



JOYFUL GIFT

Sunday 27th March 2016, **Easter Sunday**, Year C

Newsletter from Madeira. Keep in touch:

 <http://rcmassmadeira.org/>

 www.facebook.com/PenhaDeFrancaChapel.Funchal



The Roman Catholic English Service Mass in Madeira

Welcome to the **Chapel of Penha de França**, founded by Antonio Dantas in 1622 and built on a "penha" or peak, by the sea. The Chapel soon became so famous a shrine that people came to it on pilgrimage from all parts of the Island, and in 1721, the chapel was restored and enlarged. When the Diocese of Funchal took possession of the chapel it was used as the Bishop's Summer Residence for many years. The Franciscans had already been coming to Madeira, but it was only in 1935 that they founded the Franciscan Residence of Our Lady of Penha de França, at the request of Bishop D. Antonio Ribeiro. The nave roof has recently been repaired and the ceiling restored through the generosity of a frequent visitor to our English Mass. Father Bernardino is the presiding priest for the English Service Mass on Sundays.

Today's Scripture Readings

(Acts 10:34,37-43; Ps 117(118); Col 3:1-4/1 Cor 5:6-9; Jn 20:1-9)

Luke's Book of Acts describes Jesus' continuing activity on earth through his Holy Spirit. Cornelius was told in a vision to send for Peter. Meanwhile Peter in a vision was told that all



animals and birds are suitable for eating, implying the restrictions of the Jewish Law were ending. So Peter was now willing to enter the house of Cornelius, even though he was a Gentile. Peter's eloquent speech is interrupted by the Holy Spirit pouring his gifts on these Gentiles. Peter then realises that forgiveness of sins is offered to "everyone who believes" in Jesus' name. Paul draws the Colossians' attention away from earthly rules of religion: they should focus on the life to come when they "will appear with Christ in glory". In the alternative reading Paul tells the Corinthians that sexual immorality should be cleaned out of the Church, like old yeast before the feast of Unleavened Bread,

which followed Passover. In the three synoptic gospels three women discover the tomb empty and run to tell the apostles. But in John's gospel Mary of Magdala is alone. She finds the stone removed from the tomb. Without going inside she runs to tell Peter. Peter goes in first and sees the empty burial cloths. When the other disciple goes in, he believes.

- Brought to you by Chris Oliver

Psalm Response:

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.



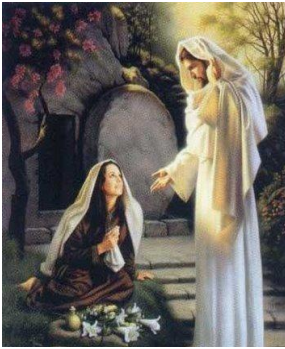
Hymns: Entry: 574 (*This is the Day*)

Mass: Lord have Mercy: 652

Offertory: 21 (*All That I am*)

Exit: 175 (*Go, The Mass is Ended*)

EASTER SUNDAY



» WHAT IS EASTER?

Easter or Easter Sunday, is the **celebration of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead.**

» WHEN DOES IT OCCUR?

Easter is always celebrated **on the Sunday** after Good Friday. It marks the end of Holy Week, the end of Lent, the last day of the Easter Triduum (*ie. Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday*); and is the beginning of the Easter season of the liturgical year.

» WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?

In the Gospels, **Jesus came back to life**, or was raised from the dead, three days after his death on the cross.

His resurrection marks the triumph of good over evil, sin and death. It is the singular event which **proves that those who trust in God and accept Christ will be raised from the dead.**

Through his death, burial, and resurrection, Jesus paid the penalty for sin, thus purchasing for all who believe in him, eternal life in Christ Jesus.

