



Sunday, 25th September 2016, 10am Mass

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

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! 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.

In 2015 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

(Amos 6:1, 4-7, Ps 145:6-10, 1 Tim 6:11-16, Lk 16:19-31)

Amos warns both the northern kingdom, Israel, ie Samaria, and the southern kingdom, Judah, with its capital Zion or Jerusalem, that the idle rich in both kingdoms will be the first to go into exile. 40 years later, in 721 BC, Samaria was conquered, and later Judea followed into exile.

The Psalm, echoed by Mary in Luke's Magnificat, confirms that God's justice will prevail: the hungry will be fed, the blind given sight, but the wicked will lose out. The Gospel graphically illustrates this theme: the rich man, who is not named, asks that the poor man – who is named – Lazarus – be sent to relieve his torments in hell. Abraham tells him the rich should listen to the prophets.

Instructing Timothy how to organise the early Christian church, Paul also insists the rich should use their wealth for good deeds. Christians should ideally aspire to show all the Christian virtues as examples to all, and so witness to the truth, until our Lord Jesus Christ returns to appear in glory as King of kings. And Paul insists that only God "has immortality": we do not simply have souls that live on after death – our creed says we believe in "the resurrection of the body", a gift from God in which our whole person, body and soul, lives forever.

- Brought to you by: Chris Oliver

PSALM RESPONSE: My soul, give praise to the Lord.

Hymns: Entry: 419 (*O Lord, my God!*)

Offertory: 572 (*This is my body*)

Final: 416 (*O Lord, all the world belongs to you*)



Music played by: Larysa Makarova

FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART – A Prostitute becomes a Nun

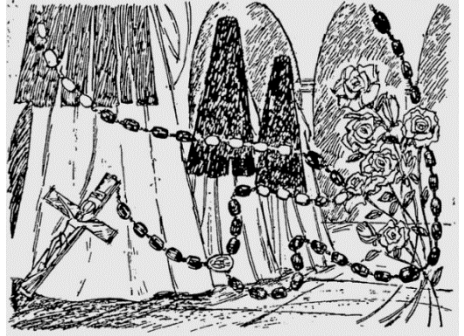
- Brought to you by Fr. Bernardino Andrade

Lise, an English army girl, falls on hard times and becomes a prostitute after the liberation of Paris in World War II. Within a short time, she becomes the leading Madame in one of Paris' smartest brothels owned by a man named Patrice. But Patrice soon tires of Madame Lise as his mistress and she is humiliated. In trying to help a younger prostitute escape from the same fate she suffered, Lise shoots and kills Patrice. So she is sent to prison where she meets the French Dominican Sisters of Bethanie.

The French Dominican Sisters of Bethanie is a community dedicated to serving prostitutes, drug addicts and vagrants; some of the sisters were once themselves such unfortunates.

Lise becomes one of the Sisters of Bethanie. Sister Lise is a prototype of the lost sheep, *the lost coin and the lost son* (Lk 15). God's Grace is greater than our sins.

The story of the Good Shepherd, told by Jesus, is a «scandalous» story. In the Religious Community of Bethany there are former prostitutes, drug addicts and dirty homeless who became nuns, passionately in love with Jesus and His project. Only love, not cruel rules, are able to save and free people from their miseries and their sins and restore their dignity.



My friend Claudia Silva (Rosario Santos' daughter) told me during supper at her mother's house:

- « If you tell a homeless, a drug addict, a prostitute, a robber, a murderer, a sexual abuser: **“You have dignity, you are beautiful, there is hope for you, heaven is waiting for you, you deserve to be happy and make other people happy, the world needs you because you are a human being and you have many talents, there's a special place reserved in heaven for you, because God loves you without any conditions.”**, he/she will not believe you; But if you treat him/her like an animal and say: **“You are no more than a piece of garbage, hell is waiting for you, you deserve all the suffering you got because it is all your fault, all the world wants you to be dead, all the ‘good’ institutions are tired of you and would be happy to get rid of you.”**, he/she will believe you. »



« God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. » (John 3: 16).

