

JOYFUL GIFT

Sunday 12th June 2016, **11th Sunday in Ordinary Time**,
Year C

Newsletter from Madeira. Keep in touch:



<http://rcmassmadeira.org/>



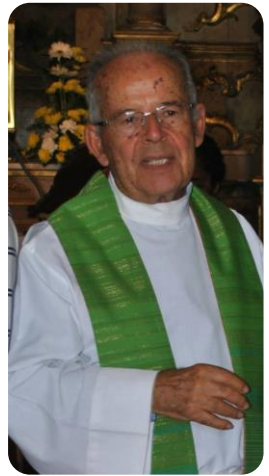
www.facebook.com/PenhaDeFrancaChapel.Funchal

The Roman Catholic English Service Mass in Madeira

Welcome to the Chapel of Penha de Franca! Father Bernardino Andrade is our priest for the English Service Mass on Sundays. He was born here in Madeira, but spent many years as a priest in the USA.

This week Fr. Bernardino celebrates the 51st Anniversary of his Priestly Ordination! In case you may be wondering, the Chapel of Penha de França has quite a bit of history... it was founded by Antonio Dantas in 1622, almost 400 years ago, and built on a "penha" or peak,

by the sea. It was originally built to minister to the soldiers of the small garrison at the Pontinha Redoubt (stronghold) in the bay of Funchal, but the Chapel soon became so famous a shrine that people came to it on pilgrimage from all parts of the Island. When the Diocese of Funchal took possession of the chapel it was used as the Bishop's Summer Residence for many years. In the meantime, the Franciscans had been coming to Madeira to carry out apostolic duties, and in 1935, they founded the Franciscan Residence of Our Lady of Penha de França here, at the request of Bishop D. Antonio Ribeiro. As of last year the Franciscans have moved to the former convent of *São Bernardino* in Câmara de Lobos and the Chapel has reverted back to the Diocese of Funchal. The nave roof of the Chapel has recently been repaired and the ceiling restored through the generosity of a frequent visitor to our English Mass.



Today's Scripture Readings

(2 Samuel 12:7-13; Psalm 31(32); Gal 2:16-21; Luke 7:36-8:3)

The verses before and after this extract from 2 Samuel help us to understand the enormity of David's sin. To get Bathsheba for his wife, David had Bathsheba's husband, Uriah the Hittite, killed by sending him into the fiercest fighting and then withdrawing the other troops from around him. When Nathan told a parable to show David how grievously he had sinned, David admits his sin, and Nathan tells him God forgives him.

The psalm praises this readiness of God to forgive our sins, with all fault and guilt taken away as if the sin had never been. So that we become "at one" with God, "justified", with all our obligations to God fulfilled. We cannot do this alone – only God justifies.

But Paul tells the Galatians that they are not justified by the works of the Law, i.e. the rituals of the Law given to Moses. It is the faith **of** Jesus Christ in His Father, and our faith **in** Jesus Christ, that justifies or saves us.

In today's reading from Luke's Gospel the unnamed woman's sins are forgiven, as shown by her loving actions, which are more important than the Pharisee's concern over outward appearances.

- Brought to you by Chris Oliver

Psalm Response: Forgive, Lord, the guilt of my sin.

Hymns: Entry: 65 (*Bind us together*)

Offertory: 419 (*How Great Thou art*)

Final: 175 (*Go, the Mass is ended*)

Music: Larysa Makarova



FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART – The Back Door Ministry



Brought to you by Fr. Bernardino Andrade

1.

Margaret has been the parish residence cook for many years. Fr. Dan, the parish pastor, always trusted in her and Margaret felt very comfortable with her job. Fr. Dan was very kind and flexible but Margaret was aware that he was the «boss». Very often Margaret, while in the kitchen, was interrupted by the poor who would knock at the back door begging for food. The majority of them were women with their children where malnutrition was very visible. The group of the poor started growing and Margaret's heart bled for them. When she prepared the meals for the pastor and his two associates she started adding some more food hoping she would never be caught by her boss. She would put their food on the table and in separate dishes Margaret would serve the poor that started being regular at the rectory's back door. She knew she was «stealing» but she also knew that a little more food wouldn't make a big difference in the budget of Fr. Dan. Actually she was sure he wouldn't even notice it. But... one afternoon Margaret was caught. Fr. Dan needed something from his car, used the back door and saw a group of people enjoying a delicious hot meal. There was even a table with a few chairs that Fr. Dan had never seen there. Fr. Dan stopped, looked at the poor and looked at Margaret. She blushed... stuttered a few words, tried to explain but nothing of what she was trying to say made any sense. When she was expecting Fr. Dan to scold her she realized that Fr. Dan had tears in his eyes. And something fabulous happened. In that afternoon Fr. Dan established in his parish a new program and Margaret became the first Director of the «BACK DOOR MINISTRY».

2.

