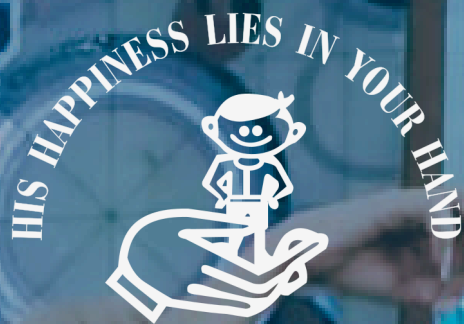




OUR LADY'S HOME FOR BOYS

ANNUAL REPORT

2023 - 2024

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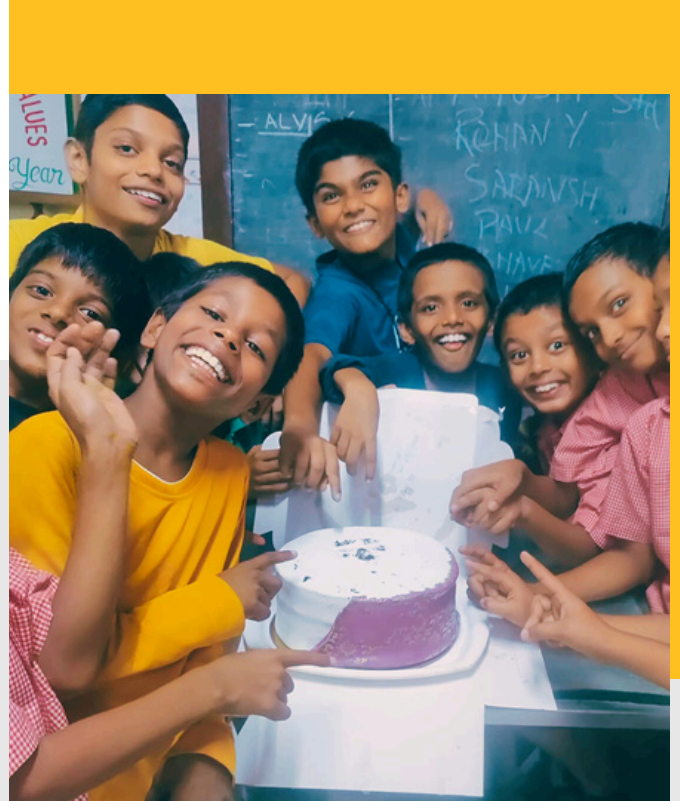
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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



FR LAWRENCE D'SOUZA

Director,
Our Lady's Home for Boys.

DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

With immense pride and heartfelt gratitude, I am thrilled to share the 2023-24 Annual Report for Our Lady's Home for Boys! Since stepping into the role of Director in June 2023, I have had the profound privilege of witnessing firsthand the incredible growth, resilience, and achievements of our boys—accomplishments made possible by the unwavering support of our extraordinary donors, benefactors, volunteers, and dedicated staff.

This past year has been nothing short of transformative. From academic accomplishments to life-skills training and spiritual growth, we have walked a journey together that has empowered each boy to reach new heights. We've overcome challenges and reinforced our commitment to providing a safe, nurturing environment where every child feels valued and supported. Every activity, lesson, and experience has been a stepping stone to building a brighter, more hopeful future for these young lives.

Thank you for standing with us, believing in our mission, and making such a powerful difference. Together, we have turned dreams into reality and created lasting change. Here's to another year of impactful service, growth, and boundless possibilities as we continue transforming lives and building dreams!

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Our Lady's Home for Boys—an inspiring haven for orphaned and underprivileged boys of all backgrounds, where hope and opportunity take center stage! Since 1960, we've opened our doors to children who need it most, providing a loving home in the bustling heart of megacity Mumbai. Today, we proudly care for 138 incredible boys, ages 5½ to 16, each with a unique story and endless potential.

Here, we do more than provide a roof over their heads; we create a family. Every child who walks through our doors becomes part of a caring community where they feel safe, cherished, and valued. From nurturing emotional growth to encouraging their dreams, we strive to make sure each boy experiences the warmth and stability of a true home.



VISION:

Our vision is to be a trailblazing institution that sparks life-changing transformations! We're dedicated to empowering boys with a holistic approach—providing care, education, and personal growth opportunities so they blossom into confident, responsible, and successful individuals. Together, we're shaping tomorrow's leaders!

MISSION:

Our mission is to ignite hope and inspire greatness in every young life we touch! We're here to empower orphaned and underprivileged boys by creating a nurturing, uplifting, and transformative environment. Here, each child is mentored with care, supported unconditionally, valued deeply, and encouraged every step of the way to reach their fullest potential. Together, we're not only shaping brighter futures but also fostering resilient, confident, and compassionate individuals ready to make their mark on the world.

EDUCATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS :

At Our Lady's Home for Boys, education is the core of our mission! Every boy has the chance to learn and grow. From Std I to Std VII, they attend our own school, run by the Trust of Our Lady's Home for Boys. As they reach Std VIII and above, they continue their studies at the neighboring St. Paul High School, expanding their learning horizons.

To boost our educational impact, we welcomed Ms. Winifred Fernandes, a retired headmistress from Don Bosco, to help guide and improve our teaching methods this year. Our commitment to academic excellence is unwavering: primary and secondary students receive year-round, personalized tutoring, thanks to generous volunteers who share their time and talents.

We go beyond traditional academics by hosting life skills workshops, which provide essential skills and trades to help our boys transition smoothly into adulthood, prepared for success in every step of their journey.



HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

We're proud to report that our medical expenses stay low due to the excellent health standards we maintain! Special thanks to Dr. Jain, our dedicated "House Doctor," who provides free care to our boys, and Brother Dashiell, our regent and skilled physiotherapist, for expertly managing and preventing injuries. With a balanced diet, plenty of exercise, and clean surroundings, our boys enjoy strong immunity against common illnesses. We're also grateful to AMWAY for their regular donations of calcium, iron, multivitamin tablets, and protein powder, keeping our boys in top shape.

Believing in "Prevention is better than cure," we ensure each child has a thorough annual health check-up. This year, we partnered with local healthcare providers to offer comprehensive medical, eye, and dental examinations, ensuring that every child received essential care. For those who needed them, eyeglasses were provided at no cost. Our expanded Sports and Fitness programs brought an added focus on health and teamwork, encouraging active lifestyles and collaboration. At Our Lady's Home, we're dedicated to building a strong foundation for lifelong wellness and well-being!

EVENTS OF THE YEAR

05th September 2023:-

Our children eagerly await this special day to honor and celebrate their beloved teachers! It's a heartfelt day filled with deep respect and gratitude, where the boys express their appreciation through colorful cards, creative posters, lively skits, uplifting songs, and heartfelt speeches. Each moment is a joyful tribute, making it a memorable day of admiration and thanks!

08TH SEPTEMBER 2023:-

The day began on a beautiful note with a heartfelt Mass, as our boys gathered to praise and thank God for the gift of Mother Mary, the cherished patroness of our Home. A special liturgy set the tone for this meaningful celebration, which was followed by exciting games, cultural performances, and a feast of delicious snacks and food! To close this memorable day, all the boys united in prayer, reciting the Rosary together in front of the grotto, creating a powerful moment of faith and togetherness.

02ND DECEMBER 2023

marked the annual day of our lady's School & Home. The campus was festively decorated. The crowd overflowing with Guests, Benefactors, well-wishers & parents. A fiesta packed with cultural dances & acts. A celebration worthy of a glorious year of blessings. Fr. Aniceto Pereira, the Rector of St. Pius seminary as the chief guest spoke about Our lady's Home as a lighthouse and harbour for the needy since 1960.



15th August 2023 and 26th January 2024:

Each year, our boys are excitedly trained to sing powerful patriotic songs and speak passionately about the achievements of India's great leaders and the pride of Mother India. National holidays come alive here with team games that build unity, fellowship, and a shared spirit of joy! The delicious treats served on these days make the celebrations even sweeter, creating memories that our boys carry with pride and happiness.

EVENTS OF THE YEAR

08TH DECEMBER 2023

the feast of Our lady's home. A day of prayers and Thanksgiving to our patroness. Fr. Jordan Govind the newly ordained priest and an ex regent of our lady's home , celebrated the Eucharist. A festive mood with delicacies and games resounded the campus .

22ND DECEMBER 2023:

We threw an absolutely magical Christmas Party for the boys by Allanah and her team, before they headed off for the holidays! The evening was alive with festive cheer as they sang and danced with pure joy, creating memories to last a lifetime. A grand feast of snacks and treats kept everyone fueled for fun, with laughter and excitement filling every corner. The night ended on a high note as each boy received a Christmas hamper packed with games, toiletries, stationery, and tasty treats—a perfect send-off to make their holiday season extra special and bright!



4TH FEBRUARY 2024

It was a truly joyous day as 14 of our boys received their First Holy Communion! The beautiful ceremony, celebrated by Fr. Alexander Vaz, was filled with meaning and heartfelt devotion. Following the Eucharist, we hosted a special gathering where each child enjoyed a table reserved Just for him



and his family—a touch that made the day even more memorable. Snack boxes and soft drinks were served, and the kids delighted in candy floss while watching the lively cultural program. The celebration ended on a delicious note with a sumptuous meal shared by all, making it a day to remember!

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR



Culinary Skills – A group of our students embarked on an exciting culinary journey, mastering the art of cutting and slicing vegetables and meats to perfection for each dish. They went beyond the basics, learning the creative craft of making delicious desserts from surplus fruits, blending fresh fruit concoctions, and preparing refreshing juices, and jams. It was a fun and hands-on experience that sparked their passion for cooking and creativity in the kitchen!

