JOYFUL GIFT

Sunday 17th July 2016, 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

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<u>http://rcmassmadeira.org/</u> www.facebook.com/PenhaDeFrancaChapel.Funchal

The Roman Catholic English Service Mass in Madeira



Welcome to the 10am Mass at 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 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 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

(Gen 18:1-10 Ps 14:2-5 Col 1:24-28 Lk 10:38-42)

Abraham, now settled by the oaks of *Mamre*, near Hebron, south of Jerusalem, gives proper hospitality to his three special visitors. But he addresses only one of them as Lord. The Lord promises a son to the couple in their old age. So that God's covenant promise to Abraham of countless descendants can begin to come true.

Paul had explained to the Colossians that God's covenant plan is now back on track. Christ's death was sufficient for our redemption, but Paul sees his afflictions as adding to those of Christ, both helping spread the knowledge of redemption more widely and deeply, and to make a contribution towards the debt Christ has already paid on our behalf.

The Jews believed that God would reveal his secret plans for creation: Paul says these have now been revealed – the mystery is Jesus the Christ, the man who is the revealation of God.

In Luke's description of Jesus' visit to Martha and Mary their brother Lazarus is not mentioned. Like Sarah, Martha is busy preparing the meal. With so much to do she is naturally – but not obsessively – distracted, and asks for Mary's help. But Jesus reminds her that listening to the words of their prophetic guest is more important than domestic perfection.

- Brought to you by Chris Oliver

Psalm Response: The just will live in the presence of the Lord.



<u>Hymns:</u> Entry: 19 (All over the world) Offertory: 69 (Blest are you, Lord) Final: 120 (Daily, daily, sing to Mary)

Music: Larysa Makarova

Brought to you by Fr. Bernardino Andrade

I saw Dr. William Magee Jr. crying on a TV program. It was the program called *Hour of Power* with the Rev. Dr. Robert Schuler in California. Both could not contain their tears in this TV program.



Dr. William Magee Jr. was a plastic surgeon in Norfolk, Virginia. In 1981 he decided to travel to the Philippines to operate on children with cleft lips and other facial deformities. Unfortunately, there were so many children there with this deformity (a deformity that can render it impossible to speak or eat), that hundreds had to be turned away. This caused Dr. Magee and his wife, Kathy S. Magee, to start an organization called *Operation Smile*.

Operation Smile sends volunteer doctors to perform reconstructive facial surgery for free on children worldwide.

«It wasn't a strategic plan», said Magee. «It was just a matter of emotion and passion to make sure children didn't have to live this way. »

The group, which has already treated 50,000 children worldwide, also trains doctors in other nations to perform the procedures. Magee hopes to use satellite technology in the future, so that he can teach a greater number of medical professionals the necessary techniques.

Dr. Magee didn't have to do this. He could have justified himself with: «What's in it for me? There are so many children in my own city whose parents, or whose insurance company, could pay for this surgery. I'm a busy doctor here. I don't have to go halfway around the world and minister to indigent children. Not my problem».

I doubt if Dr. Magee even wondered if this act of service would get him into Heaven. He simply saw a need and filled it.

He became a Good Samaritan, encouraging fellow surgeons to become Good Samaritans too.

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



For more information on Dr. Magee and "Operation Smile", take a look at the organization founded by him, here: www.operationsmile.org



THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"To Change the world we must be good to those who Cannot repay us"

- Pope Francis

Every Saturday at 1:00 PM, a warm meal is provided for a small group of needy people in the Social room of the Chapel of Penha de França. This project is called "*The Back Door Ministry*". If you'd like to join Fr. Bernardino, and enjoy a delicious free lunch with the homeless (no strings attached), please give Fr. Bernardino a call during the week (before Fridays) at 916192783.

Source: www.catholic.org For more information: www.katerishrine.com



Saint Kateri Tekakwitha (*pronounced "gaderi dega'gwita" in Mohawk*) is the first Native American to be recognized as a saint by the Catholic Church. **She is also known as Lily of the Mohawks.** Her feast day is celebrated on July 14th.

She was **born in 1656**, in the Mohawk village of Ossernenon. She contracted smallpox as a four-year-old child which scarred her skin and

nearly blinded her. Her entire family died during the smallpox outbreak and she was raised by her uncle, who was the chief of a Mohawk clan.

At age 19, she converted to Catholicism. Her decision was very unpopular with her adoptive parents and their neighbours. Some of her neighbours started rumours of sorcery. To avoid persecution, she traveled to a Christian native community south of Montreal, and often prayed for the conversion of her fellow Mohawks.

Sadly, just five years after her conversion to Catholicism, she became ill and passed away shortly before her 24th birthday. **She was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI** on Oct. 21st, 2012 at Saint Peter's Basilica. Various **miracles and supernatural events are attributed to her intercession.** A priest, Fr. Rémy, recovered his hearing and a nun in Montreal was cured by using items formerly belonging to the saint. Another miracle dates back to 2006, when a young boy in Washington state survived a severe flesh-eating bacterium. Doctors had been unable to stop the progress of the disease by surgery and advised his parents he was likely to die. The boy received the



sacrament of Anointing of the Sick from a Catholic priest. As the boy is half Lummi Indian, the parents said they prayed through



St. Kateri Tekakwitha



Tekakwitha for divine intercession, as did their family and friends, and an extended network contacted through their son's classmates. A Catholic nun, Sister Kateri Mitchell, visited the boy's bedside and placed a relic of Tekakwitha, a bone fragment, against his body and prayed together with his parents. The next day, the infection stopped its progression.

A shrine in honour of St. Kateri Tekakwitha can be found in Fonda, New York.

Pope Francis condemns attack in Nice, France

Source: www.zenit.org



Pray For France



This Friday, Pope Francis expressed his profound sadness and deep sorrow to the French People after the July 14th attack in the city of *Nice* in which 84 people lost their lives and more than 100 people were injured. On Thursday night, as spectators were marking Bastille Day (the French national day) with a fireworks celebration on the French Rivera, a large truck barreled for more than a mile through the enormous crowd until the driver was eventually shot to death by police officers. On the Pope's Twitter account, he wrote: *"I pray for the victims of the attack in Nice and their families. I ask God to convert the hearts of the violent blinded by hate".*

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 partnerships created 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.



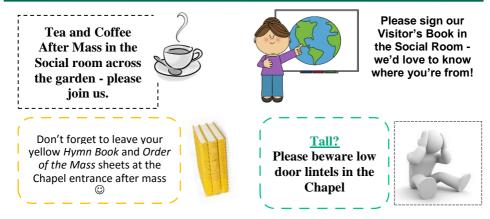
A big Thank You to the owners, Sinead and Tadhg, and their staff who are always ready to help, and have been a great support to the Chapel. It is very much appreciated!!

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

CONTACTS:

Europe: Pe Bernardino Andrade, Rua das Murteiras, 28 - 1E, 9060-199 Funchal, Madeira, Portugal. email: bernardinodandrade@gmail.com USA: Janice Contreras, 60 Meeks Ln., Oakley, CA 94561. If you would like to make a donation towards PHP, the bank details are 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



Newsletter from Madeira. Keep in touch! This newsletter is brought to you every week by a team of volunteers: Father 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** so that your name can be added to the weekly distribution list.