



**28<sup>th</sup> of May 2017 – 10h00 Sunday Mass**

**Ascension - 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/>

[www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel](http://www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel)

Instagram: @capela\_penha\_franca or  
[www.instagram.com/capela\\_penha\\_franca/](http://www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/)

## THE CATHOLIC ENGLISH MASS IN MADEIRA:

**Welcome to the Chapel of Penha de França**, which 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 1:1-11; Psalm 46; Ephesians 1:17-23; Matthew 28:16-20*)

Luke's Gospel opens in the Temple in Jerusalem with the angel appearing to Zechariah, and ends, after the ascension, with the disciples joyfully praising God in the Temple, still in Jerusalem. Acts starts with Jesus' appearances over 40 days and his ascension, but finishes in Rome. This "double ascension" links Jesus' ministry "to the lost sheep of Israel!" with the apostles' witness "to the ends of the earth". The coming of God's Kingdom was enacted by Jesus. His Kingdom will continue to be present on earth in and through the witness of his people, the Church. When God's Kingdom is finally established over the whole world. Jesus will return to the Mount of Olives, where the Jews expect all the nations to stream.

Paul opened his letter to the Ephesians by reminding them that God has made known to us the mystery of his plan "to unite all things in Jesus". He then prays that they may know the hope – ie confidence – that this revelation gives us, ending with his understanding of the Church as Christ's body.

Matthew's Gospel ends with Jesus commissioning the Apostles to "make disciples of all the nations". Both Luke and Matthew, writing about 40 years after the Ascension, emphasise that Christians are to show their commitment by being baptised. *(Brought to you by: Chris Oliver) [www.bible-groups.info/](http://www.bible-groups.info/)*

**PSALM RESPONSE: God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.**

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

[1] **Entry:** Portuguese Hymn "Salve, Santa Maria"

[2] **Penitential Act:** Lord, have mercy - N. ° 663

[3] **Gospel Acclamation:** Aleluia - N.° 679

[4] **Offertory:** Portuguese Hymn "Louvemos Maria"

[5] **Sanctus:** Holy - N.° 704

[6] **Agnus Dei:** Dona nobis pacem - N.° 126

[7] **Communion:** Ave Maria gratia plena - N. ° 39

[8] **Thanksgiving:** Instrumental "Ave Maria"

[9] **Final:** Portuguese Hymn "Maria cheia de graça"

**The phone rang at 1:00 AM in the home of Leo Winters, a brilliant Chicago surgeon.** It was the Hospital telling him that a young boy had been tragically mangled in a car accident. Dr. Winters' hands were probably the only ones in the city skilled enough to save that boy's life. He put on his clothes, jumped into his car and decided the quickest route to the hospital would be to drive through a dangerous neighbourhood, but since time was critical, he decided to take the risk.

**He came to a stop light and when he did, a man in a gray hat and a dirty flannel shirt, opened the door, pulled him out of his seat and screamed, «Give me your car».**



The doctor tried to explain that he was on an emergency call, but the thief refused to listen. He threw the doctor out of the car, jumped in and sped off. The doctor wandered for more than 45 minutes looking for a phone so he could call a taxi. When he finally got to the hospital, more than an hour had passed. He ran through the hospital doors, up the stairs, to the nurses' station. The nurse on duty looked at him and shook her head and said, «I am sorry but you are too late. The boy died 30 minutes ago. His father is in the chapel if you want to see him. He is awfully upset because he couldn't understand why you couldn't come to help his son. »



Doctor Winters walked hurriedly down the hallway and entered into the chapel. Weeping at the altar was a man dressed in a dirty flannel shirt and gray hat, whose eyes were blinded by tears. The boy's father looked up at the doctor in horror, recognizing him from the car he had taken, and realized his tragic mistake. He had foolishly pushed away the only man in that city that could have saved his son!

**There is only one person that can save your soul.** When you exit this life, at the moment you die, you will enter eternity. If you intend to go to Heaven, you had better make sure you take the one Way, which is the only way and His name is Jesus Christ.

There is one more game around attacking the youth. They call it «blue whale».

One of the basic needs of a human being is to find meaning for their lives. If they don't have it, they will create their own. They will create games that kill. Jesus says «*I am the way*». «*I came in order that you have life and life in full*». «*I came in order that your joy may be complete*». The tragic mistake is that, very often, the parents are the ones who throw into the streets the «Doctor that can save their children's lives».

