# **JOYFUL GIFT**

### THE CATHOLIC ENGLISH MASS IN MADEIRA:

Welcome to the Chapel of Penha de França! 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 6:1-7; Psalm 32; 1 Peter 2:4-9; John 14:1-12)

The dispute with the Hellenists, described in Acts, is highly significant for its resolution. There are several ways of resolving community arguments. A common way is schism: you go your way, we'll go ours. Miraculously the early Christians managed to maintain fellowship by allowing each group to manage its own affairs.

The Hellenists were Christian Greek-speaking Jews. As Stephen's speech later shows, the Hellenists bitterly opposed the Jewish Temple authorities, who drove them out of Jerusalem, starting the spread of Christianity. The Apostles were not expelled, and continued their work, with many Jews including priests being converted.

Peter's letter continues encouraging persecuted Christians by reminding them that we are "a body of priests, a people set apart to sing the praises of God". Each preface concludes with the words: "every land, every people exults in" God's praise. At Mass we – as priests – offer all we have done during the week, our presence together in community, and our material gifts, as a sacrifice to confirm our allegiance to Christ, just as God's sacrifice of his Son showed his love for us. In John's Gospel, after washing the disciples' feet and foretelling his death, Jesus emphasises his intimate relationship with the Father, saying "to have seen me is to have seen the Father". (Brought to you by: Chris Oliver) www.bible-groups.info/

### **<u>PSALM RESPONSE</u>**: May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

### **TODAY'S HYMNS** Brought to you by: **Prof. Cátia Marques & Prof. Helena Marques**

11 Entry Hymn: How lovely on the mountains - N.º 235

2 Penitential Act: Lord, have mercy - N.º 663

- [3] Gospel Acclamation: Aleluia N.º 679
- |4| Offertory Hymn: Take our bread N.º 528
- /5| Sanctus: Holy N.º 704

- [6] Agnus Dei: Lamb of God N.º 737
- [7] Communion Hymn: Portuguese Hymn
- 8 Thanksgiving: Instrumental
- **|9| Final Hymn:** Go, the Mass is ended N.º **175**



Vol. 3, number 61

- Brought to you by Fr. Bernardino Andrade



FROM MELTING POT TO MOSAIC

1

When I first arrived in California in 1974 there was a song calling California a «melting pot». This was the American concept. America, that was full of immigrants from all over the world, was considered a «melting pot». Different cultures were supposed to be «melted» and integrated in one culture only. It was like a juice maker. We put oranges, apples, bananas

and any kind of fruit together and each one was supposed to lose its identity and become one kind of juice with one kind of color and one kind of taste.

In 1976 the American Bishops wrote a Pastoral letter and stated that America was not a «melting pot» but a «mosaic» with different colors, different cultures, different languages, and so on.

To emphasize this beautiful concept of respect for diversity we built, in my parish, what we called a «Marian Garden». All nationalities were invited to paste on the outside walls of the church in a garden that looked like a cloister, on tile, the image of their patroness with her name, a story of the image and the Hail Mary in their language.

I was surprised to find out that some people, when I asked them the name of their patroness they answered that it was «Our Lady of Fatima». One day, in Madeira, I was with a group of Portuguese people and also asked the name of our Patroness and the answer was the same. It was *Our Lady of Fatima* when it is the Immaculate Conception.

When I heard that Pope Francis was coming to Fatima to preside to the First Centennial Celebration of the Apparitions I became convinced that he was going to proclaim Our Lady of Fatima the Patroness of the World or the Patroness of all Nations. He is not going to do it but People already did it. FATIMA IS THE ALTAR OF THE WORLD. During these last two days all the world, Catholic and non Catholic, had their eyes on Fatima.

#### 2

On May 13, 1917 Mary, the Mother of Jesus, appeared to three little Shepherds: Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta. It happened between two world wars. My father was an illiterate and simple military man, who spent 4 years in the military life. He married my mother in March 1917, two months before the Apparitions. I heard him many times talking about the Apparitions saying: *«We heard that Our Lady had appeared and had said that the war was going to end and the soldiers were going home»*. I still feel my father's emotions when I was a small child hearing the same story so many times without ever getting tired of his repetition. Especially *«the soldiers are going home»*.



