

Good morning, everyone. We have the following announcements:

1. Tomorrow we celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the patroness of Portugal. This is a holy day of obligation.

We will have a vigil Mass this evening at 6 p.m. in the church of Carmo.

Tomorrow, there will be Mass in English at 10:15 a.m in Santiago, Mass in Portuguese at 11:30 a.m., also in Santiago, and Mass in Santa Luzia at 5 p.m.

The parish of Conceição will celebrate its patronal feast with Mass at 2:30 p.m., followed by the procession and the popular festival.

2. On Friday, 12 December, we will set up our Nativity scenes.

If you have grown *searinhas*, (which are small plates of sprouted grains), please bring them during the week and leave them here at the Church of Santiago so we can place them in the Nativity scene on the 12th.

3. On Saturday, 13 December, we will have the Santa Luzia festival in Santa Luzia, with Mass at 3:30pm, followed by a procession.

4. Next Sunday, 14 December, at the 11:30am Mass here in Santiago, we will have a blessing for pregnant women.

5. The Peace Candles for the CARITAS campaign “Ten Million Stars” are now available. They cost 2 euros and 50 cents each.

6. We continue our Advent collections. There is a box here at the entrance of Santiago for food donations, which will be distributed by the St Vincent de Paul Society.

We are also collecting school supplies—such as backpacks, notebooks, pens, and pencils—to send to São Tomé and Príncipe.

You may leave these items at the parish office or give them to any catechist.

7. If you have any questions about the ongoing renovations to the Parish Centre, please reach out to Mike Durant. Approximately 13,000 euros still needs to be raised to complete the project. You can find out more about the planned renovations in the brochures that have been placed next to the doors of the church. If you would like to make a contribution, there is a donation box near the main entrance of the church. We are extremely grateful for the support we have received so far.

All of these announcements will be posted in our WhatsApp group and on the English-speaking Community website. Thank you.