



6th of August 2017 – 10h00 Sunday Mass**Transfiguration - Year A**

Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França, Rua da Penha de França 3 Funchal, Madeira Island.

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

 Facebook: www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel

 Instagram: [@capela_penha_franca](https://www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca) or
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 Mass will be for the Dos Ramos family (Marcelino, Rita, Cristiano, Lourenço, Carmelita, and Lúcia).

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

(Dan 7:9-10, 13-14 ; Ps 96 ; 2 Peter 1:16-19 ; Mt 17:1-9)

The Book of Daniel, was written about 170 BC during the bitter persecution of the Jews by Antiochus Epiphanes. Apocalyptic literature was intended to strengthen the people in their suffering, using coded but readily understood visions. Prophetic teaching insists on right conduct, with the certainty that God's kingdom will prevail. Daniel's vision of the heavenly throne of God, approached by "One like a son of man", was used in the Book of Revelation. Jews applied this title to the Messiah, the One through whom salvation is realised. The Second Letter of Peter, was attributed to Peter but probably written some time after his death, possibly in the next century. Containing much positive teaching, it seeks to strengthen hearers in their faith, while warning them against false teachers, especially "those scoffers" who claim there will be no second coming. The day of judgement "will come like a thief". We must be prepared while "we await the new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells", foreshadowed by Jesus' transfiguration. Matthew's description of the transfiguration includes several themes in the Old Testament and in Jewish apocalyptic literature to indicate the divine presence: bright light, cloud, white garments. With the Father's confirmation of his Son, these all indicate that Jesus will come in glory at the end of time.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: The Lord is king, most high above all the earth.

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

- [1] **Entry Hymn:** *Bind us together* - N.º 65
- [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:** *Amazing Grace*- N.º 32
- [8] **Thanksgiving:** *Instrumental*
- [9] **Final Hymn:** *Go, the Mass is ended* - N.º 175

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

I met Jose a few years ago during a Spanish *Cursillo*. He had come to California from Nicaragua, was a University professor and a politician. He had enjoyed a “good life” until he was forced to flee the country for serious reasons. Visiting his family in California, Jose was invited to take part in a three day *Cursillo*. Jose “had no choice” because his brother-in-law was going to be the Coordinator of the retreat. The only reason he said yes was because he felt embarrassed to decline his brother-in-law’s invitation. Jose had no faith at all. His last time in church and his last Communion had taken place 40 years before.



The first day of the *Cursillo* was a struggling and painful journey. Then he felt something different. He discovered “a different God”. He discovered that “his” God whom he had left behind was not the God of Jesus.

On the second day of the *Cursillo* Jose was uncontrollably in love with “his new God”, the God of the Bible, the God of Jesus, and the God of the Lost Sheep and of the Prodigal Son. Jose was fascinated by the person of Jesus. He made his Confession and I had the privilege of giving him his First Communion after 40 years of absence.

During one of the breaks he confided to me that the «*hardest thing for me to understand was that during these 40 years, God performed so many miracles in my life and I didn't even believe in Him*». I put my hand on his shoulder, looked in his eyes, and also confided to him: «*Jose... a mother never asks permission from her baby to love him... to help him... to feed him. God will never ask you permission to love you and to help you. God will never ask “May I love you, please?” That's free. The blessing and the tragedy is that we have the power to say “yes” or “no”*».

The religion of Jesus is a religion of the YES.

Love and Peace

Fr. Bernardino Andrade



Cursillo is a spiritual retreat experience of the Catholic Church that focuses on learning how to become effective Christian leaders. It includes talks, some given by priests, and the method focuses on personal spiritual development.

FOR THOSE WHO NEED HEALING AND SPIRITUAL STRENGTH:

Please take a few moments right now to say a small prayer for those in our community who need it. **Think your prayer won't make a difference?** Think again... (These are some of the emails that we have received from those on our prayer list):

- “Thank you so much for keeping me on your prayer list, I am deeply grateful”
- “My dear friends, thank you so much for your praying for me. I am really very expressed that you in the very far from me Funchal think about me. It is giving me strength! I have not yet won over my illness but I am on the good way to do it soon”.



