



Sunday, 28th August 2016, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

10am Mass - Rua de Penha de França nr.3 - Funchal

 <http://rcmassmadeira.org/>

 www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel



>> THE CATHOLIC ENGLISH SERVICE MASS IN MADEIRA:

Welcome to the Chapel of Penha de França! The special intention of this Eucharistic Celebration today will be for Fr. Paul Dynan, in grateful thanks for his great kindness during a very difficult time. Our priest for the English Service Mass on Sundays is Fr. Bernardino Andrade. He was born here in Madeira, but spent many years as a priest in California, USA.

The Chapel of Penha de França was founded by Antonio Dantas in 1622. 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. 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. 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.

A year ago the Franciscans 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.

Today's Scripture Readings

(Sir 3:17-20, 28-29... Ps 67:4-11... Heb 12:18-19, 22-24... Lk 14:1, 7-14)

Part of Wisdom literature, the Book of Sirach, or Ecclesiasticus, was written by Ben Sira about 200 BC. Full of traditional Jewish and worldly wisdom and morals, it is based on deep experience. After describing our duties towards God, the book turns to our duties towards our parents. This extract emphasises the need for humility in face of God's greatness – echoed by the Psalm – and the wisdom that comes from listening carefully. The omitted verses advise us not to seek what is beyond our power nor tasks beyond what has been assigned to us.

Having described our disciplining by God last Sunday, our final reading from Hebrews describes the exciting delights of the heavenly city we have now entered, after our baptism. Instead of fearsome Sinai, Zion – the new "Temple Mount" where God resides – is full of angels in tumultuous joyful festival, with believers and saints made perfect being welcomed by Jesus and our God. What a welcome! But God is still judge: as we have been given the privilege of Jesus as covenant-mediator, we have the responsibility of offering thanksgiving to God.

In Luke's gospel we hear about Jesus having dinner with a Pharisee. Two parables illustrate the themes from the first reading of humility and not giving ourselves airs.

- Brought to you by: *Chris Oliver*

PSALM RESPONSE: In your goodness, O God, you prepared a home for the poor.



Hymns: **Entry: 161** (*Give me Joy in my heart*)
Offertory: 159 (*Gifts of bread and wine*)
Final: 600 (*Walk with me, O my Lord*)

Music played by: *Larysa Makarova*

FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART – Love Is Still Alive

- *Brought to you by* Fr. Bernardino Andrade



It was last Saturday, August 20th, 2016. It was my latest Wedding. Grace Farinha and Tiago Rentroia were united by the Sacrament of Matrimony. They didn't receive the Sacrament of Matrimony like it happens with the other Sacraments. They became a Sacrament. They became a symbol, of the passion that God has for his people.

Grace's parents, because they live in Funchal, are regular attendants of the Sunday English Mass at the Chapel of Penha de França, where they are very active.

A few weeks before the Wedding Day we had a few meetings, not mainly to prepare for the Wedding Day, but to prepare for their Married Life. The ceremony lasts a few hours. The Sacrament lasts forever. In our meetings, I gave them some home work. I asked them to please write three love letters to each other, trying to answer these three questions:

1 - Think about a couple you most admire in your life and you would like to take as a role model for your married life. Please write the qualities you most admire in them, that you would like to imitate in your own family.

2 - Share with each other the fears (if any) that you feel by embarking on this new adventure of living with each other, knowing that it is for the rest of your life.

3 - Share with each other your dreams and your hopes that you feel by embarking on this new adventure of living with each other, knowing that it is for the rest of your life.

Their answers to questions number 2 and 3, I invited them to keep and to dialogue with each other in private, unless they felt that they would like to share the answers with another person like a counselor, a priest or a special friend; and I told them that they were welcome to share with me their reply to question number 1 if they wished to do so. Without discussing or planning in advance, both of them shared with me, in front of one another, that the couple that they most admire and would like to imitate were their own parents. (Tiago's parents have been married for 35 years and Grace's parents have been married for 45 years.) Then they started talking about their parents' qualities.

After this wonderful and emotional sharing, around a cup of coffee, they decided to go back to question number 3, and both agreed that «my dreams and my hopes in the future are that our children would talk about us as we are talking about our parents».

