




**2<sup>nd</sup> of July 2017 – 10h00 Sunday Mass**  
**13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A**  
 Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França  
 Rua da Penha de França nr.3  
 Funchal, Madeira.

 Website and Blog: <http://rcmassmadeira.org/>  
 Facebook: [www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel](http://www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel)  
 Instagram: [@capela\\_penha\\_franca](https://www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca) or  
[www.instagram.com/capela\\_penha\\_franca/](https://www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/)

## THE CATHOLIC ENGLISH MASS IN MADEIRA:

**Welcome to the Chapel of Penha de França. The special intention of this morning's Eucharistic Celebration will be for Janice Contreras.**

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. This small 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.

### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

*(2 Kings 4: 8-11, 14-16; Psalm 88(89): 2-3, 16-19; Romans 6: 3-4, 8-11 ; Matthew 10: 37-42)*

Today we hear only the beginning of this story from the Second Book of the Kings about the prophet Elisha and the Shunammite woman. She recognises this frequent passer-by as a holy man and hospitably offers him a place to stay each time he passes. Elisha promises she will have a child. Some years later the child became ill and died, and the woman urgently travels the twenty miles to Carmel, confident that Elisha will heal her son, and Elisha brings her son back to life.

Paul's meditation on redemption leads him to ask "Shall we persist in sin that grace may abound?" No, he says, God's grace is not evoked by sin but is the expression of God's love. This leads to today's profound reading: "we were buried with Christ through baptism into death" so that we "might live in newness of life". We must think of ourselves "as being dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus". After our ritual death in baptism we must unite ourselves with Christ and we will eventually share in his bodily resurrection.

In Matthew's gospel, Jesus concludes his teachings on the requirements and rewards of discipleship. Disciples must accept the trials that it entails, burying ourselves completely in Christ. But acts of charity and hospitality will be rewarded, just as the Shunammite woman found.

*(Brought to you by: Chris Oliver) [www.bible-groups.info/](http://www.bible-groups.info/)*

**PSALM RESPONSE: I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.**

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

- [1] **Entry:** *Bind us together* - N.º 65
- [2] **Penitential Act:** *Lord, have mercy* - N.º 663
- [3] **Gospel Acclamation:** *Aleluia* - N.º 679
- [4] **Offertory:** *Portuguese Hymn*
- [5] **Sanctus:** *Holy* - N.º 704

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



## 1

Jessica, a sixteen-year-old girl, had a beautiful and abundant bunch of hair covering her head, making her face even more beautiful and angelic. One day I was invited by her parents to have dinner at their house. I was surprised and actually shocked when I saw Jessica. Even with her same beautiful smile and brilliant eyes, she didn't look the same. She had cut her hair.

- Jessica, - I said, - you look so so different.

That's when Jessica told me about «Locks of Love». «Locks of Love» is a public non-profit organization that provides hair pieces to children who have lost their hair due to a medical condition called *alopecia areata*. But in this case **Jessica's hair was a gift she gave to a friend of hers who had lost her hair due to chemotherapy treatments.**

Also, Jessica taught me that in many cases when women, especially young women, have to face an oncologic condition and have to go through chemotherapy, before the fear of losing their lives, they fear losing their hair. **Feelings just happen. They don't have to make sense.**

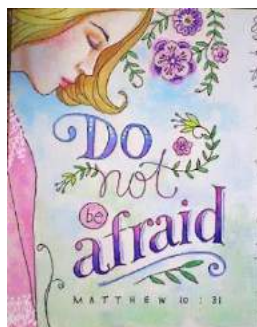


## 2

Counting the hairs on your head («Even all the hairs on your head are counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.» Matthew 10: 26-33):

It was just a few weeks after Kathryn Lay's surgery; the chemotherapy treatments had begun. Every morning, she would comb her hair — and every morning she would pull out another clump of her beautiful hair from the brush. This side effect was hitting her harder and harder.

