

16th of July 2017 – 10h00 Sunday Mass
15th 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
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www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/

THE CATHOLIC ENGLISH MASS IN MADEIRA:

Welcome to the Chapel of Penha de França. 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

(Is 55:10-11 ; Ps 64 ; Rom 8:18-23 ; Mt 13:1-23)

Second Isaiah, writing around 550 BC, concludes his "Book of Comfort" to the Jewish exiles in Babylon with an invitation to a joyful banquet. After renewing His covenant of peace, God has reminded Israel that "my thoughts are not your thoughts": God's words come down gently to bring forth divine fruits, like the rain which enables the earth to yield its fruits.

Paul continues this theme of God's plan slowly moving towards its climax: creation is unable to attain its purpose without help, and it was made this way by God. But Paul gives us a brilliantly clear vision of God's plan: with the coming of Christ, creation is now groaning in the birth pangs of being set free.

It is worth listening carefully to Matthew's explanation of the parable of the sower. And especially to Jesus' very difficult statements that he talks to the crowds in parables because "they listen without hearing or understanding". He says "They have shut their eyes, for fear they should see, ... and be converted". The coming of Jesus brings both judgement and mercy. God's judgement means that some will not understand His words, which will struggle to be received unless our minds are open and we cease making our own image of God.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: **Some seed fell into rich soil and produced its crop.**

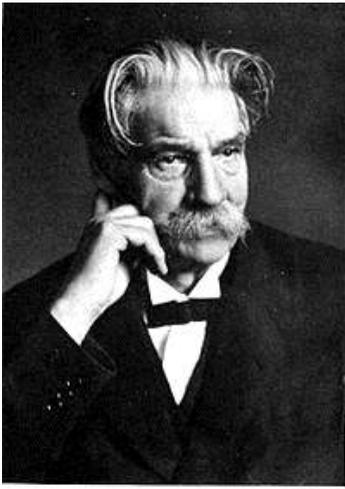
TODAY'S HYMNS *Brought to you by: Prof. Cátia Marques & Prof. Helena Marques*

- |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:** *Take our bread* - N.º 528
- |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



- Brought to you by Fr. Bernardino Andrade
(bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)



Albert Schweitzer

Reporters and city officials gathered at a Chicago railroad station, one afternoon in 1953. The person they were meeting was the 1952 Nobel Peace Prize winner.

A few moments after the train came to stop, a giant of a man, with bushy hair and a large moustache, stepped from the train. Cameras flashed. City officials approached him with hands outstretched. Various people began telling him how honoured they were to meet him. The man politely thanked them and then, looking over their heads, asked if he could be excused for a moment.

He quickly walked through the crowd until he reached the side of an elderly black woman who was struggling with two heavy suitcases. He picked up the bags and with a smile he escorted the woman to the bus. After helping her aboard, he wished her a safe journey.

As he returned to the greeting party he apologized, «Sorry to have kept you waiting.» The man was Dr. Albert Schweitzer, the famous missionary doctor who had spent his life helping the poor in Africa. In response to Schweitzer's action, one of the members of the reception committee said with great admiration to the reporter standing next to him, «That's the first time I ever saw a sermon walking. »

After the Eucharist do I become a walking sermon? How? If worship is not transformed into service we miss a lot of our worship. Maybe we misunderstood our worship. Worship is a school where we learn how to wash feet.

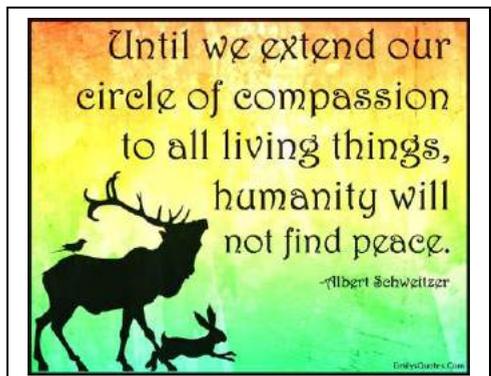
Love and Peace!

Fr. Bernardino Andrade

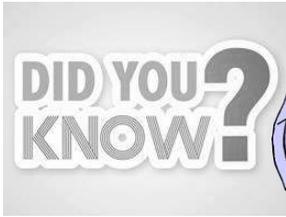
THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK

At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.

Albert Schweitzer -



Source: National Catholic Register
www.ncregister.com/daily-news/priests-of-the-sea-faith-is-always-on-board-where-there-are-cruise-ship-chap



Did you know that in most major Ports around the world, the Diocese assigns a chaplain (a priest, deacon, religious, or lay ecclesial minister) to serve cruise ship passengers, staff and crew? - The assigned chaplain's ministry is to provide for the pastoral needs of passengers, and also crewmembers who may spend from 6 to 9 months at sea. ➔ In 1922 Pope Pius XI, bestowed his blessings on an

association called *Apostleship of the Sea USA* (AOS-USA), which still exists today, and implements a «*Cruise Ship Priest Program*» which works with cruise lines to place Catholic chaplains on their ships. (AOS-USA is not to be confused with the Vatican's Apostleship of the Sea, which falls under the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees and Travelers).

Life doesn't stop at Sea! These cruise-ship priests provide the Catholic Mass, Confession, Anointing of the Sick, Sacraments of the Church, and Pastoral care on board. But sometimes illness, death and emergency situations can crop up, and the presence of a priest can be incredibly important in those unexpected situations. It can get real serious when a passenger passes away during the cruise, or when a crew member who is depressed jumps overboard and commits suicide, for example. One gentleman who had been on a cruise with his wife to celebrate their anniversary spotted a priest during dinner one evening. They asked him to join them, and in introducing themselves, they shared that the wife was dying. The cruise was an item they were crossing off her "bucket list." Later in the cruise, they met the priest again - when they called him to their cabin because the wife was near death. After her death, her husband felt that «*it was beautiful that her faith was there for her, even in the middle of the ocean.*»



If you are planning to go on a cruise, why not contact the cruise line to find out if there will be a priest aboard your cruise. If the cruise line has not arranged for a Catholic chaplain to be on board, you can request that it does. For more information, and to know more about *Apostleship of the Sea USA* visit their website at: <http://www.aos-usa.org>

WILL YOU PRAY FOR THEM?



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

Barbara Matthews

Carmina da Mata

Janice & Larry Contreras

John Hinchliffe

The Vallat family

Marina Kovalchikova

Nelita da Silva

Rosemary and João de Ponte

José Manuel Reis

"We have a Lord who is capable of crying with us, capable of walking with us in the most difficult moments of life."

- Pope Francis - Philippines, 2015