Recycling of Waste – We took a bold step toward waste control, turning ideas into action! Waste segregation, composting, and creating storage bins came to life through a "Best Out of Waste" competition. Composting bins were invested in, helping us nurture kitchen gardens, with the boys actively participating and learning. This initiative was made possible by the incredible support of our sponsors and partners, and we're deeply grateful for their commitment.

Academic Achievements – Our five Std 10 students surpassed all expectations, with each passing and scoring above 64%, and one achieving an impressive 88%! These outstanding results are a testament to the hard work of our volunteers and the incredible potential of our boys. It's nothing short of a miracle, and we are deeply grateful. We pray that God continues to bless them and guide their future success!



Sports – An exciting experiment was conducted to train a specific age group to challenge their peers and seniors in football. This initiative not only boosted their self-confidence but also helped them understand the importance of technical skills to excel in the game. Through this challenge, the boys learned teamwork, discipline, and the value of continuous improvement, all while having fun and building their athletic abilities!

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Our financial status remains stable, with a detailed breakdown of income and expenditure available upon request. We are deeply grateful for the ongoing support of our donors, which has enabled us to sustain and improve our programs. We are committed to transparency and accountability, ensuring every rupee is effectively used to support our mission.

VOLUNTEER AND DONOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Our achievements this year would not have been possible without the incredible support of our volunteers, donors, and dedicated staff. Your unwavering commitment has been vital to our success and the well-being of the boys in our care. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to:

- The Archdiocese of Bombay
- Priests and parish groups in the Archdiocese of Bombay
- Donors who have set up scholarships and sponsored school fees, tuition, boarding, and lodging for our boys
- Donors who have sponsored meals, snacks, and materials for various needs on different occasions
- Teams from Opus Dei for their dedicated teaching of Catechism to our First Holy Communicants
- The tutors and volunteers who silently and steadfastly support our educational efforts
- The schools—Ryan International, St. Pius, St. Stanislaus, Villa Theresa, and many more—for their continued partnership
- The NGOs and individuals providing education materials and life skills training

Your support empowers us to continue making a lasting impact. Thank you for being an essential part of our journey!



FUTURE PLANS

As we look ahead, we are excited about the incredible opportunities to further enhance our programs and facilities. Our key priorities for the coming year include:

- Completing major and extensive repairs to our building, already in progress, while creatively maximizing the limited space on our campus for various activities.
- Establishing a dedicated library for the boys and fostering regular reading habits with age-appropriate and topic-specific books.
- Designing and setting up a sports facility, dedicated to the boys' favorite activity and promoting physical well-being.
- Expanding our educational and vocational programs to continue our focus on the holistic development of each boy.
- Creating a "Center for Hope (Excellence)" to support the gifted and hardworking boys of our home, in partnership with dedicated individuals and organizations.

We are filled with excitement and anticipation for the year ahead and the positive impact these initiatives will have on the lives of our boys!



CELEBRATING OUR JOURNEY: THE YEAR IN FOCUS



"EMPOWERING EVERYDAY SKILLS: FROM CLEAN BEDS TO LIFESAVING ACTS"

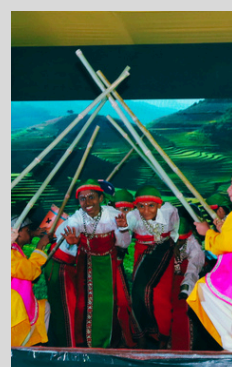
EXPLORING NEW HORIZONS: ADVENTURES BEYOND THE HOME



CELEBRATING TALENT AND TOGETHERNESS: A SPECTACULAR ANNUAL DAY



NURTURING FAITH & SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT



CONCLUSION:

Thank you for being an integral part of our journey and for your unwavering support and belief in our mission. Your generosity and commitment empower us to continue making a profound difference in the lives of these boys. Together, we are shaping a brighter future, one filled with hope, opportunity, and transformation.

As we move forward, we are filled with excitement for the incredible potential we can unlock with your continued partnership. With your help, we can create lasting change and open doors to a world of possibilities for these young lives.

With heartfelt gratitude and anticipation for the future,

Fr. Lawrence D'Souza

Director.

You can bring a smile to the boy's face by

sponsoring a meal on occasions like Birthdays, Anniversaries, or any other reasons

Breakfast - Rs 5500 Evening Tea - Rs 3850 Meal (Veg) - Rs 11500

Meal (Non Veg) - Rs 16500

School & Tuition Fees - 8500 Boarding & Lodging - 21,500 Scholarship - 25000

Cheques to be drawn in favor of 'Our Lady's Home For Boys'

All donations are tax exempted under section 80G of the Income Tax Act



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