Maybe because of this little story told by this small man in this small place I always associated Fatima with the suffering of the world. *«The soldiers are going home»* always meant for me the end of the human suffering.

3

Pope Francis is coming to Fatima as a pilgrim to celebrate with the entire world the first Centennial of the Apparitions. It is not an official visit to Portugal. Just a pilgrim to remind the world the message of Fatima. He is bringing a message of Mercy and Peace and also to canonize the two youngest Shepherds who saw Mary, Mother of God and our Mother.

Love and Peace,

Fr. Bernardino Andrade (bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)

### POPE FRANCIS CAME TO PORTUGAL – And offered a Golden Rose to Our Lady

Source: https://aleteia.org/2017/05/12/pope-francis-offers-golden-rose-to-our-lady-of-fatima/

**During Pope Francis's visit to the Chapel of the Apparitions,** in Fatima, Portugal, this weekend, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Our Lady's appearance to three shepherd children, **he presented Our Lady of Fatima with a "golden rose".** The "golden gose" **is a gift given exclusively by Supreme Pontiffs on a Marian visit.** It is made of 925/°°° silver, composed of a base in pink marble, on which there rests a silver vase with the papal coat of arms, holding the stems with three roses and leaves. It is around 52 cm (20.5 in) high and weighs approximately 1,200 g (2.6 lb). The techniques used in fashioning the "golden rose" are: cast molding for the vase, lost wax casting for the coat of arms, engraving on the stems,



embossing and chiseling for the leaves, 24 carat gold plating for the shoots and the coat of arms, and silver plating for the vase.





Yesterday, May 13th, **Pope Francis canonized** two of the Fatima visionaries, brother and sister **Francisco and Jacinta Marto, on the 100th anniversary of the first apparition in 1917.** 

### SUNDAY MASS FOR PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE CONTRIBUTORS

Thanks to the generosity of visitors to our Chapel, and members of the community, "People Helping People" (PHP), an association started at the Chapel to help those in need, has been able to help many poor families in Madeira. PHP lives on the basis of donations, which make it possible to help the poorest of the poor. On the 2nd Sunday of each month, the 10am Mass in English is offered for those who donated the previous month, and also for their families, and for the poor that they are helping. **These are the names of the donors from April, which will be on the altar during this morning's Mass**:

- Alan O'Brien

- Chris Oliver

- Manuel Adolfo Borrero

We'd like to be able to thank everyone who contributes with a donation towards PHP, unfortunately bank donations often appear with no identification. Sincere apologies if, by mistake, we have forgotten to mention any names.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR ...



Your special prayers are asked for **Rosemary and João de Ponte**, who have recently returned from South Africa, after undergoing major surgery....

Also for **Alberto da Mata** who was recently diagnosed with a brain tumour...

And *Marina Kovalchikova* who is recovering from a strong bout of Bronchitis.

Please remember them all in your prayers.

### **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 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. Thank you to all who have been leaving clothes and donations there in the last weeks. It has been greatly appreciated!



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

## Please remember to <u>leave your yellow Hymn</u> Book and Order of the Mass sheet on the table at the Chapel entrance after mass. Thank you ©



Please sign our Visitor's Book in the Social Hall... (across the garden.) Leave us your comments, or suggestions, and let us know where you're from!

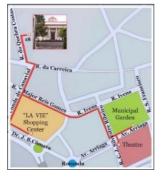
Tea / Coffee and Cake! After Mass - Please join us in the Social Hall across the garden ©



### » Bible Group:

Directions to English Church (for Bible Group)

Joint Anglican - Roman Catholic Bible Group: Looking at *"The Creed"* **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



### >> 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

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 and editing). Every now and again we also have contributions/stories sent in by visitors and local members in the community. <u>The newsletters are printed by Cartridge World Funchal</u>, 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