

JOYFUL GIFT

Vol. 3, number 60

7th of May 2017 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

4th Sunday of Easter - Year A

Capela de Nossa Senhora da Penha de França

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

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel

Instagram: www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/
or @capela_penha_franca



THE CATHOLIC ENGLISH MASS IN MADEIRA:

Welcome to the Chapel of Penha de França! The special intention of this morning's Mass will be for the Dos Ramos family (Marcelino, Rita, Cristiano, Lourenço, Carmelita, and Lúcia).

The chapel was founded by Antonio Dantas in 1622. Originally built to minister to the soldiers of the small garrison at the Pontinha Redoubt (stronghold) in the bay of Funchal, the Chapel soon became so famous a shrine that people came to it on pilgrimage from all parts of the Island. In 1935 the Franciscans 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 has recently been repaired and the ceiling restored through the generosity of a frequent visitor to our English Mass. The Diocese has also recently made repairs to the social hall, in the garden of the Chapel. **We are blessed by the presence of two dedicated priests here at Penha de França: Father Bernardino**, who celebrates the English Mass every Sunday morning at 10h00, and **Father Vitor** who celebrates Mass in Portuguese at 11h30.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Acts 2:14,36-41 ; Psalm 22 ; 1 Peter 2:20-25 ; John 10:1-10)

Last Sunday we heard the middle section of Peter's speech at Pentecost in which he said that the Resurrection shows that Jesus was the Holy One expected by King David. Today the consequences: many of his hearers accept this and are told they must repent and be baptised. "Repent" in the sense of radically changing their life and directing it towards God. Even though Jesus does not appear to baptise during his lifetime, baptism is immediately the mark of membership of the new Christian community, at which they receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The reading from Peter's letter also continues from last week, but omits the saying that there is no credit in patiently bearing punishment that is deserved. God's approval comes from suffering patiently even when we have done right. For us, Christ patiently bore unjustified insults and hurts without retaliating, trusting completely in his Father. We must imitate the Lord our shepherd in every way, placing all our trust in him. He will "give us comfort" and "repose". In the Gospel John also sees Jesus as the Good Shepherd. He knows each one of us and leads us. We follow him because we know his voice. He is also the gate, through which we can enter and find safety.

(Brought to you by: Chris Oliver) www.bible-groups.info

PSALM RESPONSE: The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.



TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

Brought to you by: Professors Cátia Marques & Helena Marques

Every Sunday, the music at our Chapel is brought to you by 2 talented sisters: Cátia and Helena Marques. Cátia plays the organ and sings (she is a soprano). Helena also sings and plays the violoncello. We are blessed to have them here at Penha de França!

- Brought to you by Fr. Bernardino Andrade

When I visited Brazil for the first time in 1983 there were no emails, no telephones. Letters only. So one day I received a letter from my housekeeper just to give me some special and exciting good news: her four-year-old son didn't need diapers anymore. Her son was a very special and challenging child – he was autistic. I didn't think that it was a big deal.



One year later I had my Sabbatical in Notre Dame University (in the USA) and I attended part of a graduation ceremony of the new doctors. One of the mothers there to see her son graduating was from California, and because I am also from California, we started talking. I mentioned what a big accomplishment it must be for a mother to attend her son's graduation ceremony « *However, » - I added - « an accomplishment like this is a sum of many, many little accomplishments in a mother's life. »*. Then I mentioned the big accomplishment of my housekeeper when her son had learned how to use the bathroom and didn't need diapers any more. I was amazed with her answer: « *Father, that is one of the biggest accomplishments in a mother's life. »*.

I was surprised that she didn't even smile. She really meant what she said.








Since then I understood that life is made of many little accomplishments and I am sorry that I have missed so many opportunities to celebrate them. I am sorry that I have seen so many people like me, missing these opportunities...

Love and Peace,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade
(bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! - It's today in Madeira

Today we celebrate Mother's Day in Madeira! Most other countries around the world will only celebrate Mother's Day next week (*always on the 2nd Sunday of May*). These countries will be celebrating Mother's Day today:

 Portugal  Spain  Mozambique  Hungary  Lithuania

In the UK and Ireland, Mother's Day was celebrated on March 26th!
Norway is the first country to celebrate Mother's Day every year (*this year it was on February 12th!*)



THE MONTH OF MAY IS DEDICATED TO OUR LADY – This is the reason why...



