT TO GOD DURING RETREAT**



## PJC CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK WITH FAITH AND DEVOTION

Every year, the Poor of Jesus Christ receive special guidance from their Founder, Father Gilson Sobreiro, through a letter called "Nuntio Vobis" (I announce to you). This heartfelt tradition is deeply embraced by every sister and member of the Institute, helping them prepare for Holy Week, which is a meaningful time leading up to Easter. Each day of the week, the sisters follow the Liturgy and engage in thoughtful meditations that draw them into the mystery of Our Lord's Passion. Starting on Palm Sunday, as they remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. On Monday, they spend three hours in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, reflecting and meditating

on of Bethany, who poured perfume on Jesus' feet. On Tuesday, the focus of meditation is on Judas' betrayal, encouraging a moment of reflection during Adoration.

On Wednesday, everyone comes together to think about brotherly love, looking at the stories of Judas and Peter. Then, on Holy Thursday, after the Holy Thursday Mass, there's a community Adoration with the Blessed Sacrament, which is placed in a special urn on the stripped altar. They also have a Vigil of Adoration that goes on until Friday at 3 pm. The quietness carries on until Saturday, when they reflect on Mary's sorrow. After joining in the Easter Vigil, they joyfully celebrate the Resurrection as a community.

### BEIRA, MOZAMBIQUE

The sisters joined in the celebrations of Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection alongside the local Church. "We experienced moments of silence and reflection where we connected with the suffering of Christ and Mary, but also shared in the joy of Mary Magdalene, who was the first to witness his resurrection," the sisters from the Beira mission shared.



### SAN SALVADOR, EL SALVADOR

The sisters joined in the Holy Week festivities at the Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, presided over by Fathers Douglas Crespín and Fernando Cuervas. The Palm Sunday procession started in the area close to the Mission House, where the sisters reside. Throughout the week, the sisters supported the local community during the liturgical celebrations, helped organize by decorating the arrangements and the space for the Blessed Sacrament transfer on Holy Thursday, and they also sang and served at the altar.





## SANTIAGO, CL



## FOZ DO IGUAÇU, PR

After the Easter Vigil, the mission members came together at Our Lady of the Presentation Mission House to celebrate the mystery of Christ's resurrection.



## PORTO ALEGRE, RS

The celebration of Holy Week in Porto Alegre-RS welcomed the candidates—young women discerning with the Institute—who spent a week of experiencing with the sisters. The Easter Vigil Mass was held at the Basilica of Our Lady of Sorrows, presided over by Father Lucas Mendes.



## GUATEMALA CITY

The sisters took part in the Palm Sunday Procession and Holy Mass at Precious Blood Parish, which was presided over by Father Manuel.



## MACEIÓ, AL





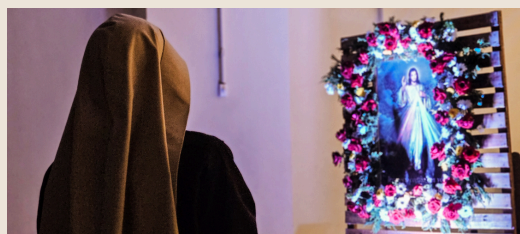
## SÃO LUÍS, MA MISSION HOSTS SPECIAL EVENT FOR KIDS

On April 12, the sisters of the Divine Mercy Mission House kicked off the first activity of the year for the Kids Ministry (MCK) -the Institute's outreach ministry for kids. The event was held in the hall of the São Vicente de Paulo Church, located in the Apeadouro neighborhood, and welcomed 24 participants, including kids aged 5 to 12 and teens aged 13 to 16. The theme for the day was "Easter: Passion, Death and Resurrection,"

explored through games and discussions tailored to each age group. Sister Berenice da Divina Misericórdia, PJC, guided the time with the kids, with help from the mission members, while Matheus Pinto took charge of the gathering with the teens. The event was filled with prayer, sharing, music, and plays, creating a joyful and meaningful experience of faith, and helping everyone to grasp the Mystery of Easter.



