

Montfortian Pilgrimage to the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Health "As in your beautiful sky, smiling and limpid, the image of the Southern Cross shines resplendent." (Brazilian national anthem)

DOM SILVERIO-MG, Brazil - Greetings to all the brothers and friends of the Montfort family. It is with great pleasure that I share with you our pilgrimage experience which took place on September 7, Brazil's national holiday.

We left Joao Monlevade as pilgrims to spend a day of prayer, meditation, deepening Montfortian spirituality at the sanctuary of Our Lady of Health, located about 70 km from our city. With the decisive help of Father Jesu DOSS, SMM, head of the Center for the Diffusion of Montfortian Spirituality, our parish of Saint Louis de Montfort lived a significant experience of baptismal renewal through devotion to Mary as proposed by our holy Founder.

Around 200 people participated from the group of consecrated persons, from the Marian retreat on the first Saturday and from the "Mães que Oram pelos Filhos" (Mothers who pray for their children) movement in the neighboring parish dedicated to the Immaculate Conception.

It was a very intense day with a great opportunity to share, to know the reality of another diocese in addition to getting closer to the people specific to the place who were also invited to participate. Father Tiago, the priest of the sanctuary who welcomed us with so much generosity, opened the doors to experience this day of pilgrimage and sharing of the same spirituality of Montfort.

We meditated on the meaning of going on a pilgrimage, renewing our awareness of having a Mother, recognizing the spiritual path proposed by Saint Louis de Montfort in the consecration to "put out into the deep", meditating on the Rosary in a very contemplative way led by Vitor, our Montfortian scholastic, and spending time in adoration before the Most Blessed Sacrament.

We are indeed thankful to God. The meeting was very profitable in leaving us with the desire to participate in new Montfortian pilgrimages. Many thanks to all those who participated, to all those involved in coordination and logistics, food and transport, and to Father Tiago, priest of the sanctuary who welcomed us.

Fr. Guilherme, SMM