Did you know that the month of May is dedicated to Mary, the Mother of Jesus? This is **because the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to three shepherd children (Lúcia, Francisco, and Jacinta) in Fatima, Portugal, on the 13th of May 1917.**

Our Lady told the children that she was Mary, the Mother of Jesus and that she had been sent by God with a message for every man, woman and child in our century. A church was built at the spot where Our Lady of Fatima appeared to the children, which to this day receives thousands of visitors from all over the world. This coming Saturday, May 13th, marks the 100th anniversary of this miraculous event! **Pope Francis will be making a pilgrimage visit to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima on May 12-13th and**

will lead the evening recitation of the rosary and celebrate Mass on the anniversary of the apparitions. Pope Francis will be the fourth pontiff to visit the Marian shrine, following in the footsteps of Blessed Paul VI, St John Paul II and Benedict XVI, who each made visits on a May 13 to mark the anniversary of the first apparition.

Madeira Flower Festival

Source: www.visitmadeira.pt/en-gb/what-to-do/events/search/flower-festival

The Flower Festival is a tribute to spring, and the celebration of metamorphosis and rebirth, fertility and the abundance of the flowers that colour and perfume the surrounding environment.

Yesterday morning the Children's Parade took place in Funchal. Hundreds of children, dressed for the occasion, paraded to *Praça do Município* (the municipal square) to build a beautiful flower mural symbolically named "**Wall of Hope**". This initiative, which has been held for over three decades, combines childhood innocence and the delicacy of flowers in a **ceremony calling for peace in the world**. Each child takes a flower to build the wall, and the ceremony usually culminates with a release of doves and a children's show.

This afternoon, we have the highlight of the Madeira Flower Festival, with hundreds of local participants taking part in a float parade down the main road along the Marina of Funchal. The streets of Funchal city center will be filled with music, colour and soft aromas. There will be dance performances of folk groups, the construction of beautiful floral carpets, a Flower Exhibition, music concerts and a variety of other shows, which will be occurring every day until the 21st of May when the flower festival ends.



SAINT OF THE MONTH: MAY - Saint Simon Stock (feast day on the 16th of May)



Little is known about the early life of Simon Stock. It is thought he acquired his surname, because he lived the life of a hermit in the hollow trunk of an oak tree.

As a young man he went on pilgrimage to the Holy Land. There he joined a group of Carmelites, who influenced the course of his life. Later, upon his return to Europe, he founded many Carmelite Communities, particularly in university towns like Cambridge, Oxford, Paris and Bologna. He also helped to change the *Carmelites* from a hermit Order to one of Mendicant Friars.

But perhaps he is better known for promoting the wearing of the 'Scapular'. This followed a vision of the Blessed Virgin Mary holding two pieces of brown cloth - one to be worn on the chest and the other on the back. They are joined by straps that pass over the shoulders, hence the name *scapular*. Investiture can only be performed by a priest. **The scapular is said to be the badge of salvation, a shield in times of danger and a pledge of special peace and protection.**



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...

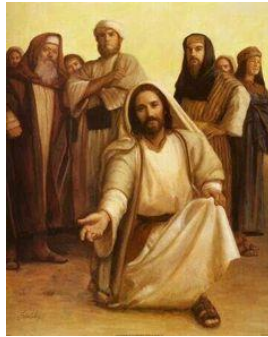
A sincere thank you to the owners and staff of Moynihans Irish Bar (located up the road from the Chapel), who have always been a great support towards the *People Helping People Project*. They willingly accept any clothes, toiletries, or tinned food on behalf of PHP, that you may wish to donate.

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, you can buy the Kindle e-book version from:

www.amazon.co.uk

The book is a light- hearted, slightly romantic detective story.



>> 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

>> 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

We would like to be able to thank everyone who contributes with a donation to PHP; but unfortunately some bank donations often appear with no identification. If you decide to donate, please send us a short e-mail with the date you made the transfer or deposit, so that we are able to check, and be able to acknowledge your gift.

Please remember to **leave your yellow Hymn Book** and **Order of the Mass** sheet on the table at the Chapel entrance after mass.

Thank you ☺



In The Social Hall...

(*across the garden*)

Our Visitor's book

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

Tea / Coffee and Cake!

After Mass - Please join us
in the Social Hall across the garden ☺



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 and editing*). Every now and again we also have contributions/stories sent in by visitors and local members in the community. **The newsletters are printed by Cartridge World Funchal**, in Rua Elias Garcia, nr 5. **If you enjoyed this newsletter and would like to receive a copy every Sunday, please send an email to: 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