JOYFUL GIFT

Vol. 3, number 37

27th of November 2016 - 10am Sunday Mass

1st Sunday of Advent, Year A

Rua da Penha de França nr.3 – Funchal, Madeira.

- http://rcmassmadeira.org/
- www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel

THE CATHOLIC ENGLISH SERVICE MASS IN MADEIRA:

Welcome to the Chapel of Penha de França. Today is the 1st Sunday of Advent. Our priest for the English Service Mass on Sunday morning is **Father Bernardino Andrade**. He was born here in Madeira, and spent many years as a priest in California. Besides this English service Mass held here every Sunday morning at 10am, there is also a Portuguese service Mass on Saturdays at 18h30 and on Sundays at 11h30 (straight after the English service).

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 121; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44



This morning's service is a special intention Mass in memory of **Stanley Fox** (1/7/1925 – 4/10/2015) and **Doreen Fox** (24/05/1922 – 20/12/2015), married for fifty-eight years.

God has you in his keeping, we have you in our hearts. Lovingly missed by your family.

During advent the first readings are from first Isaiah, mostly

written before 700 BC, a period when Israel was under attack from Assyria. Isaiah is critical of attempts by Israel's kings to control their destiny – he urges them to place their faith and trust in God, and in His promises to David, whose city of Jerusalem is where God dwells. But God will not necessarily protect Israel from its enemies, who might be the means God uses to cleanse the people.

Nevertheless, there will be a remnant who will ensure the survival of the people, like a stump of a tree, from which will come an ideal ruler in the future. In today's reading Isaiah looks forward to a peaceful time when all nations will be attracted by Israel's behaviour to accept God's authority, centred on Mount Zion in Jerusalem.

In his letter to the Romans, Paul has been drawing out the implications of his image of Christians as all parts of one body. Since we are therefore dependant on each other we have a duty of love for each other. Judgement will come at any time, so we must live at all times as if all our actions are visible to all.

Matthew's gospel reinforces the need to "stay awake", ready for the Lord's coming.

- Brought to you by: Chris Oliver

PSALM RESPONSE: I rejoiced when I heard them say: "Let us go to God's house".



<u>Voice</u> - Professor Helena Paula Marques

<u>Organ / Voice</u> – Professor Fátima Cátia Marques

HYMN NUMBERS:

- 11 Entry: Bind us together No. 65
- 2 Penitential Act: Lord, have mercy No. 659
- [3] Gospel Acclamation: Celtic Aleluia No. 679
- **/4| Offertory:** Instrumental
- [5] Sanctus: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord No. 704
- 6 Agnus Dei: Lamb of God No. 737
- [7] Communion: Instrumental
- **|8| Thanksgiving:** Instrumental
- **|9| Final Hymn:** Our God loves us No. **454**

FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART - An "Idiot" Old Man Reciting His Rosary

- Brought to you by Fr. Bernardino Andrade

A train was racing for Paris.

In one of its compartments two men sat opposite each other. The first was a young medical research student who was bored by the long journey. The other was an old man reciting his rosary with closed eyes.

The young researcher began to ridicule the old man for his superstitious beliefs. He then went on to tell of the wonders of medical science. The old man just nodded, smiled and continued his prayer in spite of the humiliating comments of his fellow passenger.

When they reached the Paris station, the old man enquired where the youngster was going. The young man proudly announced that he was going to attend a lecture by the world famous scientist, Louis Pasteur.

The old man took out a visiting card from his pocket, gave it to the young man and bid him farewell.

The card read:



« Dr. Louis Pasteur Academy of Science Paris »

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

CEREMONY OF SENDING – Last week Sunday



On Nov. 11, 2016 "PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE" became an official Association. Last Sunday, on the Feast of Christ the King, the nine official leaders were anointed by Fr. Bernardino, with the oil of Sending. One of them was Carmina da Mata, who was anointed with the words: "Carmina go to the world, loving others, especially the poor, as Jesus loves you". All of the nine official leaders, were each anointed in turn, with the same words. You can read more about the "People Helping People" project that was started at this Chapel, on the last page of the newsletter.

THE POPE'S 80TH BIRTHDAY GIFT – Sacred Music

Source: www.romereports.com/2016/11/25/pope-s-80th-birthday-gift-music



There are few days left before **Pope Francis celebrates his 80th birthday on December 17th.** As such, *The Foundation for the Sacred Arts*, want to prepare him a special surprise: Music.

Sacred music is an indispensable part of Vatican celebrations and is gaining more strength and followers. This was demonstrated at the *XV Festival of Music and Sacred Art*, which was attended by more than 18 thousand people when it was held at the Vatican this year (16-21st November). This year's festival has been dedicated to the recently canonized Teresa of Calcutta and it was composed of ten major concerts, each with a different choir, performing works by Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert amongst others. It was an exciting experience for many of the attendees.

Dr. Hans-Albert Courtial, President of *The Foundation for the Sacred Arts* says: "We do not talk about beautiful concerts, but of a spiritual elevation. I have never seen so many people cry in a church like at this concert. Such emotion. The silence during the concert was not a courtesy silence out of respect for being at a concert. People were really excited." The foundation was created in 2002 and is not only in charge of music, but has also undertaken many projects of restoration in Rome; the most important being at the Vatican.

Read more about the restoration projects undertaken by the foundation here:

www.festivalmusicaeartesacra.net/en/restaurierung.php

This year's Festival of Music and Sacred Art's programme can be seen here: www.festivalmusicaeartesacra.net/en/programm.php



After a delicious lunch there is a joyful entertainment

BREAD WITH MY BROTHER – A lunch for those in need

Under the umbrella of *"People Helping People"*, a new service was established at our Chapel in June this year. Different restaurants, hotels and private people offer a lunch in an effort to build social equality and help those in need. This meal is known as **«BREAD WITH MY BROTHER»**. The homeless, and those who attend the English Mass on Sunday are invited to share the same table at a weekly meal served every Saturday at 1:00 PM in the Social room of the Chapel. **All tourists and non-tourists are invited**. Yesterday's Lunch was donated by the CASA VELHA RESTAURANT

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)

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...

A sincere thank you to the owners and staff of Moynihans Irish Bar (located on the corner up the road from the Chapel), who have always been a great support towards the *People Helping People Project*, and who willingly accept any clothes, or toiletries, or tinned food that you may wish to donate towards PHP.

PHP bank info:

If you wish to make a deposit or bank transfer, please make a note of the bank details:

BANK: Banco Santander Totta NIB: 0018 0008 01301547020 17 IBAN: PT50 0018 0008 01301547020 17 ACCOUNT NUMBER: 0008 0130 1547020 Bank Address: Caminho de Santa Quiteria 46A, 9020-119, Funchal, Madeira,

Portugal

>> PHP CONTACTS:

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USA: Janice Contreras, 60 Meeks Ln., Oakley, CA 94561. Tel. 1-925-813-2888 Email: larryjanc@aol.com





"You should wash each other's feet" (John 13:14).





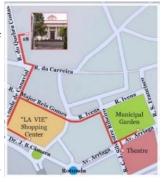
There is a Visitor's book

in the Social Hall if you'd like to leave any comments, or let us know what country you are visiting us from!

» Bible Group:

Joint Anglican - Roman Catholic Bible Group: **THURSDAYS** | 2:00 – 3:30pm in the English Church Library. Rua do Quebra Costas nr.18, Funchal. Looking at *Jeremiah*. For more info: chris@chris-oliver.net

> Directions to English Church (for Bible Group)



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); Prof. Cátia and Prof. Helena (Hymns); Tracy and Jennifer (stories of interest, newsletter layout). 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