## MERCY FEAST GATHERS OVER 100 ATENDEES IN SÃO LUÍS, MA



On April 27, the São Luís Mission hosted the "Mercy Feast" event at the São João Paulo II Social Center, located in the João Paulo neighborhood. More than 100 people joined in, including religious members, lay associates, young adults, benefactors, and friends, making it a full-day gathering. Sister Veridiana da Virgem Maria, PJC, took the lead in guiding the meeting, which also featured a special appearance by Caio Márcio, Missionary from the Shalom Community.

During the event, everyone had a special moment to feel the love and presence of God. This happened through inspiring talks, the Chaplet of Lordship and Divine Mercy, the celebration of Holy Mass, and the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. There were also moments of worship and fellowship. The day was also a special occasion as it celebrated the 19th anniversary of the sisters presence in São Luís, filled with devotion and in thanksgiving to the Divine Mercy.



## ARCHBISHOP OF MACEIÓ'S VISIT FILLS THE SISTERS WITH JOY



On April 15, the sisters of the Maceió-AL mission had a special visit from Most Reverend Carlos Alberto de Breis, Archbishop of Maceió, at their Mission House. The gathering was filled with the warmth and pastoral care of Archbishop Carlos.

## JUBILEE OF HOPE BRINGS PILGRIMS TOGETHER IN THE ESPÍRITO SANTO STATE



On April 26, the sisters from the Vila Velha mission took part in the Jubilee of Hope Pilgrimage, which was combined with the Men's Pilgrimage 2025, as part of the celebrations for the Penha Feast in Espírito Santo. The event, themed "With Mary, pilgrims of hope," kicked off with a sending Mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Vitória, a pilgrimage site during this jubilee year. The pilgrims made their way on foot for 14 km to Prainha, in Vila Velha, and it's estimated that over a million people joined in the walk.



## II "TEEN SAINTS" RETREAT GATHERS YOUTH IN FOZ DO IGUAÇU, PR



On April 26 and 27, the Foz do Iguaçu, PR mission hosted the II Teens Saints, a spiritual retreat focused on teenagers. The event was held at the Érico Veríssimo School and welcomed about 50 young people, giving them a chance to enjoy a life-changing weekend. Throughout the retreat, the teens dove into the love of God through talks, moments of prayer, worship and experiences of inner healing, helping them renew their faith and deepen their connection to spirituality.

## HESED INSTITUTE SISTER'S VISIT FILLS VILA VELHA WITH JOY

On April 30, the sisters from the Vila Velha, ES mission warmly welcomed Sisters Agnes and Mother Jane from the Hesed Institute. The gathering took place at the Saint Veronica Giuliani Mission House in the Primeiro de Maio neighborhood, inspiring communion between both religious orders.



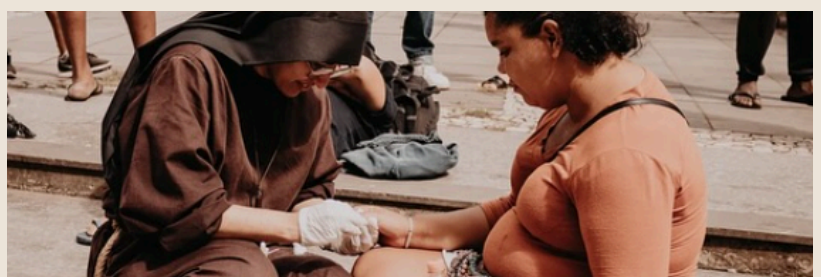
## 17 YEARS OF DEDICATION: PJC CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY IN MACEIÓ, AL



On April 26, the sisters of the St. Elizabeth of Hungary Mission House celebrated the mission's 17th anniversary in Maceió, Alagoas. The day was filled with love and care for those in need, featuring a morning of activities that included everything from haircuts and shaves to manicures and other personal care services. There were also fun games for the kids, along with delicious cake and feijoada, a traditional Brazilian dish. In the afternoon, the community gathered for a Mass in thanksgiving presided over by Father Márcio Roberto, the parish priest of Nossa Senhora do Perpétuo Socorro Parish in the Vergel neighborhood. The day wrapped up with a celebration among the mission members.

