



Sandal Prints



Newsletter of the Capuchin Mission Office
PO Box 153 Leichhardt NSW 2040

August 2015



The latest news from our missions in East Timor



News from the Mission Office



Dear Friends,

Two years ago I joined the ladies at the Mission Office in Leichhardt, to do “some volunteer work”, as Fr. John Cooper said (our former spiritual director). During this time we have been working hard, introducing some changes to provide better services to our supporters.

We are now reintroducing our Sandal Prints issues to share more information from the missions, special articles and news from our office.

As advertised, **NEW Enrolment Certificates** are available for families, a spiritual gift always appreciated. You can also order them online on our website:

www.capuchinfriars.org.au/Missions/Shop

In collaboration with the **Padre Pio Centre of Australia** we have prepared a **Catalogue** of books, CDs, DVDs and religious articles from Italy. We will organize a **Novena of Masses** in honour of St. Padre Pio and a **Feast Day Mass** in **September** in our parish St. Fiacre’s in Leichhardt. You are all invited to join us!

As a part of our on-going improvements, we are updating our data base and would appreciate if you contact our office regarding any change of address or personal details. **You can opt now to receive our news by email in an electronic format.**

All these improvements wouldn’t be possible without our donors’ support and suggestions. We at the office acknowledge and wish to thank you our supporters, for your generosity both material and spiritual and hope to continue working together for the Capuchin Missions. Our special thanks to our director **Fr. Greg Rowles OFM Cap** and all the Capuchin Friars, our volunteers Maria, Moira and Patricia and, of course, to Bernie Sullivan for her beautiful article.

All our supporters are more than welcome at our new office, from Monday to Friday from 9:00 to 12:30. We are located at 96 Catherine Street, Leichhardt.

Hope to hear from you soon! Daniela Santillan, Secretary.



By Daniela Santillan, Office Secretary



Our guests at the Mission Office in Leichhardt

We recently received special guests, very well known for their contribution to the office. They came to Sydney and joined the Capuchin Friars and the Capuchin Young Adults (CYA) during the **Capuchin Youth Fest 2015** celebrated in June.



(Front, L-R) Our volunteers Maria, Patricia and Moira, Berni Sullivan (Lay capuchin missionary) and Fr. Ben Johnson OFM Cap.

Fr. Luan Le OFM Cap. in our parish in Leichhardt.



Fr. John Cooper OFM Cap. , now in Brisbane, is the national director of the Secular Franciscan Order (SFO)



Sr. Salvacion Bunao and Sr. Elizabeth, they are working together in QLD.

A new Friar's Van to expand a famous Capuchin Ministry in Sydney

The Capuchin Friars were grateful to receive a generous donation from the NRMA of a new van with which to continue the Friars' Van Ministry to the poor and homeless of Sydney.

Every Friday and Saturday night the friars and young volunteers head into the city and serve hot drinks and chocolate to those who are doing it tough.



Vocation Weekend at Bazartete

In March 2015 about 60 young people participated in The Vocation Weekend at Bazartete, a town high up in the mountain, 30km from Tibar.

We stayed at the convent of sisters of the Handmaids of Sacred Heart of Jesus. The program included music, games, talks, discussion,

sharing and Taize Prayers to finish the day. The Sisters and Capu-

chin Friars shouldered the costs so that all was free for the youth. As a result, this was the first time young people were able to participate in a conference like this.



By Fr Luan Le OFM Cap (*)



Group photo, in front of the church.

() Since 2014, Fr Luan Le OFM Cap is working in the Capuchin Mission in East Timor. Amongst other activities, he is a post-novitiate formator at Tibar, just outside of Dili the capital of East Timor.*



Fr. Ben Johnson(*) OFM Cap. visits Timor-Leste

Along with our Australian friar Fr Luan, there are two friars from Portugal and two from Indonesia. At different times these friars need to visit their home countries for health checks, retreats and other significant events. Fr Ben travelled to Timor-Leste to help out in the Capuchin Parish of Laleia over the Christmas and New Year period.