Last Sunday, (June 5th, 2016) all of us at Penha de França English Mass, were surprised by the presence of a small group of young people. They were all homeless. I already knew some of their stories. Some are very dramatic and some are horror stories. Sleeping in the streets is not fun. They found out about the project *People Helping People* (which was started at the Chapel to help the poor) and about the compassionate tourists that support *People Helping People*. They came without being invited. They knew that in the Catholic Church there are no questions asked, that they don't have to dress well and smell well and that they don't need letters of recommendation. However, I have to confess that not everything worked that well. It was obvious that everyone felt a bit uncomfortable

and that is understandable. I felt that it was like forcing two people to be married without knowing each other and without being prepared for each other. But they had coffee and cookies at the Social Room even if I was told that some people, very carefully, took special care of their purses. The following day (Monday, June 6th, 2016) I had lunch with them in downtown of Funchal. Now I invited them to be my partners in starting a new project at Penha de França. I invited them to come to the Portuguese Mass the following Sunday, (June 12th, 2016) at 11:30 AM (after the English Mass). After that Portuguese Mass there will be a fresh and delicious lunch waiting for them at the Social Room. Two restaurants have already volunteered to donate their hot lunch.



"Among this group of six friends in this photo, only one of them has a bed to sleep on. The other five sleep on the streets like stray dogs. Most of the people tell them: "Go and find a job" but nobody helps them to find a job. Some of them are my partners in establishing a new project "The Back Door Ministry".

The restaurant that is going to donate a hot lunch this Sunday for our new Back Door Ministry is called "Snack Bar Varandas de Camões" and is located near the Funchal Hospital. The owners are: Rosalina Augusta & José Luis Nunes.
Ph. # 912 300 294



3.

It is my joy to announce that today, June 12th, 2016, the 51st Anniversary of my Priestly Ordination, we inaugurate in our Chapel Penha de França a new project called THE BACK DOOR MINISTRY.

God loves you and so do I,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade

POPE FRANCIS TO VISIT POLAND – And the Auschwitz concentration camp

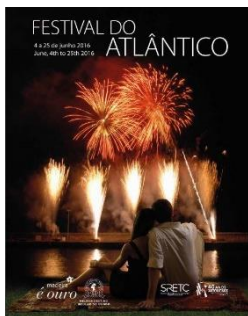
Source: www.zenit.org

Pope Francis will be making an apostolic visit to Poland next month (from 27-31st July) for the 31st World Youth Day celebrations. During his trip he will visit the *Convent of the Sisters of the Presentation*; the *Jasna Góra Monastery* in the town of Częstochowa where he will pray at the Chapel of the Black Madonna; visit the *Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp*, as well as meet with a few survivors of this former death camp that was operated by Nazi Germans in occupied Poland. Other places that Pope Francis will visit are: *The Shrine of Divine Mercy* in Kraków (the resting place of Saint Faustina Kowalska, canonized on 30th April 2000); and the *Sanctuary of St. John Paul II* (a shrine dedicated to Pope St. John Paul II, which has some relics, the most valuable of them being his blood which was offered by doctors of Gemelli Hospital in Italy).



THE MADEIRA ATLANTIC FESTIVAL – Fireworks every week in June

Source: www.visitmadeira.pt/en-gb



The Madeira Atlantic Festival (*Festival do Atlântico*) sets the beginning of the summer season in Madeira. On four consecutive Saturdays during the month of June, at 10:30 p.m. there is a glorious fireworks show that lights up Funchal's night sky at the pier of Funchal's harbor. These wonderful and exciting performances, lasting about 20 minutes each, combine fireworks and music in a unique experience for tourists and residents. In these shows, pyrotechnic companies from the Ukraine, Italy, and China will compete for a trophy awarded by public vote, through the Internet and boxes located in strategic places in Funchal city (City Pier – day of the show, La Vie Shopping Centre, Marina Shopping Centre, and Av. Arriaga Tourism Office).

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE



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

People Helping People (PHP) is 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 from going hungry, losing their homes, getting their electricity cut off, running out of gas. We have tried to keep them warm, keep them hopeful, keep them dreaming...

CONTACTS:

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A big Thank You to Sinead and Tadhg Moynihan, the owners of *Moynihans Irish Bar*, and their staff who do all they can to help with the People Helping People project! It is very much appreciated!! Moynihans Irish Bar is located on the corner up the road from the Chapel, and accepts any Donations, as well as food, toiletries or clothes for the project.



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Tall?

Please beware
low door lintels
in the Chapel



Please remember to leave
your yellow *Hymn Book* and
Order of the Mass sheet at
the Chapel entrance after
mass. Thank you ☺



Out of consideration for those who will be attending the Portuguese Mass (which follows straight after the English service this morning), please avoid talking too loudly in the patio area in front of the Chapel at the end of Mass. Instead, please join us in the social room across the garden for a cup of tea or coffee, and a chat... ☺

This newsletter is brought to you every week by a team of volunteers: Fr. Bernardino (who writes our Weekly Column: *From my Heart to your Heart*); Chris (*Scripture Readings*); Josefina and Larysa (*Hymns*); Tracy and Jennifer (*stories of interest, layout and printing*). If you would like to receive a copy of this newsletter every Sunday, please send an email to penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com and ask to be added to the distribution list.