

# JOYFUL GIFT

Sunday 26th June 2016, 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time,  
Year C

Newsletter from Madeira. Keep in touch:



<http://rcmassmadeira.org/>



[www.facebook.com/PenhaDeFrancaChapel.Funchal](http://www.facebook.com/PenhaDeFrancaChapel.Funchal)



## The Roman Catholic English Service Mass in Madeira

**Welcome to the Chapel of Penha de Franca!** This small Chapel was founded by Antonio Dantas in 1622... almost 400 years ago! It was built on a "penha" or peak, by the sea, originally 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 Franca 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 the town of 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. 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.

## Today's Scripture Readings

(1 Kgs 19:16-21; Ps 15:1-11; Gal 5:1, 13-18; Lk 9:51-62)

In the first Book of Kings, Elijah, a prophet in the northern kingdom of Israel, throws his cloak over Elisha. But Elisha remains free to choose whether or not to follow Elijah. Freely he burns his plough and turns his back on all earthly ties. When Elijah's life ends Elisha literally inherits the prophet Elijah's mantle.

For Paul, holiness and freedom are closely linked. Holiness is giving ourselves in love in the service of others. Paul tells the Galatians holiness can be developed and exercised only in relationship with others – ie in community. Paul saw that, without faith, the Law given to the Hebrews on Mount Sinai could not bring salvation. The Law was a sort of monitor or tutor to guide and curb God's people until Jesus came and "set us free". Now "the whole of the Law is summarised in a single command: Love your neighbour as yourself". This new freedom is not freedom from restraint, it is freedom for love – the love of service to each other.

Today's reading from Luke's Gospel refers first to Elijah, who called down fire from heaven to consume his sacrificial offerings rather than those of idolatrous priests. And then to Elisha who burned his plough and did not look back. Faith in Jesus requires total commitment.

**Psalm Response: O Lord, it is you who are my portion.**

**Hymns:** **Entry: 235** (*How Lovely on the Mountains...*)

**Mass: Lord have mercy: 654**

**Offertory: 274** (*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love*)

**Final: 93** (*Colours of Day...*)



**Music:** *Larysa Makarova*

# FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART – Living is taking the risk of dying

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*Brought to you by Fr. Bernardino Andrade*

Some years ago I received this message from my dear friend, Fr. José Marins. I just translated it into English before sharing it with you...

1. Laughing is taking the risk... of looking like an idiot.
2. Crying is taking the risk... of looking sentimental.
3. Getting closer to other people is taking the risk... of committing yourself.
4. Showing your emotions is taking the risk... that others will know you.
5. Sharing your ideas and dreaming with others is taking the risk... of risking your ideas and your emotions.
6. Loving is taking the risk... of not being understood.
7. Living is taking the risk... of dying.
8. In all hope there is the risk... of despair.
9. Every time you try, you take the risk... of failure.
10. However, we have to take risks because the greatest danger in life is... to take NO risks.



Because the one who doesn't take risks does *nothing*.... has *nothing*.... is *nothing*.... Maybe you can avoid suffering and pain but you can learn nothing, feel nothing, change nothing. You can not grow, you can not love, you can not live. Chained by your rightness you will be a slave and will sacrifice your freedom.

Risking is the only way of conquering freedom.

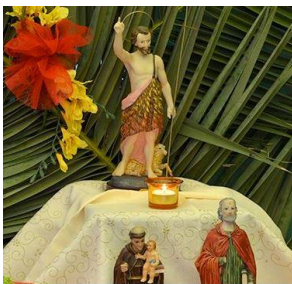
Love,  
Fr. Bernardino Andrade



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## Popular Saints Festival (*Festa dos Santos Populares*): 12-29th June in Madeira

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The Popular Saints Festival takes place all over the island in the month of June, and is strongly rooted in the traditions of Madeira. They are the high social point of many regions on the island. **These festivities are dedicated to the 3 popular saints: St. Anthony (Santo António), St. John (São João) and St. Peter (São Pedro).** The celebrations begin with St. Anthony, traditionally the saint of love, and a match-maker, but St. John is the most popular saint. From 19<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> June **local shops prepare and show off their creativity by decorating small altars in honour of the 3 saints.** **There are also lively musical performances** in the city centre.