Love is not a feeling. Love is not an attraction. Love is a decision. Love is a commitment. **LOVE IS STILL ALIVE!**

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



* Wedding photos taken by professional photographer, Miguel Ponte.

ST. LAWRENCE and ST. VINCENT OF SARAGOSSA - Two Deacon Saints

Source: www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=366

Source: www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=724

Saint Lawrence was one of seven deacons of the city of Rome under Pope Sixtus II who were in charge of giving help to the poor and the needy. During the persecution by Emperor Valerian in 258, Pope Sixtus II was condemned to death by execution, and St. Lawrence was also condemned to a slow, cruel death 3 days later. He became a martyr when he was tied on top of an iron grill over a slow fire that roasted his flesh little by little. Just before he died, he prayed that the city of Rome might be converted to Jesus and that the Catholic Faith might spread all over the world. Saint Lawrence's feast day is August 10th.



Saint Vincent of Saragossa was a deacon of the Church of Saragossa (a city in Spain), ordained by Bishop Valerius who suffered from a speech impediment and so he commissioned Vincent to preach throughout the diocese and act as his spokesman. He served Bishop Valerius until his martyrdom at Valencia during the persecutions under Emperor Diocletian (r. 284-305). Bishop Valerius was exiled, but Vincent was cruelly tortured because he would not surrender the holy books. He converted the warden of the prison and then died.

He was honored by Saint Augustine, and Pope Leo I, and is considered the patron saint of vinegar-makers and wine-makers in some regions of Spain. His feast day is January 22nd. He is the patron saint of Lisbon and Valencia.

Interestingly, Madeira honours these two deacon saints, who both have towns named after them on the island: São Vicente (named after Saint Vincent of Saragossa) and Ponta de São Lourenço (named after Saint Lawrence).

The Gift-Wrap & The Jewel – A heartwarming poem about getting old

www.youtube.com/watch?v=2YxCR2a-sxI

Wanda Goines, a lovely 92-year-old woman from Portland, Oregon, **wrote a poem that poignantly conveys what's important as you age.** She recited it to her caretaker who was so moved by the poem that she asked Wanda to recite it on camera, and then posted it to her Facebook page on the internet. The video has had over 4.7 million views on Facebook since August 2015. Here is the poem:

*« I looked in the mirror and what did I see?
A little old lady peering back at me...
With bags and sags and wrinkles and wispy white hair*

*And I asked my reflection: “ How did you get there?
You once were straight and vigorous
And now you're stooped and weak
When I tried so hard to keep you from becoming an antique...*

*My reflection's eyes twinkled and she solemnly replied:
You're looking at the gift wrap and not the jewel inside;
A living gem and precious... of unimagined worth;
Unique and true, the real you, the only YOU on earth!*

*The years that spoil your gift wrap with other things more cruel
Should purify and strengthen and polish up that jewel;*

*So focus your attention on the inside, not the out;
On being kinder, wiser, more content and more devout.
Then, when your gift wrap's stripped away,
Your jewel will be set free... to radiate God's glory throughout eternity! »*

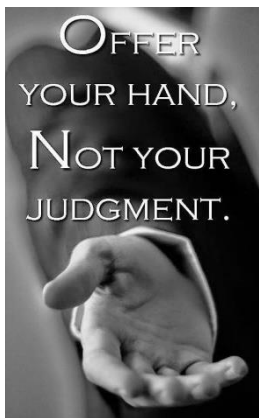


PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

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 supermarket chains and restaurants, 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, and keep them dreaming...



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): BNFPTPL

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 000409009167710

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



PLEASE REMEMBER

to leave your yellow *Hymn Book* and *Order of the Mass* sheets at the Chapel entrance after mass.

This will help us to keep the Chapel neat... **thank you** 😊



Please sign our Visitor's Book

in the Social Room

- We'd love to know where you're from!

Tea and Coffee After Mass!!

in the Social Room across the garden - please join us.



Tall?

Please beware low door lintels in the Chapel



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*). To receive our newsletter every Sunday, please send an email to penhafraanca.newsletter@gmail.com and we will add your name to the weekly distribution list.