

# JOYFUL GIFT

Sunday 19th June 2016, 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time,  
Year C

Newsletter from Madeira. Keep in touch:

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## 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. 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

(Zech 12:10-11, 13: 1; Psalm 62(63); Gal 3: 26-29; Luke 9: 18-24)

Writing in the 4<sup>th</sup> century BC, Zechariah promises that the Lord will enable the house of David to lead Judah to defeat its enemies. Jerusalem will mourn "the one whom they have pierced", as they mourned the good king Josiah, slain at Megiddo. From Jerusalem will come a "fountain to wash away all guilt and uncleanness", later seen as Christ pouring out God's grace. Zechariah then promises that "the Lord will become king over all the earth".

In his letter to the Galatians Paul has explained his claim we heard last week that "if justification were through the Law, then Christ died to no purpose": Abraham was justified through his belief in God. In this week's reading Paul concludes: through our faith in Christ we are **all** adopted as the heirs Abraham was promised long before the Law was given to Moses. The Law was a temporary "tutor" to guide God's people until Christ brings us to maturity.

In Luke's gospel, after the Apostles had returned from a preaching mission, Jesus had bolstered their confidence by feeding 5,000 people. In this week's reading Jesus for the first time confirms who he is, but foretells his own death and the sufferings of his followers, before further revealing himself in the Transfiguration.

- Brought to you by Chris Oliver

**Psalm Response: For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.**

**Hymns:** **Entry: 161** (*Give me Joy in my heart*)

**Mass: Lord have mercy: 654** **Offertory: 521** (*Sweet heart of Jesus*)

**Final: 181** (*God forgave my sin in Jesus' name*)

**Music:** *Larysa Makarova*

## FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART – Why People Helping People?

*Brought to you by Fr. Bernardino Andrade*

It was almost midnight when I received a phone call from Dalila, the Coordinator of the «People Helping People» project. Melissa (not her real name), who is being helped by our group and carries obscene tattoos on her body, introduced Isabel (not her real name) to Dalila.

Dalila realized that Isabel had some blood on her clothes. It was very visible and could not be ignored. Dalila inquired if she had hurt herself. No. She explained. It was her 24th birthday, and she had no money to buy Sanitary Towels.

Isabel sleeps in the stairway of a car park in Funchal. She sells her body to survive. It was a very cold night, and she had turned 24 that day. No family, no friends, no money, no home and no hope in a foreign land.

Isabel had come from Venezuela. I asked Dalila if she was a Portuguese returned from Venezuela or if she was an immigrant from Venezuela. Dalila answered that she had not asked any personal questions. The first thing we try to do is not to ask questions. They don't even have to say their names. The first thing Dalila did was to offer her a cup of coffee, a hug and her friendship. Our main goal, to start with, is not to change people but to love them and help them. Mother Teresa used to say that «When we start by judging people we have no time to love them». Dalila took Isabel, immediately, to a pharmacy to buy Sanitary Towels and afterwards to a place for a hot meal.

No woman in the world should pass through this humiliation. But where to find, at that late hour, an Institution with people prepared with a kind and non-judgmental heart, who would not ask questions and not ask for documents, would not give advice or make funny remarks, but simply give a hug and buy Sanitary Towels? It was mainly for this that «People Helping People» was born. The sad part of the story is that Dalila and Isabel said good bye to one another and they never met again. Where are you Isabel? We and all the people at Penha de França love you.

Our hope and our dream is that «People Helping People» would be always an open door when all the other doors are closed.

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



Last week Fr. Bernardino started a new project to feed the homeless, called THE BACK DOOR MINISTRY. Local restaurants have kindly donated a hot lunch for a small group of homeless people. This week, the lunch for this project was donated by a Supermarket called "Novo Super".

