JOYFUL GIFT

26th of February 2017 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

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

- Website and Blog: <u>http://rcmassmadeira.org/</u>
- Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel</u>

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. We similarly are blessed by the presence of two dedicated priests at Penha de França. Father Vitor celebrates Mass in Portuguese and Father Bernardino has connections of long standing to the English Mass Community.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Isaiah 49:14-15; Psalm 61; 1 Corinthians 4:1-5; Matthew 6:24-34)

Second Isaiah was writing after the exile of the Jews in Babylon ended in 539 BC. 6 weeks ago Isaiah told us that God wanted his servant, which might be Israel or an individual, to take his salvation to the ends of the earth. Now God promises he will always support his people, using the tender image of a mother's love for her child. Those who hope in the Lord "shall never be disappointed". Zion will be restored. The Lord is our "saviour", our "redeemer". Paul's letter continues with his criticism of the the mysteries of God". We should not make premature judgements, which will be based on worldly wisdom. Since God is infinitely just, there must be a final judgement made by the Lord, putting the whole world to rights. However, Paul does recognise in the next chapter that sometimes the Church has to discipline its members.

In **Matthew's Gospel**, the sermon on the mount has continued with the Lord's Prayer. We now hear Jesus' teaching about worldly possessions. We must choose between God and money. Jesus urges us to have confidence in God, the true meaning of "hope". Our priority must be righteousness, obeying God's will. Then our real needs will be met.

- Brought to you by: Chris Oliver (<u>http://www.bible-groups.info/</u>)

PSALM RESPONSE: In God alone is my soul at rest

TODAY'S HYMNS:



Prof. Cátia Marques & Prof. Helena Marques

- |1| Entry Hymn: Bind us together No. 65
- [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: Amazing Grace No. 32
- **|8| Thanksgiving:** *Instrumental*
- [9] Final Hymn: Go, the Mass is ended No. 175

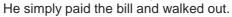


FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART – Feeling Bad For Feeling Good

- Brought to you by Fr. Bernardino Andrade

1.

One day a truck driver stopped at a restaurant for dinner and ordered a steak. Before he could eat it, in walked a motorcycle gang, with dirty leather jackets and long, unkempt hair. They took the man's steak, cut it into six pieces, and ate it. The driver said nothing;



One of the gang members said: «That man couldn't talk! He didn't say a word!».

Another said: «He couldn't fight, either. He didn't lift a hand! ».

A waiter added: «I would say that he couldn't drive either. On his way out of the parking lot, he ran over six motorcycles crushing all of them! »

2.

Something in us loves that story, because we like retaliation. I felt good about this story. Then «I felt bad because I felt good». This «feeling good» was the opposite of the Sermon of the Mount, where Jesus savs:

«You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth»

«You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you». (Gospel of the 7th Sunday of the Ordinary Time, Math. 5: 38-48)

Love and Peace,

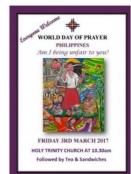
Fr. Bernardino Andrade (bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)

Women's World Day of Prayer - Friday, 3rd of March 2017

On Friday, 3rd March, the Holy Trinity Church (the English Church) is having a special prayer service as an initiative of the *Women's World Day of Prayer*. The service will be held there at 10h30am. All are welcome. Tea and sandwiches will be served afterwards. *The World Day of Prayer* is an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative, and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March.

Address: Rua do Quebra Costas nr.18, Funchal (see map on the back page of this newsletter).

Contact for more info: deborahadajesus@yahoo.co.uk







LENT Begins This Wednesday – 1st of March

Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday, and **marks the first day of Lent** (a season of fasting and prayer). This year Ash Wednesday falls on the **1st of March**. There will be NO Mass that day at Penha de França Chapel, but other churches on the island will have Mass in Portuguese. You may attend Mass at *the Sé Cathedral* in the center of Funchal at 08h00, 08h30, 11h15, and 18h00 on Ash Wednesday.



The Carnival Season – A Madeiran tradition before Lent

In Madeira, we are in the middle of the Carnival season right now, which is celebrated just before the beginning of Lent. There has been a constant festive atmosphere on the island, with cheerfulness prevailing in the streets.

Some traditional gastronomic delicacies which are meant to be eaten on Shrove Tuesday are "Sonhos" (a fried dough, literally translated as "dreams" because they are fluffy and are eaten with black sugar-cane honey) and "Malassadas" (literally translated as "under-cooked") are egg-sized balls of yeast dough that are more compact and are also deepfried in oil and coated with granulated sugar.

The main attraction of the Carnival season on the island is last night's colourful and vibrant Carnival Float Parade which took place in the centre of Funchal, with over 1000 participants dressed in eye-catching costumes. On Shrove Tuesday, 28th of February, at 16h00, there will be another parade, this time a Slapstick Parade (known locally as "O Cortejo Trapalhão"). The parade is open to all, both locals and foreign citizens, either independently or as a group. Many participant's creativity knows no boundaries and spans from social and political satire, to traditional themes, or simple character disguise.



"Sonhos" with honey



"Malassadas" with sugar



Philip Francomb, a past resident in Madeira and visitor to our chapel, recently made a presentation to his local "University of the Third Age" on the topic of Madeira. In this presentation he mentioned the financial difficulties which many people on the island face, and **he has been able to raise €60 to donate to the** *People Helping People* fund.

We thank Philip for his endeavour.

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 after the floods in 2010! 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.

>><u>PHP CONTACTS:</u>

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*

>> 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
 17

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

We would like to be able to thank everyone who contributes with a donation towards *People Helping People*, unfortunately bank donations often appear with no identification. Please send us a short e-mail letting us know if you make any bank transfer / deposit, so that we are able to acknowledge your gift and can thank you in writing.

BOOK SALE TO SUPPORT PHP:

Mrs. Jane Caldwell, a frequent visitor to our Chapel, has written a novel and will be donating all proceeds from sales towards PHP. If you'd like to support PHP in this way, there are a few paper copies still available at Moynihans Irish Bar, or you can buy the Kindle e-book version. Look for "*Frozen Stiff*" by *Agatha Frisky* on the website: <u>www.amazon.co.uk</u> where you can get a copy of this light- hearted, slightly romantic detective story.



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



Please sign our Visitor's book

in the Social Hall... leave us your comments, or suggestions, and let us know where you're from!

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

» Bible Group:

Directions to English Church (for Bible Group)

Joint Anglican - Roman Catholic Bible Group: Introducing the Old Testament. **THURSDAYS** | 2:00 – 3:30pm <u>Where</u>: English Church Library, Rua do Quebra Costas nr.18, Funchal. For more info: chris@chris-oliver.net



Newsletter from Madeira. Keep in touch! <u>This newsletter is brought to you every week by a team of volunteers:</u> 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*). Every now and again we also have contributions/stories sent in by visitors and local members in the community. <u>If you enjoyed this newsletter</u> <u>and would like to receive a copy every Sunday, please send an email to</u>: **penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com** to have your name added to the distribution list; or download it from the Chapel's website and blog: **www.rcmassmadeira.org**