



Sunday, 9th October 2016 – 10am Mass

28th 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, founded by Antonio

Dantas in 1622. The Chapel 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. **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.**

Today's Scripture Readings

(2 Kgs 5:14-17 ... Ps 97... 2 Tim 2:8-13 ... Lk 17:11-19)

Naaman, a leper, commanded an Aramaen army which was victorious over Israel. A little Israeli girl, who became the servant of Naaman's wife, said the prophet in Samaria could cure Naaman's leprosy. Elisha told Naaman to bathe seven times in the Jordan. Initially Naaman refuses to do something so humble, but he is persuaded by his servant and he is cured. When Elisha refuses any reward, Naaman takes some soil back home so that he may continue to worship only the God of Israel.

Paul urges Timothy to pass on the gospel he has received, summed up in only 6 Greek words: Jesus, the Christ, anointed by God; descended from David, risen from the dead. Thus pointing to our bodily resurrection. In what sounds like a hymn from a very early baptismal liturgy we are told that "if we persevere we shall reign with him". Not just be with Christ, but joining him in his work of caring for the renewed creation.

In Luke's Gospel Jesus is coming closer to Jerusalem, and his death, while revealing more about his kingdom. Last week Jesus told his disciples to serve without expecting thanks. Now ten lepers are healed, like Naaman, through simple actions. Only the non-Jew returns to thank him.

- Brought to you by: *Chris Oliver*

PSALM RESPONSE: The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

Hymns: **Entry: 256** (*Immaculate Mary*)

Offertory: 41 (*As the deer pants for the water*)

Final: 247 (*I, the Lord of sea and sky*)

Music played by: *Larysa Makarova*



Our Family Journey

We are the Cardoso Family from South Africa, my husband and I and our two children (José & Grace) are visiting the island of Madeira. We have chosen to baptize our daughter, Grace Isabella, here as we have family in Madeira and the United Kingdom who will join us for this celebration. It is a wonderful and special time to bring two families together as the last time we all had an opportunity to be together was at our son José's baptism in South Africa 5 years ago. **We are writing this story to share how God's mercy and blessings have been given to our family.**



We have been married for 16 years and have struggled to have children and eventually we sought medical advice. After many tests, we were told it was not possible to have children naturally. However, we serve a God of miracles and believed that the blessing would be there for us to have a child and in January 2011 we found out we were pregnant. On 21st September 2011 we delivered a beautiful healthy baby boy, José Daniel. Our hearts were overflowing with joy and the privilege to be able to have this child was more than our words can describe. We desperately wanted to have more children and to give our son a sibling. We were now able to fall pregnant, but kept losing babies and miscarrying at various stages of our pregnancies. One of our pregnancies we had to deliver our baby who had died in utero. This was a very difficult time for us, delivering a baby is supposed to be a time of joy and celebration. We prayed our way through this delivery and only by God's grace and mercy were we able deliver this baby and it was a girl. She died of asphyxiation as the umbilical cord had got wrapped around her little neck.

That night as I lay in my hospital bed reading some scriptures, I was searching for a name for this child we had lost and was reading this verse. ***“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*** *Jeremiah 29:11*. We named our little baby girl “Hope”, with the hope and belief that through God's grace we would have another baby and sibling for our son José. We had another 4 miscarriages after baby Hope and our faith and belief at times would waiver but we could not let the fear of what could happen or go wrong in a pregnancy override the sheer miracle of what can go right, like when we had our son José. Hope is the only thing that is stronger than fear.

From about the age of 3 years, José started praying for a baby and more specifically a sister. At night in bed he would often say while praying, “God, I been praying for such a long time now, how many more sleeps until you bring my baby... I have been waiting so long”. He believed with childlike faith. We found out in August 2015 we were pregnant again and when we told José, these were his words: Mom, ***“you must now eat all your vegetables and thank you God for giving me my baby in my mommy's tummy”***. We did not find out the gender of our baby;

all we continued to pray for throughout our pregnancy was a strong and healthy baby. On the 16th May 2016 we delivered a perfectly healthy beautiful baby girl and we called her Grace. We felt there was no other name fitting for this child. Grace was our 10th pregnancy and the circle was completed, we had our baby girl and a sister for José. Through God's grace and mercy, we were blessed and privileged again with the miracle of this child. It has been an amazing journey for us as a family. **In closure, we serve a God of love and his blessing is available for us all.** We thank you Lord for ours.

From Hope to Grace.



THE HOLY ROSARY – Good for your heart and your soul, says Pope Francis

Source: <http://blog.catholicfaithstore.com/feast-lady-rosary/>



The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary.

On November 17, 2013, Pope Francis gave some sage medical advice to the thousands in attendance at the Vatican, «*I want to recommend some medicine for all of you.*» Holding up a box that looked like a prescription packet of pills, he urged the people, «*Don't forget to take it,*» he said. «*It's good for your heart, for your soul, for your whole life.*» What was it? It was a box containing rosary beads and is what the pope described as being, «*spiritual medicine.*»

This simple string of 58 beads joined together with a cross has been the weapon of choice of many saints, popes, and religious figures in the fight against sin, temptation, war, and evil. Pope Francis gave some examples of when the “*medicine*” should be taken: «*When we want sinners to convert, when we feel we need help in making a difficult decision, or when we do not feel strong enough to resist temptation, when we are not able to forgive someone or we want to ask for mercy for a dying person.*».

TRADITIONAL BLESSING OF ANIMALS TODAY – In Funchal at 16h30

The feast day of St. Francis of Assisi is celebrated on October 4th each year. The feast commemorates the life of St. Francis, who was born in the 12th century and is the Catholic Church's patron saint of animals and the environment. Here in Madeira, it is a popular day for pets to be “*blessed*”. **Today at 16h30 in the Funchal Municipal garden there will be a traditional mass, with the laying of flowers by the St. Francis of Assisi statue in the garden, and the blessing of animals by Friar Nélío of the Franciscan Order. Many people will be taking their pets there to be blessed.**



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

At 18h00 at the church in São Martinho, there will also be a blessing of the animals ceremony, with lots of pets and their owners, followed by a procession in honour of St. Francis.

BREAD WITH MY BROTHER

Under the umbrella of “*People Helping People*”, a new service was established at the Penha de França Community, on June 12, 2016. It is called “*BREAD WITH MY BROTHER*”.

The homeless, tourists and all kind of people are invited to share the same meal and the same table. It is an effort to build social equality.

It is an opportunity to learn from one another and grow together as brothers and sisters. It is a «*grain of sand*» as the Mexicans say, to build the kingdom of God in this world. Different restaurants, Hotels and private people offer a lunch that is served every Saturday at 1:00 PM in the Social Hall of the Penha de França Chapel. Last Saturday's lunch was offered by the **Royal Savoy Hotel**, and yesterday's lunch was provided by **Touri Galo Restaurant**. The next lunch (October 15th) will be offered by the **Pestana Carlton Hotel**.

All are invited.

Fr. Bernardino



Last week Saturday, for the first time, a tourist couple joined the *Bread With My Brother* lunch.

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 *People Helping People* project.



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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



Tall?
Please beware
low door lintels
in the Chapel



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 Hall
across the garden -
please join us.**



**Please sign our
Chapel's Visitor's Book
in the Social Hall**

- 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 Larysa (*Hymns*); Tracy and Jennifer (*stories of interest, layout and newsletter printing*). If you'd like to receive a copy of our newsletter by email every Sunday, request your name to be added to the weekly distribution list. Send an email to: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com and we will add your name to the list. The newsletter can also be downloaded from the Chapel's website/blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org