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### Feast day of Saint Anthony – on 13<sup>th</sup> of June

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Saint Anthony of Padua is one of the Catholic Church's most popular saints. His feast day is June 13th. Saint Anthony, a Franciscan priest, was born in Lisbon, Portugal, in 1195, and is more popularly known for his intercession when an item has been lost or stolen. He is often invoked with the prayer, "Saint Anthony, Saint Anthony, please come around. Something's lost and can't be found." He's typically portrayed holding the child Jesus, or a lily, or a book, (or all three) in his arms.

For more info about the life of St. Anthony see: [www.stanthony.org/st-anthony-of-padua](http://www.stanthony.org/st-anthony-of-padua)

## JO COX – Tributes honour British MP fatally shot in an attack on Thursday



WELCOME JO COX...

I strongly believe that it was with these words that Jesus welcomed Jo Cox on this tragic Thursday of June 16, 2016. «Come Jo, you are blessed by my Father! Come and possess the Kingdom which has been prepared for you ever since the creation of the world. I was hungry, I was a stranger... I was a refugee... I was a homeless... I was from Syria and you gave your life for me», (Matt. 25: 31-46).

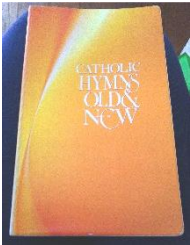
Yes. It was a tragic event that happened on Thursday in the United Kingdom. **Jo Cox was assassinated.** Here are some words that have been extracted from the news: «The celebrations in honour of Jo Cox were multiplied for her action as a deputy and in the defence of the voiceless as it is the situation of the refugees».

Her husband, Brandon Cox, asked people to be united against the hatred that killed his wife... «Hatred is a poison. Jo believed in a better world and struggled for that each day of her life».

- Fr. Bernardino Andrade

*Jo Cox, a 41-year-old-mum-of-two and member of parliament in northern England was an avid campaigner for the rights of refugees. She was gunned down in her constituency in broad daylight on Thursday afternoon. Her attacker was arrested and is in police custody.*

## DONATE A HYMN BOOK – In memory of your loved ones



If you take a look at the first page of your yellow hymn book, you may see that it has been donated to the Chapel by someone who has attended Mass here at some time in the past, with a dedication in loving memory of their loved one. If you'd like to do the same, and donate a hymn book in remembrance of your loved one (and at the same time help the Chapel) as we have a shortage of hymn books, you may order directly from *Kevin Mayhew Publishers* in Suffolk, UK (contact details to the right). For more information on where to send the books, and how to have a dedication note put on the inside of the book you order, please email: [penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com).

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Tel: (+44) 01449 737978 /  
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Suffolk, UK, IP14 3BW

Book to order: Catholic Hymns Old &  
New  
Book Code nr.: 1414100

## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

“Jesus is with you even when you don’t feel His presence. He is never so close to you as He is during your spiritual battles. He is always there, close to you, encouraging you to fight your battle courageously. He is there to ward off the enemy’s blows so that you may not be hurt.” – St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, August 15, 1914”



## PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

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...



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



**Moynihans Irish Bar**, located on the corner up the road from the Chapel, accepts any Donations, as well as food, toiletries or clothes for the PHP project.



**A big Thank You** to the owners, Sinead and Tadhg, and their staff who are always ready to help, and have been a great support to the Chapel. It is very much appreciated!!

PS. The food they serve is divine, and staff are very friendly! Definitely worth a visit!

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**Bank: Banco Santander Totta**

**IBAN:** PT50 0038 0000 40900916771 75

**BIC (SWIFT):** BNIFPTPL

**ACCOUNT NUMBER:** 000409009167710

**Bank Address:** Caminho de Santa Quiteria 46A,  
9020-119. Funchal. Madeira. Portugal

### Tall?

Please beware low  
door lintels in the  
Chapel



Sign our Visitor's  
Book in the Social  
Room, or put a pin on  
our world map to tell  
us where you're from!



Tea and Coffee  
After Mass in the  
Social Room across  
the garden - please  
join us!



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

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 Larisa (*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](mailto:penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com) and ask to be added to the distribution list.