


15th of January 2017 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, **Year A**

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

 Website and Blog: <http://rcmassmadeira.org/>

 Facebook: www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel

THE CATHOLIC ENGLISH MASS IN MADEIRA:

Welcome to the Chapel of Penha de França, founded by Antonio Dantas in 1622. The Chapel was originally built 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 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

(Isaiah 49: 3,5-6; Psalm 39; 1 Corinthians 1:1-3; John 1:29-34)

Second Isaiah's servant songs were written after the Israelites had been released from their captivity in Babylon. It is not clear who the servant is: is it Israel or an individual who is to be "the light of the nations"? The servant has been chosen before he was born, all part of God's plan, and he is to take God's salvation to the whole world, as well as to Israel. From now until Lent we read from Paul's first letter to the **Corinthians**, written from Ephesus about 56AD. Paul cannot stop talking about the centre of his life: Jesus, who called him to be his envoy. Those in the "assembly called by God in Corinth", are called to be holy, part of the universal fellowship of believers, and subject to Christ's authority. He blesses them with grace – God's unconditional love – and peace. **John's Gospel** does not have Jesus being baptised. Instead, after the Baptist insists to questioners from Jerusalem that he is not the Messiah, he recognises Jesus. Uniquely he describes Jesus as the Passover sacrificial "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world", the "Chosen one of God", who "baptises with the Holy Spirit". This gift of new life in God, is greater than the cleansing given by John's baptism with water.

– *Brought to you by:* Chris Oliver

PSALM RESPONSE: Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

TODAY'S HYMNS:

Prof. Cátia Marques & Prof. Helena Marques



- [1] **Entry Hymn:** *How lovely on the mountains* – No. 235
- [2] **Penitential Act:** *Lord have mercy* – No. 663
- [3] **Gospel Acclamation:** *Aleluia* – No. 679
- [4] **Offertory Hymn:** *Take our bread* – No. 528
- [5] **Sanctus:** *Holy* – No. 704
- [6] **Agnus Dei:** *Lamb of God* – No. 733
- [7] **Communion Hymn:** *Instrumental*
- [8] **Thanksgiving:** *Instrumental*
- [9] **Final Hymn:** *Our God loves us* – No. 454

FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART – Brought to you by Fr. Bernardino

It was 1:30 AM, many years ago. I was sound asleep. A big boom wakened me up and every neighbour on the block. We got together on the corner of the street close to my house. Yes, something terrible had happened. When I arrived there, still in my pyjamas, a police officer was very hurt lying down on the pavement. In front of him there was a dead young girl inside her Volkswagen. This police officer was driving fast on a police call and an accident happened.



The neighbours started talking with each other. I asked the lady close to me: «*Do you live around here?*», she replied «*Yes! Right there.*». There was just one house between my house and her house. So then I said: «*Oh I thought that was Manuel Rodrigues house.*», she replied: «*Yes. Manuel Rodrigues was my father. He died two years ago.*»

I was speechless! My neighbour had died two years ago and I had not noticed. So that morning I promised that this was not going to happen in my life again. Then I found this text called *The Paradox of Our Time*, that I want to share with you today. It applies deeply to me. I wish this applies to me only. Only me.

God loves you and so do I,

Fr. Bernardino Andrade

[bernardinodandrade@gmail.com]

THE PARADOX OF OUR TIME

The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings but shorter tempers, wider Freeways, but narrower viewpoints. We spend more, *but have less*, we buy more, *but enjoy less*. We have bigger houses and *smaller families*, more conveniences, *but less time*. We have more degrees *but less sense*, more knowledge, *but less judgment*, more experts, *yet more problems*, more medicine, *but less wellness*.



We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too angry, stay up too late, get up too tired, read too little, watch TV too much, and pray too seldom.

We have multiplied our possessions, *but reduced our values*. We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often. **We've learned how to make a living, but not a life. We've added years to life not life to years.**

We've been all the way to the moon and back, *but have trouble crossing the street to meet a new neighbour*. We conquered outer space *but not inner space*. We have done larger things, *but not better things*.

Remember, *spend some time with your loved ones* because they are not going to be around forever. Remember, *say a kind word* to someone who looks up to you in awe, because that little person soon will grow up and leave your side.

Remember, to *give a warm hug* to the one next to you, because that is the only treasure you can give with your heart and it doesn't cost a cent. Remember, to *say, «I love you»* to your partner and your loved ones, but most of all, *mean it*. A kiss and an embrace will mend hurt when it comes from deep inside of you.