« The biggest atheist is not the one who says he doesn't believe in God. The biggest atheist is the one who doesn't believe that God is able to change the heart of a person. » (L. Évely)

In the eyes of God there are no lost causes. «*In the eyes of God there is not one irrecoverable human being.*» (Pope Francis)

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

TWO LOVE STORIES – Marriage advice from one special couple to another

Two special couples attended the English Mass here at the Chapel last Sunday. At the end of Mass both approached Fr. Bernardino for a special blessing.



Last week Sunday: Jacinta and Declan, with Arthur and Margaret...
in the garden of the Chapel of Penha de França.
- September 18th, 2016.



Jacinta & Declan Conway on their wedding day in Saint Coleman's Church in Claremorris, Ireland, on September 10th 2016.

The older couple, Arthur & Margaret, informed that they had been married for 57 years. The younger couple, Jacinta & Declan, for only one week! They had been married a week earlier in Ireland.

Declan, the younger husband said «*We need to talk with them*». And they did. The piece of advice that Arthur, the older husband, gave to the younger was very simple and according to him was the "secret" of their very successful marriage. It is very inspiring advice, and it also applies for every relationship and it is very simple.

Here it is: «**Forget everything you learned until now about Marriage. Just keep this piece: "BE GOOD TO EACH OTHER".**»

PADRE PIO OF PIETRELCINA – Feast Day on September 23rd

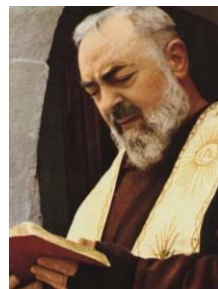
Padre Pio was an Italian priest, born in 1887 in the town of Pietrelcina, Italy. **He was known for his piety and charity and the quality of his preaching, as well as for the gift of the stigmata, which has never been explained.**

In 1947, Fr. Karol Wojtyla visited Padre Pio who prophetically told him he would rise to the highest post in the Church... Fr. Karol Wojtyla became Pope John Paul II in 1978.

Padre Pio, **at the age of 5, dedicated his life to God.** He was able to see and communicate with not only his guardian angel, but also with Jesus and the Virgin Mary. This was not something that was taught to him, but occurred so naturally that he assumed other people could see them too.

Padre Pio loved to pray the Rosary and recommended it to others.

The marks of the stigmata, the wounds of Christ, appeared on Padre Pio's body on Friday, September 20th, 1918, while he was praying before a crucifix and making his thanksgiving after Mass. **He was 31 years old and became the first stigmatized priest in the history of the Church.** With resignation and serenity, he bore the painful wounds in his hands, feet, and side for 50 years. **The wounds smelled of roses, and although they continued to weep, they never became infected.** Many miracles have been also attributed to his intercession.



God endowed Padre Pio with many extraordinary spiritual gifts and charisms including the gift of healing, prophecy, miracles, discernment of spirits, the ability to read hearts, the gift of tongues (the ability to speak and understand languages that he had never studied), the gift of conversions, etc. He famously advised, «*Pray, hope and don't worry.*»

Padre Pio died on September 23rd, 1968. His funeral was attended by over 100,000 people. Padre Pio's body was exhumed intact in 2008. He was beatified in 1999 and canonized in 2002 by Pope John Paul II. His feast day is September 23rd. You can read more about Padre Pio and his miracles at:

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.

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

>> CONTACTS:

Europe: Pe Bernardino Andrade,
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9060-199 Funchal,
Madeira, Portugal.
Email: bernardinodandrade@gmail.com

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

LORD, HOLD ME...

I'm tired,
depressed,
hurt, sad,
and
I'm alone.



I will always
be with you
and
hold you

Remember,
you are
NOT ALONE



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



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

Tall?

Please beware
low door lintels
in the Chapel



Please sign our
Chapel's Visitor's Book
in the Social Room
- We'd love to know which
country you're from!



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 Larisa (*Hymns*); Tracy and Jennifer (*stories of interest, layout and newsletter printing*).

If you'd like to receive a copy of our newsletter every Sunday, please send an email to

penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com and we will add your name to the weekly distribution list. The newsletter can also be downloaded from the Chapel's website: **www.rcmassmadeira.org**