**Love and Peace,**  
Fr. Bernardino Andrade

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

"If you ever feel distressed during your day - call upon Our Lady - just say this simple prayer: 'Mary, Mother of Jesus please be a mother to me now.' I must admit - this prayer has never failed me." - Blessed Mother Teresa

## THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION – What is this?

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension, where **we commemorate the bodily Ascension of our Lord Jesus into heaven.**

In today's scripture reading from the book of Acts (*chap. 1: v1-11*), we read about the time when Jesus was talking with his disciples, and how he was taken up to heaven in a cloud, before their very eyes.

Ascension Day is traditionally **celebrated forty days after Easter**, on a Thursday, but is transferred to the following Sunday (today) in Portugal, England, Wales, Ireland, and many other countries around the world.



## POPE FRANCIS: Condolences to Manchester victims

**Source:** [www.catholicnewsagency.com](http://www.catholicnewsagency.com)



**Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and the families and friends of all those affected by the deadly terror attack at a concert venue in Manchester, England this past week.**

On Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, a suicide bomber detonated an explosive device where singer, Ariana Grande, had been performing for a crowd of mostly teenagers. 22 people died and 59 others were injured. Pope Francis sent his condolences to the grieving families of those who died, in a telegram addressed to victims and signed by Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin.

**Pope Francis said he was « deeply saddened to learn of the injury and tragic loss of life caused by the barbaric attack in Manchester. »** The Pope voiced his « *heartfelt solidarity with all those affected by this senseless act of violence,*» and praised the «*tremendous efforts* » of the emergency responders and security, offering his prayers for the wounded and those who died. « *Mindful in a particular way of those children and young people who have lost their lives, and of their grieving families,*» the Pope invoked God's blessings « *of peace, healing and strength upon the nation.* »



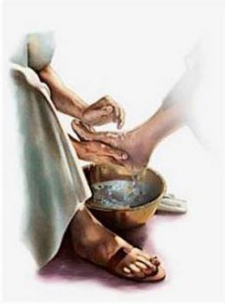
## PLEASE PRAY:

Please remember in your prayers this week those who need healing and spiritual strength:

Rosemary and João de Ponte  
Alberto da Mata  
Carmina da Mata  
The Vallat family  
John Hinchliffe  
Barbara Matthews  
Nelita de Jesus  
Marina Kovalchikova



# PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)



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

*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 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...**

**The Mission Statement of *People Helping People* is...** through social solidarity, to mobilize many people to help many people in a combat against poverty, hunger, illness, exclusion, indifference, intolerance, and social injustice, with a special preference for the last, the least and the lost, having as a model the person of Jesus, the «Good Shepherd» (Gospel according to Luke, chapter 15). Our wish is that it may always be an open door when all the other doors close, building in this way, different feelings and acts of Mercy (Gospel according to Luke, chapter 6 and Mathew chapter 25).

## 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. Look for "Frozen Stiff" by Agatha Frisky on the website: : [www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk) where you can get a copy of this light-hearted, slightly romantic detective story.

## >> PHP CONTACTS:

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Email: [larryjanc@aol.com](mailto:larryjanc@aol.com)

## Sign our Visitor's book in the Social Hall...

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

## **Tea and Coffee – After Mass**

Please join us in the Social Hall across the garden



## >> Bible Group:

Directions to English Church  
(for Bible Group)



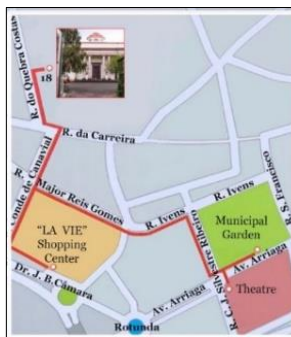
Joint Anglican - Roman Catholic  
Bible Group:  
Looking at "The Creed"

**When:** THURSDAYS

**Time:** 2:00 – 3:30pm

**Where:** English Church Library,  
Rua do Quebra Costas nr.18,  
Funchal. **For more info:**

[chris@chris-oliver.net](mailto:chris@chris-oliver.net)



## >> 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! 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*). Every now and again we also have contributions/stories sent in by visitors and local members in the community. **The newsletters are written 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](mailto: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](http://www.rcmassmadeira.org)