



Sunday, 16th October 2016 – 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C
10am Mass – Rua de Penha de França nr.3 – Funchal, Madeira.

 <http://rcmassmadeira.org/>  www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel

THE CATHOLIC ENGLISH SERVICE MASS IN MADEIRA:



Photo of the Chapel from the 1800s, showing the peak on which it was built. Photo credit: from the facebook page: *Madeira Quase Esquecida*

Welcome to the Chapel of Penha de França. This small Chapel 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. **Our priest for the English Service Mass on Sundays is Father Bernardino Andrade. He was born here in Madeira, but spent many years as a priest in California, USA.**

Today's Scripture Readings

(Ex 17:8-13... Ps 120... 2 Tim 3:14-4:2... Lk 18:1-8)

In the Book of Exodus, soon after escaping from the Egyptians across the Red Sea, the Israelites' frequently grumbled about God, who responded by giving them sweet water, quail and manna. Then they were challenged by the Amalekites living between Palestine and Sinai. Although they continued to quarrel and test the Lord, he showed yet again that he will always look after them. Moses needs a lot of human help to keep his arms up! But his persistence showed complete faith in God. The Psalm also reminds us that we can rely totally on God. Paul also emphasises that Timothy must "be persistent" in proclaiming the word "whether it is convenient or inconvenient". He describes the uses of inspired scripture: "for teaching, for refuting error, for guidance and for teaching people to be holy". For Paul, writing before the Gospels were written, "scripture" meant what we now call the Old Testament. So we need to persist in trying to understand the Jewish Scriptures. Just before Jesus enters Jerusalem Luke gives us two parables about prayer. Today we hear how the persistent widow eventually gets justice. Jesus assures us that God will "see justice done to his chosen who cry out to him day and night even when he delays to help them".

- Brought to you by: *Chris Oliver*

PSALM RESPONSE: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Hymns: **Entry: 235** (*How Lovely on the mountains*)
Offertory: 313 (*Let all that is within me cry: holy*)
Final: 231 (*Holy virgin, by God's decree*)

Music played by: *Larysa Makarova*



FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART – A Drunkard Attending Mass

- Brought to you by Fr. Bernardino Andrade

1.

It was the feast of the patroness of the parish dedicated to Our Lady of Piety (*that means mercy, compassion*). It was one of those big festivals that congregate the entire parish and attract many pilgrims from other locations of Madeira Island.

I had been invited to preach the sermon of the solemn vigil. The Church was packed with people, the Pastor of the Parish was seated at the presiding chair and I was in the pulpit giving my sermon about Our Lady of Piety (Mercy). There were speakers outside broadcasting my sermon to the entire Parish.

It was the moment when I was sharing about the meaning of piety, mercy and compassion. I was saying that mothers have their favourite children. **The favourite son or daughter of a mother is the one who is suffering the most.** Also the most disturbing thing is that sometimes he or she is the one who most embarrasses the family; sometimes he is a drug addict, a drunkard and even a criminal. Sometimes he is the one for whom the mother most cries, prays and loses her sleep over. He or she is the one nobody likes. Sometimes he is, or she has, been in jail and the newspapers and TV have condemned the entire family because, when their names are written or broadcast in the news, everybody recognizes his or her family name. He or she is the «black sheep» of the family. He or she is *the lost sheep* (Luke 15). Nobody likes him or her. But he or she is the mother's favourite. This was the message I was trying to convey.



In this moment **I saw a man walking towards the altar. He was very inebriated, stopped right in front of the Pastor and started yelling** at him about his rights to be in that church because he had been baptized and made his First Communion there. His voice was very loud and he could hardly keep standing. He was really full of alcohol. Because it was impossible to compete with him, I had to stop my sermon.



And now? What to do? Call the police? But would arresting this man match my sermon about mercy and compassion? Actually my decision was easy: **I just left the pulpit and in front of the entire congregation I hugged him and spent a few moments with him in my arms.** Then I helped him to walk and helped him to sit in a comfortable chair. A few moments later he was sleeping.

Then I returned to the pulpit and said: « *If this was rehearsed it would not have worked better* ». Then I also felt like saying « *This was what I wanted to say. Amen* ». Unfortunately, I kept going with my words, but I think they ruined my action.