() Commencing January 2015, Fr. Ben Johnson OFM Cap. is the Assistant Priest at St.Fiacre's Parish in Leichhardt (NSW). Amongst other ministries, he's responsible for the Sacramental Program, and works part-time at Notre Dame University teaching theology. He has travelled a number of time to East Timor guiding young people in a mission immersion experience.*

Fr. Ben celebrated a number of Christmas Masses, visited the sick for confession and Holy Communion and helped out with the general demands of the life of the friars.



Pictures show Fr Ben at Mass

in the small village chapel at Samalai; with children in traditional dress; and looking over

Our monthly pastoral visit to Hatubesilolo

At the end of May we visited the community of Hatubesilolo in the mountains. We invited the Franciscan Sisters of Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary to accompany us. After mass, we gathered outside under the shade for a chat.

Pictures show Br. Mateus handing out our bread (which he made in the morning) to children, and Br. Nicolau talking with them.



June, dedicated to The Sacred Heart of Jesus in Tibar

The Month of June is the month dedicated to The Sacred Heart of Jesus, so our community at Tibar had a procession of the statue of The Sacred Heart of Jesus, which goes to each church and stays there for four days and then visits the next church and so one.

Pictures show altar servers leading a procession from the Church to the sisters of Handmaids of the Eucharist's convent, where Br. Antonio celebrated Sunday Mass of Corpus Christi.



Conference in Tibar

From June 7th to 13th, the brothers in postulancy from Laleia together with brothers in post-novitiate (and also one aspirant) participated in a conference, which took place at the friary of St. Francis of Assisi in Tibar. This is a time where all brothers in initial information came together to deepen their Capuchin Franciscan identity and their fraternal bonding.

The conference began with Vespers on Sunday 7th June. It was such a wonderful sight to see all the brothers spending time together to pray and lift up their minds and hearts to God. The brothers were assigned to prepare meals each day and also to work in the garden in the afternoon. In the evening, there was time for fraternity. The brothers got together to chat or sing. Some played guitar, others flute or bongo.

It was a week of grace and fraternity.



Front, L-R: Herman, Ricardo, Tomé, Timoteo

Back, L-R: Manuel, Tinoco, Nicolau, Fr. Luan Le OFM Cap., Jesuino and Mateus



Special article: Domingas and her friends

Domingas and her friends live in the neighborhood bordering the church grounds. This means that the soccer pitch is only one jump of the fence away! They take to the field most afternoons, with the youngest and smallest always forced into being the goal keeper and the eldest always having the courage to ask to borrow the soccer ball. They make the sign of the cross as they've undoubtedly witnessed their soccer heroes do the same on TV, and spend the afternoon hours running up and down the gravel pitch in bare feet.

In these children we can't help but marvel at their simple joy but at the same time this close daily contact highlights the injustice of their circumstances.



Their homes may have a makeshift well to store water for the 5 days of the week that water is unavailable. However this doesn't stop the problems that lack of access to water can have. In these kids skin conditions, conjunctivitis and upper respiratory tract infection are constantly passed from one child living in overcrowded houses to his siblings, cousins, teammates, and friends. Domingas lives in such conditions. She shares her three room house with an aunt and uncle, numerous cousins and siblings, and her grandparents. Her "bathroom" is an external, three walled building, constructed from thatched palm fronds with a dirt floor draining away down the hill. It was a severe case of conjunctivitis that first brought this mischievous, audacious, six year old to our attention.

An upcoming project of the mission in Laleia is to build an underground tank and provide public access to water. By providing permanent, sustainable water we hope to minimize the impact of poor water access and reliability on Domingas', and all her friends, health, and the flow on effects of water borne illness, so that this exceptionally bright little girl can continue playing soccer, inventing stories, not be absent from school or impacted in terms of development due of illness, and live with the dignity and quality of life that they deserve.



By Berni Sullivan (*)

() Bernadette (Berni) Sullivan is a Capuchin Lay Missionary in East-Timor. While working as a nurse at St Vincent's Hospital in Melbourne she joined our friars on an immersion experience to East-Timor. After this experience she felt the desire to give some time as a full-time volunteer. Berni assists the friars in the range of services and programs that operate in the town of Laleia and its many small surrounding villages.*

Pastoral Activities in Tibar



Father Luan at public school



Good Friday's Stations of the Cross



04/10/2014



St. Francis Feast Day

50-year Anniversary of our parish