## ANAWIN MISSION BRINGS LOVE TO THE STREETS OF PORTO ALEGRE, RS

From April 3 to 6, the sisters of the Porto Alegre, RS mission, gathered with the friars and other mission members in the capital of Rio Grande do Sul to carry out the Anawin Mission. This event is all about sharing the joy of evangelization and connecting with homeless people. It happens in various missions across Brazil and even in other countries. Along with welcoming the "sons and daughters" – a loving term for the homeless – the Poor of Jesus Christ also offered help to families impacted by the 2024 floods in Rio Grande do Sul.





## ANNUAL RETREAT UNITES PJC SISTERS WITH FINAL VOWS



From April 27 to May 2, the annual retreat for sisters who have taken final vows was held at the Abarés Ranch, nestled in the southern part of São Paulo. It was a time for reflection, listening, and spiritual renewal. This special moment was shared by 23 sisters from various missions in Brazil, Chile, Bolivia, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Peru, who devoted themselves to quiet prayer and encounter with God. The retreat was led by Monsignor Antônio Robson Gonçalves, General and Judicial Vicar of the Diocese of Mogi das Cruzes (SP), with the theme: "Consecrated Religious Life: a pilgrimage that lasts a lifetime, therefore, being with the Master, listening to Him and learning from Him."

This theme encouraged the sisters to renew their closeness with Christ, allowing themselves to be shaped and led by Him in their faithful journey of religious vocation.

These were days filled with listening to the Word, quiet prayer, and sharing a common wish of staying closer to God. "It was a peaceful retreat filled with silence, listening, and sharing, where we were encouraged to take a deeper and more thoughtful look at what the Church teaches about the significance of consecrated life both in the world and within the Church. We reflected on the value of being a visible sign of God in our lives," shared Sister Romana, PJC.

Sister Rafaela, PJC, also shared her thoughts, saying, "Listening to the Church and understanding how it views our Charism, and what it means to be a Poor of Jesus Christ in harmony with the teachings in the Code of Canon Law and other documents, made me feel that our vocation is truly beautiful and bigger than ourselves, which is why we must cherish it."





## SISTERS WITH FINAL VOWS FROM THE U.S. REGION GATHER AT RETREAT



During the Octave of Easter week, from April 22 to 26, the sisters with final vows from the Our Lady of Guadalupe Region took part in their annual retreat. Among them were Sisters Maria Dolores, Thalyá, and Maria Goretti from the Kansas, KS mission; Sister Sentinelli from the Canada mission; and Sister Magdalena, who is the Institute's very first American vocation. During this time, the sisters experienced moments of prayer and quiet reflection. The retreat, themed "Hope and Solitude," was guided by Father Nick Blaha and took place at the Saints Isidore and Maria Ranch in Wamego, Missouri.



"Living a consecrated life is a beautiful gift of grace and a heartfelt answer to Jesus invitation."

Pope Francis



## CHILDREN'S DAY INSPIRES FUN ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS IN SANTA CRUZ, BOL

On April 12, the sisters at the Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia mission had celebrated Children's Day. This day has turned into a tradition for the sisters and members of the Bolivian mission, who each year create a fun experience for the kids living in the Costanera area – a place facing poverty and land invasions. They enjoyed games, shared sweets, handed out gifts, and donated clothes to mothers and children. Around 150 children joined in on the festivities.



## RETREAT OFFERS A SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE FOR COUPLES IN BOLIVIA



On April 26 and 27, the sisters of the Saint Beatriz de Silva Mission House, in Bolivia, hosted the mission's third Couples Retreat. The gathering took place in the Villa Marista neighborhood and welcomed six couples.

## GRATITUDE: COSTA RICA MISSION COMMEMORATES 6TH ANNIVERSARY

On April 23, the Costa Rica mission marked its sixth anniversary. The sisters joyfully celebrated their years of being in the country alongside friends, benefactors, and the "sons and daughters"—an affectionate term for the poor in the Institute. "These six years have been filled with God's providence, who is always with us, and the warm welcome and wonderful connection we share with our favorite children at Casa Hogar San José in Heredia," the religious stated.