## POPE FRANCIS – Prayer is like a ‘Battery’ that keeps our ‘Light’ alive

Source: Zenit – The World Seen From Rome ([www.zenit.org](http://www.zenit.org))

During his daily morning mass on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June at Casa Santa Marta in Vatican City, Pope Francis said that as Christians, we must be the salt of the earth and light of the world, but never be self-serving: salt must add flavor and light must illuminate the other. He explained, to be salt is: *“to give of oneself, to give flavour to the lives of others... salt is something to be used, not to keep for oneself, but to give to others”*. *“It’s curious,”* he continued, **“both salt and light are for others, not for oneself: salt does not give flavour to itself; light does not illuminate itself.”** Pope Francis urged Christians to shine brightly and always overcome the temptation to shine light upon themselves. **“Be light to illuminate, be salt to give flavour and to preserve”**. *“What must a Christian do in order for the salt not to run out, and so that the oil to light the lamp does not come to an end?”* The Pope says we have a special “battery” we can use to generate light: it’s called PRAYER. He said that our prayers, in all their forms, must come from the heart... it is what lights up Christian life.



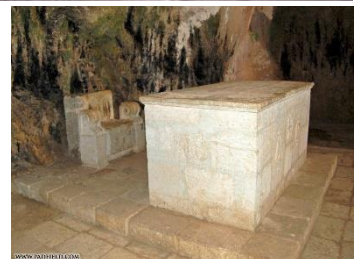
### IS THIS CAVE IN TURKEY THE PLACE WHERE ST. PETER CELEBRATED MASS?



**The “grotto of St. Peter” in Antioch is considered one of the first churches of Christianity.** In Chapter 11 of the Acts of the Apostles it says that Antioch was the city in which, for the first time, the disciples of Jesus were called “Christians”. **Tradition has enthroned Peter as the founder of the Church of Antioch,** following the narration in the Book of Acts, which tells of the arrival of Peter and Barnabas to the Turkish city, and also of their preaching there. Traditionally it is believed that it was in the *Knisset Mar Semaan Kefa* (“Grotto of St. Peter” in Aramaic) where

Peter celebrated the Eucharist for this community.

Located in one of the slopes of Mount Starius, the cave has a depth of just 13m (42 ft.), a width of 9.5m (31 ft.) and a height of 7m (23 ft.) from floor to ceiling. **The oldest parts of the building we see today, built around the original cave dug in the mountain,** are from the 4th and 5th centuries, and include a series of mosaic floors and a few frescoes which have been preserved on the right side of the altar. Centuries ago, a series of small aqueducts brought water (considered miraculous) from nearby springs into a small designated area where baptisms were celebrated, but a series of relatively recent earthquakes rendered these channels useless. When the Crusaders took Antioch during the First Crusade in 1098, a facade was added to the cave, which was rebuilt eight centuries later, in 1863, by Capuchin friars, by order of Pope Pius IX. **Today, the cave is only used as a museum, but, with permission, some religious ceremonies are held, especially on Feb. 21, the day on which Antioch celebrates the feast of their patron, Saint Peter.**



# 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, getting their electricity cut off, running out of gas, losing their homes. 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!

## CONTACTS:

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**USA:** Janice Contreras, 60 Meeks Ln., Oakley, CA 94561.

If you would like to make a donation towards PHP, here are the bank details below:

**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

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



**Sign our Visitor's Book  
in the Social Room -  
we'd love to know  
where you're from!**



Don't forget to leave your yellow *Hymn Book* and *Order of the Mass* sheets at the Chapel entrance after mass ☺



**Tall?**  
**Please beware low door  
lintels in the Chapel**



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 newsletter printing*). If you would like to receive our newsletter in your inbox every Sunday, please send an email to [penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com) and your name will be added to the weekly distribution list.