Remember to *hold hands* and *cherish the moment* for someday that person will not be there again. Give time to love, give time to speak! And give time to share the precious thoughts in your mind. **AND ALWAYS REMEMBER: Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away. (Anonymous)**

POPE FRANCIS OPENS VATICAN SHELTERS – To Protect Homeless from The Cold

Source: www.romereports.com/2017/01/12/pope-francis-opens-vatican-shelters-for-24-hours-to-protect-homeless-from-the-cold



The cold wave that is sweeping through Europe has reached Rome, with the water freezing solid in the fountain in St. Peter's Square. At night, temperatures have been dropping well below freezing and have already claimed the lives of 8 people in Italy.

The homeless are the most vulnerable and that is why the pope has decided that the shelters that welcome them near the square remain open 24 hours a day. **The**

Vatican has also distributed gloves and sleeping bags that withstand extreme temperatures to the homeless in the area. There are many homeless people around St. Peter's and the pope is concerned about their situation. He remembered them last week in the *Angelus Prayer* at the beginning of the cold wave: «*In these very cold days I think and I invite you to think of all the people who live in the street...*».

Although Rome is not the city that has suffered the lowest temperatures, it is one of the Italian cities with the most homeless people. The Vatican is where many come to beg and volunteers commonly offer food and blankets to those in need. Even **the new McDonald's that recently opened near St. Peter's Basilica will now distribute food for the needy every Monday at 1 p.m.**

THE OLDEST GOSPEL BOOK ON EARTH – Kept Safe in Ethiopia

The world's earliest known illustrated copy of the Gospels, **the Garima Gospels**, has been saved for centuries in a remote Ethiopian monastery.

The astonishingly beautiful *Garima Gospels* are named after a monk, **Abba Garima**, who arrived in Ethiopia in the year 494, from Constantinople. Consisting of two separate 10-inch-thick books written on goat skin and decorated with colourful illustrations, these priceless masterpieces of Biblical art are written in Ethiopic, the ancient Semitic language of Abyssinia. **Legend says that Abba Garima copied the Gospels in just one day because God delayed the sun from setting so the monk could finish his work.** The incredible relic has been kept ever since in the Garima Monastery, near Adwa, in northern Ethiopia. The survival of the book is surprising considering all throughout its history, the country has suffered different invasions, and that, in 1930, a fire destroyed the monastery's church.



It is not as if these texts were forgotten or unknown. Actually, they have been mentioned often by travelers since the 1950's (in particular, the British art historian *Beatrice Playne*). Carbon tests date the Gospels between 330 and 650, which might coincide with the date that Abba Garima arrived in Ethiopia.

More information: <http://www.visual-arts-cork.com/history-of-art/garima-gospels.htm>

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 **DONATE**, please find below the details for PHP bank account:

BANK: Banco Santander Totta

SWIFT: TOTAPTPL

NIB: 0018 0008 01301547020 17

IBAN:

PT50 0018 0008 01301547020 17

ACCOUNT NUMBER:

0008 0130 1547020

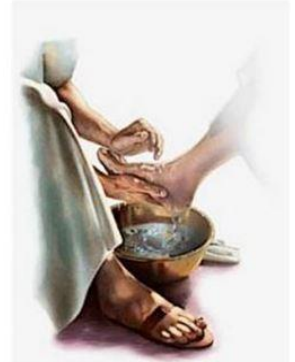
Bank Address:

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

>> PHP CONTACTS:

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.
Tel. 1-925-813-2888
Email: larryjanc@aol.com



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



Please join us for some
tea/coffee and biscuits
in the Social Hall
across the garden
– after Mass



Please sign our Visitor's book

in the Social Hall...

leave us your comments, or suggestions,
and let us know where you're from!



>> Bible Group:

Directions to English Church
(for Bible Group) →

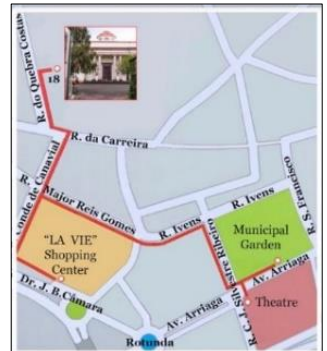
Joint Anglican - Roman Catholic
Bible Group:

Introducing the Old Testament.

THURSDAYS | 2:00 – 3:30pm

Where: English Church Library,
Rua do Quebra Costas nr.18,
Funchal.

For more info:
chris@chris-oliver.net



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 and blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org