

EMBRACING THE EXCLUDED IN TODAY'S WORLD!

II INTERNATIONAL JPIC CONGRESS

January 30 to February 8, 2006

Uberlandia, Minas Gerais, Brazil

Rome, Italy, April 25, 2005

Dear Brothers,

Peace and All Good!

We write a second time to ask that you reserve the dates of January 29 to February 9, 2006. We want to guarantee your participation in the second International JPIC Congress, to be held in Uberlandia, Brazil.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS:

1. Visa: if you need a visa to enter Brazil, we recommend that you begin the process as soon as possible. You should be in touch with Br. Rodrigo Peret (rodrigoperet@yahoo.com) or Br. Atilio Batistuz (fratilio@ig.com.br). Either will provide you with a letter of invitation for the visa process.

2. Arrival: January 29, 2006. If anyone needs to arrive earlier, please let us know so that we can arrange a place to stay.

3. Departure: February 9, 2006. If anyone wants to extend his stay in Brazil, it is important that you contact the brothers in Brazil. Organizers will provide a place to stay only for the dates of the Congress itself.

4. Airports. International flights arrive in the city of Sao Paulo, at Guarulhos airport. To get to Uberlandia, you must travel to Congonhas airport, which is also in Sao Paulo. There is bus service available from 5:00 AM to 11:10 PM; it takes about 45 minutes if it is not rush hour, and it costs about 24 reais (about US\$8.00).

5. Rooms. Each living space where the Congress will be held has four (4) beds and a bathroom. If any brother, for health reasons, has problems with this kind of arrangement, we ask that you let us know ahead of time so that we can find another appropriate place to stay. If you are not in touch with us about this issue by the end of November, we cannot take responsibility for providing another room.

6. Weather. At the time of the year when the Congress will be held, temperatures vary between 80 and 90 in the daytime. It is also the rainy season, and there could be frequent showers. Please plan accordingly.

7. An experience among the poor. As part of the program of the Congress, part of the weekend will be spent with people who live in marginalized areas near Uberlandia, in order to share with them their situation of exclusion. It is important to prepare ourselves spiritually and psychologically for this significant experience. It would be good to bring some sort of simple footwear and a flashlight for the event.

8. Liturgy:

a) Eucharist. The brothers can celebrate Eucharist every day at 6:30 AM. Organization of these Masses will be the responsibility of the participants, and can be arranged by language group, Conference group, etc.. There will be two Eucharists with all the brothers present, one at the opening and one at the closing of the Congress.

b) Prayer. Morning prayer will be prepared and presented by the different Conferences;

evening prayer will be taken care of by the Brazilian Conference. We ask that each Conference bring the texts for their prayers already translated into the three official languages (English, Spanish and Italian). We also suggest that those who prepare the prayers try to privilege the use of symbols and gestures over the use of words.

9. Recreation. The animation commission will program one evening for a general gathering of all participants, where everyone will be able to exchange the small gifts brought to share with the brothers.

10. Exhibits. Each of the entities, organized by conferences, will have the opportunity to exhibit maps, photographs or other indicators of your region.

11. Important addresses:

a) Franciscans in São Paulo:

Cúria Provincial da Província da Imaculada
Rua Borges Lagoa, 1209/3º
Vila Clementino – 04038-033
Caixa Postal 57.073 – 04089-970
São Paulo - SP
Tel. + 55 11 55767914

b) Franciscans, Uberlândia:

Frei Rodrigo Péret
Rua Jose Lima Wanderley, 207
Bairro Planalto
38413-210 Uberlandia, Minas Gerais - MG
Tel: 55 34 32574252

Fundação Franciscana
Avenida Raulino Cotta Pacheco, 974
Bairro Martins
38400-372 Uberlândia, Minas Gerais - MG
Tel: 55 34 32362468

c) Place of the Congress:

Franciscan Sisters
Tel. +55 3432166738

That's about it for now. We hope to receive news from you so that together we might work at preparations for our upcoming Congress.

Fraternally,

Br. Luis Cabrera, ofm

Br. Alejandro Castillo, ofm

General Office for JPIC
OFM General Curia