2.

Last Sunday when I was coming to say the English Mass I stopped by a bar-coffee shop for a cup of coffee. It was 9:00 AM. Leaned against the counter there was a man holding a beer and visibly inebriated. I started talking with him. I could see that he was in pain. I told him: « *You look sad. Are you OK?* ». He was very polite and confirmed that he WAS really sad. I didn't make any reference to the beer he was holding in his hand. In words I expressed my compassion for his pain, but I was in a hurry to say Mass. I left him with his beer, his loneliness and his pain. I felt like the priest of the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 25-37). I was a «good» priest on my way to worship God and do «good» things. I had no time for people who are already drunk at 9 o'clock in the morning. I really felt bad about my action.

I felt a big temptation, but I think I was too much of a coward to «fall» in it. My temptation was to invite him to enter my car, invite him to take the first pew of this chapel, and be ready for any unpredictable event. But then I thought « *How will my worshipping community made up of tourists and residents react?* » Yes! How would you react? Worship that is not transformed into service, with a special preference for the last, the least and the lost, is good for nothing.

God loves you and so do I,

Fr. Bernardino Andrade

THE MIRACLE OF THE SUN – 13th October 1917 – 99 years ago in Fatima

Source: www.ucatholic.com/videos/the-miracle-of-the-sun/

“The Miracle of the Sun” is a miraculous event which occurred on 13 October 1917 in the *Cova da Iria* fields near Fátima, Portugal. It was witnessed by as many as 100,000 people who had gathered to observe what the three shepherd children: Lúcia, Jacinta, and Francisco, had predicted was going to happen at 12 noon. **The children had said that Our Lady, who had appeared to them several times, had promised them that she would perform a great miracle “so that all may believe”.** According to many witness statements, **after a downfall of rain, the dark clouds broke and the sun appeared as an opaque, spinning disc in the sky.** It was said to be significantly less bright than normal, and cast multi-coloured lights across the landscape, the people, and the surrounding clouds. The sun was then reported to have careened towards the earth in a zig-zag pattern, frightening some of those present who thought it meant the end of the world. Some witnesses reported that their previously wet clothes became « *suddenly and completely dry* ».

Read more about this miracle here: www.ewtn.com/fatima/sixth-appearance-of-our-lady.asp



MARY JANE WILSON – The English nurse and Sister - honoured in Funchal

Source: <http://en.calameo.com/read/00108238394a118236bf4>



Sister Mary Jane Wilson, also known as Maria of Saint Francis, **was an English woman who was born in India** on 3rd of October 1840, and who died in Madeira, aged 76, on the 18th October 1916. She was declared Venerable on 9th October 2013 by Pope Francis. When she was 40 years old, she moved to Madeira to **nurse** an English woman. She settled in Funchal and lived the rest of her life in Madeira. **In 1884 she co-founded, together with Amélia Amaro de Sá, the religious order of the Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Victory (Irmãs**



Franciscanas de Nossa Senhora das Vitórias). In 1907 she nursed patients throughout a smallpox epidemic on the island, and was awarded the honour of "Tower and Sword" (*Torre e Espada*). She dedicated her life to caring for children, founding an orphanage (*Orfandade de Santa Isabel*), and caring for the sick. The revolution of October 1910 forced her to leave Madeira, but she returned a year later. There is a small museum in Funchal dedicated to her life and work; two sculptures of her: one by *Largo Severiano Ferraz* (*by the roundabout in front of the Red Cross*), and another in the municipal gardens in Santa Cruz; and a book on her life (« *The invincible Victorian, the life of Mary Jane Wilson* » by Terry Dunphy) published by the Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Victories.



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. Yesterday’s lunch (October 15th) was offered by the **Pestana Carlton Hotel. All are invited.** Fr. Bernardino



A tourist and a homeless person sharing the same table.

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.



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 Quitéria 46A, 9020-119, Funchal, Madeira, Portugal

>> CONTACTS:

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Tall?
Please beware
low door lintels
in the Chapel
when leaving the
Sanctuary



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 would like to receive a copy of our newsletter by email every Sunday, ask to be added to the weekly distribution list by sending an email to: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com The newsletter can also be downloaded from the Chapel's website/blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org