# SEVEN YEARS OF THE PJC SISTERS' JOURNEY IN AFRICAN LANDS



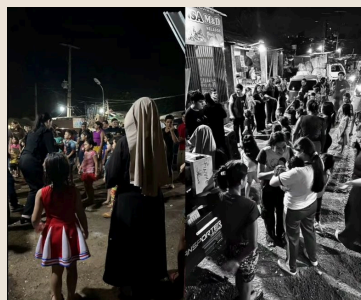
On April 17, the sisters of the Inhangoma mission, located in a rural area of Tete province in the center-west of Mozambique, celebrated their 7th anniversary. "We faced many challenges, but today we can see the wonderful results of this mission, with two houses, the first vocations, and so many children benefiting from our charism. Let's give thanks to the Lord for His mercy and ask Him to help us grow even more," the sisters shared.

## TETE, AFRICA MISSION WELCOMES NEW SISTERS TO SERVE THE POOR

On April 6, the Inhangoma-Tete mission in Mozambique happily welcomed Sisters Cecília of Mary Immaculate, PJC, and Laudácia of the Holy Spirit, PJC. The local Mozambican community greeted the new sisters with warmth. "Let's pray for them, so they can keep spreading the good news that started in these lands," shared the sisters from the Our Lady of Africa Mission House.



## SISTERS IN PARAGUAY ENGAGE IN EVANGELIZATION ACTIVITIES



On April 5, the mission in Ciudad del Este, Paraguay, hosted a gathering, where the participants from the past retreat called "Resgata-me" (Rescue Me) came together to share their stories.

Every Tuesday, the sisters and mission members head out to the streets for their weekly pastoral work, delivering food to those in need in the neighborhood around the community.

## EASTER IS CELEBRATED WITH A TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS FESTIVAL IN CHILE

The Quasimodo tradition is a Chilean religious festival that takes place on the Sunday after Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday). During this special day, a procession happens to bring communion to the sick and elderly who couldn't receive it during the Easter Triduum. This procession, known as "Running to Christ," features "quasi-modistas" riding on horseback or in carriages. They gather at churches to receive blessings before heading out to visit those in need, showcasing a beautiful mix of faith, tradition, and kindness. On April 27, the sisters from the Rancagua mission in Chile took part in this tradition, starting with Holy Mass at the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, and then they went out to deliver communion to the sick in the community, joined by Father Saul.





## “SCHOOL OF PURITY”: DAY OF FORMATION DRAWS YOUTH IN PARAGUAY

On April 26, the Ciudad del Este mission in Paraguay organized a special formation day for young people. The discussions focused on topics like identity and the human-affective side of life, guided by Friar Gileade, PJC. About 15 young people joined in on the meeting.



## THE POOR OF JESUS CHRIST CELEBRATE 8 YEARS OF SERVICE IN EL SALVADOR



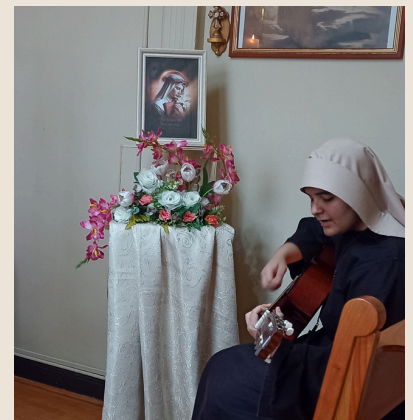
On April 4, the sisters from the Saint Rose of Viterbo Mission House celebrated eight years of being a part of El Salvador. The day was filled with moments of prayer, fellowship, and thankfulness. The festivities kicked off with a vigil of adoration in the early morning, expressing gratitude for all the years of mission work. Later that day, the sisters shared a cake they had baked with the “sons and daughters” who join in the pastoral activities on Thursdays and Saturdays at the Divine Mercy Shelter.