Easter Traditions in Madeira - RELIGIOUS

Easter is one of the most important religious events in Madeira. This is a time full of traditions and customs that are lived with great intensity by the devoutly Catholic Madeiran population. Here are some of the events that took place in Holy Week this year:



ON HOLY THURSDAY:

During the mass of the Lord's Supper, that took place at the Sé Cathedral in Funchal, the Bishop, D. António Carrilho washed the feet of several patients from two Institutions.



ON GOOD FRIDAY:

A group of locals acted out the Stations of the Cross in Pico da Torre (*Câmara de Lobos*). Among the local "actors" there is always someone who carries the Cross, and enacts the crucifixion.



ON GOOD FRIDAY:

Thousands of Madeiran Catholics gathered at the Sé Cathedral in Funchal for the **Good Friday procession known as "O Enterro do Senhor"** (The Funeral of Our Lord).

Pope Francis observes **MOMENT OF SILENCE** for Belgium Attack

In his general audience the day after terrorist attacks in Belgium claimed the lives of at least 30 people and injured 230 more on Tuesday, Pope Francis led pilgrims in a moment of silent prayer for the victims and their families.

“With a sorrowful heart I have followed the sad news of the terrorist attacks which took place yesterday in Brussels, and which caused numerous victims and wounded,” - the Pope said March 23.

He appealed to all people of good will *“to unite them-*

selves in the unanimous condemnation of these cruel abominations which are causing only death, terror and horror.”

Pope Francis asked the faithful to persevere in prayer during the events of Holy Week in order to

“comfort afflicted hearts and to convert the hearts of these people blinded by cruel fundamentalism.”

The Pope then led pilgrims in praying a Hail Mary and observing a moment of silence for the victims of the attacks, for their families, and for the entire Belgian people.



Pray for Brussels



Source: www.catholicnewsagency.com

Easter Traditions in Madeira - **FOOD**

Some of the traditional pastries and sweets popular amongst locals during Easter



FOLAR DA PÁScoa

A sweet bread, scented with cinnamon and Fennel seeds, often with one or more cooked eggs nestled in the centre.



AMÊNDOAS

Sweet candy-covered almonds of different colours.



TORRÕES DE ACÚCAR

These are very popular. The main ingredient is sugar, and there are different flavours, eg. Cocoa, almond, walnut, strawberry, orange, coconut, etc.

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)



"You should wash each other's feet"
(John 13:14).

A small project founded in the Chapel of Penha de França to help those in need. Our Bishop D. António once said, "One must find new ways of helping the poor". A very small group of people attending the English Mass decided to do just that! In a short period of time we have created partnerships with restaurants and supermarket chains, we have paid dozens of medical prescriptions, we have spent gallons and gallons of petrol riding across the island giving lifts, we have prevented families to lose their homes, get their electricity cut off, run out of gas. We have tried to keep them warm, keep them hopeful, keep them dreaming....

DONATIONS - please help:

Moynihans Bar, on the corner up the road from the Chapel, accepts Donations of food, toiletries or clothes for PHP.

PHP Banif Bank Account:

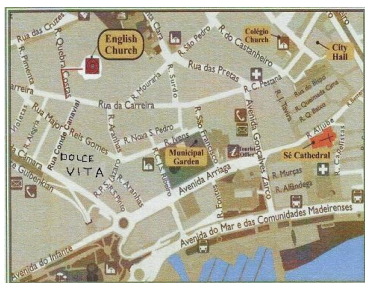
IBAN: PT50 0038 0000 40900916771 75 **BIC:** BNFPTPL

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Bible Group

Joint Anglican - Roman Catholic Bible Group:

THURSDAYS

2pm in the English Church Library.

Gospel of John: Chapter 16

Mothers' Prayer Group

Last Thursday of each month

11-12 am at the English Church

Mothers & Grandmothers of all ages welcome.

More information: <http://www.mothersprayers.org/>

**Tea and Coffee
After Mass in the
meeting room
across the
garden
- please join us.**



Tall?
**Please beware low
door lintels when
leaving the
Sanctuary!**