One morning, she felt the top of her head and, for the first time, she could count the strands. But **she felt strangely at peace.** She held each strand — just as God, in his providence, could count them from the moment God breathed his life into her. **She became aware of God present in the love of her family and friends who were supporting and suffering with her.** She remembers: « I felt comfort knowing that God knew how many strands were in my brush, on my pillow, in my hat, and in my hand. God had counted them all. With or without my hair, God knew me and what my future held. **I was still afraid** — of the cancer, of the chemo, the upcoming brain scan, and its results — **but I knew that God would be with me through it all.** »



May we find peace and reason to hope in the providence of God who has "counted . . . all the hairs of your head," a providence that manifests itself in the love of family, the comfort of friends, the support of church and community.

« I lost my hair, », says Kathryn Lay, « but not my faith. ».

**My column and my Eucharist today are dedicated to my dear friend in the United States, Janice Contreras**, the first coordinator of the «*People Helping People*», at the St. Anthony's Church, City of Oakley, California. Janice has gone through some tough times also, like Kathryn Lay. Janice knows what chemo is and she knows what that means - losing her hair.

Janice! Tourists from all over the world visiting Madeira and attending the English Mass are going to be praying for you and for Larry, your husband, at the Mass I am saying today, in English in this beautiful Madeira Island. «*People Helping People*» which has been «your baby» for a long time, is still alive. **God is in control of your life and your struggles.** The poorest of the poor you helped are your best advocates. We love you Janice and I thank you for inspiring my life to be spent at the service of the poorest of the poor. Starting today, your name and Larry's name are going to be added to the prayer list of our "Joyful Gift".

**Please don't quit before the miracle happens.**

**Love and Peace,**

Fr. Bernardino Andrade ([bernardinodandrade@gmail.com](mailto:bernardinodandrade@gmail.com))



Larry Contreras  
(Janice's husband),  
Antonio Contreras  
(Janice's father in law),  
and Janice Contreras  
(Coordinator of PHP in  
California)

## TODAY'S SECOND COLLECTION



Two weeks ago, a **raging forest fire swept through the town of Pedrógão Grande** (a municipality in the district of Leiria, in Portugal) causing terrible destruction and loss of lives. At least 500 homes and 40 businesses in the area were destroyed. 64 people lost their lives in the fire, including at least 30 motorists who were trapped in their cars when the flames enveloped a stretch of road.

The blaze around Pedrógão Grande is Portugal's worst forest fire in more than half a century. **The whole of Portugal has been left grieving.** Today's second collection will be to help the victims of this devastating tragedy, as well as for the *People Helping People* association.

## WILL YOU PRAY FOR THEM?

**Please spare a few moments right now to pray for** those who are in need of healing or spiritual strength, especially:

Janice & Larry Contreras

Barbara Matthews

José Manuel Reis

Rosemary & João de Ponte

Alberto da Mata

Carmina da Mata

Nelita da Silva

The Vallat family

John Hinchliffe

Marina Kovalchikova



Thank you for your prayers! They really do make a difference!



**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).

## >> PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE 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

## >> BANK INFO:

**BANK:** Banco Santander Totta

**ACCOUNT NUMBER:** 0008 0130 1547020

**NIB:** 0018 0008 01301547020 17

**IBAN:** PT50 0018 0008 01301547020 17

**SWIFT:** TOTAPTPL

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

## >> Bible Group:

Joint Anglican - Roman Catholic  
Bible Group:

**THURSDAYS** | 2:00 – 3:30pm |  
in the English Church Library.  
Rua do Quebra Costas nr.18, Funchal.  
Looking at *The Creed*.

For more info:  
chris@chris-oliver.net

**Tall?**  
Please beware  
low door lintels  
in the Chapel  
when leaving  
the Sanctuary



Directions to English Church (for Bible Group)

## Tea and Coffee After Mass

Please join us in the Social  
Hall across the garden.



Don't forget to leave your yellow  
*Hymn Book* and *Order of the  
Mass* sheets on the table at the  
Chapel entrance after mass ☺

**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*). 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 would like to receive a copy of this newsletter 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)