Please Pray For them:

**Barbara Matthews,
John Hinchliffe,
Nelita da Silva,**

**Carmina da Mata,
José Manuel Reis,
Rosemary & João de Ponte,**

**Janice & Larry Contreras,
Marina Kovalchikova,
The Vallat family.**

YOU LEARN – A reflection on life

- *A poem by Argentine writer:* Jorge Luis Borges
(24 August 1899 – 14 June 1986)

After a while you learn the subtle difference
Between holding a hand and chaining a soul,
And you learn that love doesn't mean leaning
And company doesn't mean security.

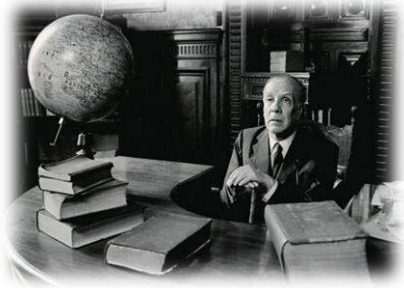
And you begin to learn that kisses aren't contracts
And presents aren't promises,
And you begin to accept your defeats
With your head up and your eyes open

With the grace of a woman, not the grief of a child,
And you learn to build all your roads on today
Because tomorrow's ground is too uncertain for plans
And futures have a way of falling down in mid-flight.

After a while you learn...
That even sunshine burns if you get too much.
So you plant your garden and decorate your own soul,
Instead of waiting for someone to bring you flowers.

And you learn that you really can endure...
That you really are strong
And you really do have worth...
And you learn and learn...

With every good-bye you learn.



SAINT OF THE MONTH: 7th August - Saint Cajetan / Caetano

In the course of a lifetime, many Catholics adopt a Patron Saint whose values seem close to their own and to whom recourse can be made in times of trouble. Pontiffs are no different. Over time, the attributes of Saints they admire begins to emerge. Such revelations sometimes tell us much about the character of individual Popes.

Often there is a regional bias. It should not come as any surprise, therefore, to learn that **Pope Francis is fond of an Italian Saint**, who also is much admired in Argentina. **He is Saint Cajetan, popularly known in Argentina as Saint Caetano.**

Saintly figures display diverse attributes. Saint Francis of Assisi loved the poor and cared for birds and animals; Saint Benedict displayed a talent for teaching and preaching; whilst Saint Francis de Salles loved writing and all form of the written word. The latter is less well known, but it's hardly surprising that throughout the world he is the Patron Saint of journalists.

Saint Cajetan loved the poor and often bet that he could convert them to Christianity. Over the years he has become the Patron Saint to whom all gamblers have recourse in times of trouble, but Pope Francis's interest no doubt lies in Saint Cajetan's love of the poor and his concern for all who seek work/jobs.



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 Matthew chapter 25).

>> PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE CONTACTS:

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Email: larryjanc@aol.com

>> BANK INFO:

BANK: Banco Santander Totta

NIB: 0018 0008 01301547020 17

SWIFT: TOTAPTPL

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 0008 0130 1547020

IBAN: PT50 0018 0008 01301547020 17

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



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 where you can get a copy of this light- hearted, slightly romantic detective story.

Tall?

Please beware
low door lintels in
the Chapel
when leaving the
Sanctuary



Remember to
leave your
yellow *Hymn*
Book and
Order of the
Mass sheets
on the table at
the Chapel
entrance after
mass 😊

Tea and Coffee After Mass

Please join us
in the Social Hall
across the garden.

Everyone Welcome



In The Social Hall...
(across the garden)

Our Visitor's book

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

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 ask by sending an email to: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com** You can also download this newsletter from the Chapel's website and blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org