

**“The Missionary finds her fulfilment in the joy of serving”**

To live in the joy of knowing one is called a child of God is truly a great grace! My name is Sr. Socorro Pereira da Silva. I was born in the Amazon in the heart of a multi-cultural society among diverse ethnics, customs, beliefs .. which together shape an enormous rich society.

**My vocation to Religious Life:**

Like all young girls in the Amazon, I desired to marry and to become a mother, but the projects of God led me along another path. I discovered a marvellous youth service in the parish I attended. This experience gave me the good base which strengthened my Christian life.

In 2005 I met the Oblates of the Assumption in Manaus, the capital of the Amazon. Their way of being and their simplicity, their welcome and above all their family spirit touched me deeply. I decided, therefore to live with them for a year with the aim of deepening my vocational path. I was then sent to Sao Paulo in the South of the country for my initial training .

In 2011 I pronounced my first vows and received a superb gift, I was nominated to join the community in Tapaua, a town situated in the interior of the Province of the Amazon. There I lived a very beautiful experience among the indigenous people. I learnt that to be a missionary in the Amazon was to discover the essential value was to abandon oneself each day to the Grace of God with the assurance that it was He who accomplishes His work.

In 2019 I made my perpetual profession in the town of Andradas which is in the South of the country.

At the moment I live in Manaus in the Amazon. With the sisters of my community and the lay fraternity d'Alzon we are responsible for the care of babies, young people and adults. We do this with a Society of St. Helene and with a particular attention to those who are vulnerable and in need of hope. Together we try to bring hope to a suffering people.

May the Lord give us the grace to live in the hope of Jesus Christ so that we can be a sign of hope for our brothers.