The next day, April 5, the celebration wrapped up with Holy Mass at the Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, presided over by Friar Estuardo Perez, OP. In his homily, the friar emphasized the significance of the mission: “God walks alongside His people through His living presence in words and actions. Let’s keep sharing this merciful God with everyone.” After the celebration, the sisters received a special blessing and enjoyed a gathering with friends and benefactors in the parish hall.

## CHILEAN MISSION OF IQUIQUE CELEBRATES SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

On April 29, the sisters from the Iquique mission in Chile celebrated the feast of Saint Catherine of Siena, the patron saint of their Mission House. Along with attending a special Holy Mass in her honor, they also held a triduum to express their gratitude for the blessings they’ve received through her intercession.





# SISTERS FROM NÎMES, FRANCE JOIN A CAMP FOR KIDS



From April 24 to 27, the sisters from the mission in Nîmes, located in the south of France, took part for the third time in a camp organized by priests, religious, and laypeople from the Diocese of Nîmes. This event, known as École de prière (School of Prayer), was all about sharing the joy of faith with families, especially focusing on helping children grow spiritually.

## LOVE FOR THE POOR: TALK IN CANADA MOTIVATES YOUNG ADULTS

On April 26, the sisters from the Hamilton, Ontario mission joined a gathering with young people from St. Margaret Mary Parish. At the event, Melissa, an apostolic novice of the Sisters Poor of Jesus Christ, shared a talk on the theme "How to have a heart for the poor." She encouraged the young people to think and act with kindness, drawing inspiration from the story of the Good Samaritan. Around 20 young adults took part in the meeting.



## CONCERT AND EUCHARISTIC ADORATION ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF LENT IN HAMILTON, CANADA

On April 5, the mission sisters in Hamilton, Canada, took part in a Lenten concert organized by St. Anna Parish. Sister Luz, PJC, was among those who joined in the event. After the concert, everyone enjoyed a time of Eucharistic Adoration, followed by a vocation testimony from Father Jeffrey Oehring, which wrapped up the activity. Around 80 people, including youth, adults, and families, were there to share in the experience.



## PASTORAL ACTIVITIES IN MOZAMBIQUE INSPIRE ELDERLY TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES THROUGH ARTS



Part of the work done by the sisters of the Beira mission in Mozambique, Africa involves caring for the elderly. During Lent, the sisters inspired them to use art as a way to show their love for Jesus and the Holy Cross. The religious from the mission shared that this activity brought so much joy to the elderly when they discovered they could draw.

## COSTA RICA MOVED BY THE VISIT OF OUR LADY OF LOS ANGELES' STATUE

On April 26, the sisters of the Blessed Maria Romero Mission House joined in the visit of the statue of Our Lady of Los Angeles, the beloved patron saint of Costa Rica, to the Immaculate Conception Parish in Heredia. Members of the Vicariate of Heredia were also there to take part in the celebration, guiding the prayer of the Holy Rosary. "May the Virgin of Los Angeles keep an eye on our country, our people, and our mission in these lands that are dear to her," the sisters shared.







## In Memoriam - Pope Francis

On the morning of April 21, which was a Monday during the Octave of Easter, the Roman Catholic Church was gripped by the news of the death of the Successor of Peter, the Holy Father Pope Francis, who had led the Pontificate since 2013. In unity with the whole Holy Church, the Sisters Poor of Jesus Christ came together in prayer all around the world, asking for eternal rest for the Pope's soul.



### EL SALVADOR

The sisters gathered to pray the Holy Rosary, tuning in to the live broadcast from Rome, remembering Pope Francis and wishing him eternal peace. Throughout the Octave of Easter, they also took part in a novena in his honor, celebrating several Masses.



### LIQUIQUE-CL

On April 21, the sisters in Iquique took part in a beautiful Holy Mass, presided over by Most Rev. Isauro Covili, the Bishop of the Diocese of Iquique. The Mass was also celebrated by priests and deacons from the Diocese, along with civil and military officials and representatives from different organizations, all coming together to honor Pope Francis.