

Dear friends and family,

It is a joy to write to you and let you know that we are doing well.

The children are doing well and enjoyed a few days off school this winter.

We have been doing well. I have personally been making good use of my newly restored eyesight and been reading the Bible a whole lot. I want to read the whole book again and have been making excellent progress. I go to my office in the chapel, sit there and spend hours on end, reading my Bible and speaking to my Lord. It has been really a blessed time.

We have also been working on the farm. A lot of good changes there. We have just started refilling the ponds and pretty soon the water will be ready to receive the fish and in a few months we will be producing again!

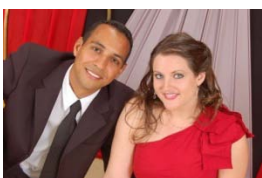
Our region has been really affected with threats of swine flu. Although none have been confirmed in our town, the proximity to Paraguay and Argentina has been a big concern for us all.

God has been good and no one in our family has had a problem with that. However in our city, schools have interrupted classes for 2 weeks, even church gatherings have been suspended due to the threat. Also, our local fair has also been called off and that is an event that is planned in advance and really anticipated by all the local business and especially farmers.

We would really appreciate your prayers for our country as far as the N1H1 flu is concerned.

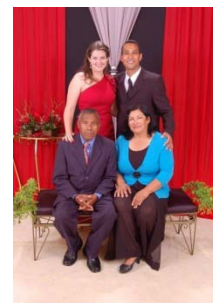
Also on the subject of health, we had a scare with Rute this month. She had been feeling some tightness on her chest and also arrhythmia and also some shortness of breath. Last week we had to rush her to the hospital to see a specialist and she ended up being admitted 2 nights and 2 days. It was a very trying time for us all. Due to the swine flu, no one could go into the hospital with her and all we knew were information her doctor and her managed to give us on the phone. By God's divine grace, she came back home and is making good progress. God is good.

We are now about to embark on a trip to the USA. It seems that more and more, this land that we love, claims a little bit more of our heart! Mae and I will be accompanying our son Joaquim for his wedding ceremony, happening on September 6<sup>th</sup>. My elder son Luis and his family will also be there! It will be great to see Jeff and Theresa and also meet our grandson James! So much to look forward to in these upcoming weeks!



Joaquim and Christine will be getting married in Chicago and we are blessed to be there for that. It will be a beautiful celebration and we ask you to be praying for this young couple as they unite their lives before the Lord.

They will live in the Chicago area after they get married, and eventually will return to Brasil.



We will be in the USA until the 22<sup>nd</sup> and will be visiting with schools, churches and friends in Memphis. If you are in the area and would like to see us, please contact Grace and we will make sure it happens. [grace@orphanos.org](mailto:grace@orphanos.org)

We are so thankful to the Lord for protecting our family with health, for allowing us to work in our farm and keep it productive, for Rute's health improvement and for Joaquim and Christine's wedding coming up! Also for our time in the US.

Please pray for our home and for Marcia, Raquel, Rute and Priscila, as they will hold the fort while we are gone.

Blessings to you and please keep us in your prayers,  
We will touch bases with you all soon

In Jesus,  
Pai