


10th of September 2017 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

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

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

 Facebook: www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel

 Instagram: www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/



THE CATHOLIC ENGLISH MASS IN MADEIRA:

Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. This 10am Mass is the only **Catholic Mass in English** on the entire island, however all denominations are welcome to attend! We are blessed by the presence of two dedicated priests here the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França: *Father Bernardino*, who celebrates the Mass in English 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.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Ezek 33:7-9; Ps 94(95): 1-2. 6-9 r.7-8; Rom 13:8-10; Matt 18:15-20)

Ezekiel says the authority of religious leaders comes with a daunting responsibility. Religious leaders who fail to instruct people correctly will suffer the same fate as the sinners they have failed to guide wisely. After the exile in 587 BC Ezekiel promises hope for a future return to Jerusalem – providing individuals accept responsibility for sins and purify themselves of false gods.

The joyful processional Psalm 94(95) urges us to give to God the praise and thanks we owe him. Even after the Hebrews quarrelled and put God to the test at Meribah, God gave them water in the desert.

Paul advises the Romans that each person is responsible for their actions: obey secular authorities, whose authority comes from God. Above all "love your neighbour as yourself".

Matthew's Gospel authorises groups of Christians to challenge wrongdoers. But the awesome authority of the Church to bind and loose on God's behalf is put into context by the last verse of the Gospel reading. Jesus will be in the midst of those who meet in his name – and will therefore ensure their decisions are in tune with God's will. The Church's power to include or exclude individuals is only to be exercised after due deliberation by the whole Christian community.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: O that today you would listen to his voice! "Harden not your hearts."

TODAY'S HYMNS:

Prof. Cátia Marques & Prof. Helena Marques

- [1] **Entry Hymn:** *Let there be love* – No. 317
- [2] **Penitential Act:** *Lord, have mercy* – No. 663
- [3] **Gospel Acclamation:** *Aleluia* – No. 679
- [4] **Offertory Hymn:** *Portuguese Hymn*
- [5] **Sanctus:** *Holy* – No. 704
- [6] **Agnus Dei:** *Lamb of God* – No. 737
- [7] **Communion:** *Portuguese Hymn*
- [8] **Thanksgiving:** *Instrumental*
- [9] **Final Hymn:** *How lovely on the mountains*– No. 235



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

1

I WILL FIGHT

Remember the words of General William Booth, founder of The Salvation Army and a friend to the down and out? Three months before his death he wrote: "While women weep as they do now, I'll fight; while little children go hungry as they do now, I'll fight; while men go to prison, in and out, in and out, as they do now, I'll fight; while there is a drunkard left, while there is a poor lost girl upon the streets, while there remains one dark soul without the light of God, I'll fight - fight to the very end." What has happened to us? "If any man or woman would be my disciple," Jesus says to us, "Let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." That is the word we desperately need to hear.

2

THAT'S THE REASON, RUTH

You may know the thrilling story of Glen Cunningham, a young man whose legs were so badly burned when he was a boy that doctors said he would never walk again. However, this determined champion went on to win an Olympic gold medal as a miler. Even more importantly, Glen Cunningham devoted his life to helping troubled young people. Once, his wife asked, "Glen, why do we have to give so much more than others? No one else is doing what we are." Glen answered, "That's the reason, Ruth. No one else is doing it."

3

THE LEAST COMPASSIONATE PEOPLE I EVER KNEW

Michael Slaughter in his book, *Unlearning Church*, tells about a religion editor from a local newspaper who came to his Church to interview him about a conference they were having. At the end of the interview, he asked if she went to Church. He assumed she did, since she was a religion editor. She said, "No, I am a Buddhist. I was raised in the Church," she went on, "but about ten years ago, I became interested in Buddhism because the highest value of Buddhism is the value of compassion." Michael Slaughter says her next comment made him feel as if she had put her hand in his chest and squeezed his heart. "The people I grew up around in the Church," she added, "were some of the least compassionate people I ever knew." "Ouch," says Michael Slaughter, and then he adds, "Yet Jesus is compassion made visible." And he's right. Jesus is compassion made visible. Having Jesus' name, but not his heart is a dangerous combination. It can make us turn away people that Jesus is calling us to embrace.

Love and Peace,

Fr. Bernardino Andrade

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Please keep all of those affected by Hurricane Harvey, and Hurricane Irma in your prayers, and also remember in your prayers this week members of our Community whose names are on the back of this newsletter. Thank you ☺



Fundraiser Dinner

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND A CHARITY FUNDRAISER DINNER:

PURPOSE:

Help the project: "People Helping People" to help the poorest of the poor.

PLACE:

Moynihan's Irish Bar (up the road from the Chapel of Penha de França)

WHEN: Saturday, September 16.

TIME: 7:30 PM

MENU:

Chicken & Fish, accompaniments, dessert & coffee.

PRICE:

Adults: 16,00 €;

Children under 12 years old: 8,00 €.

TICKETS: available at Moynihan's Irish Bar, and here at the Chapel from Alan O'Brien after Mass today, or by calling him on the following numbers: 969143732 or 291522311. There will also be raffles at the Fundraiser Dinner, with many prizes to be won! Please come along and support a worthy cause!



PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE IS AN OPEN DOOR WHEN ALL THE OTHER DOORS ARE CLOSED

MADEIRA WINE FESTIVAL – August 27th to September 10th

Source: www.visitmadeira.pt/en-gb/what-to-do/events/search/madeira-wine-festival



The Madeira Wine Festival is one of Madeira's many tourist attractions. It takes place during the grape harvest (late August, early September) on the island and **this event aims to recreate the old traditions of the wine culture of the island and the local people who over the centuries dedicated themselves to the vines and the wines!**

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 least, 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:

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 Quitéria 46A, 9020-119, Funchal, Madeira, Portugal

Please keep in your prayers this week:

- ☞ Carmina da Mata
- ☞ Janice & Larry Contreras
- ☞ John Hinchliffe
- ☞ José Manuel Reis
- ☞ Marina Kovalchikova
- ☞ Nelita da Silva
- ☞ Rosemary & João de Ponte
- ☞ The Vallat family



Please sign our Visitor's book in the Social Hall

(across the garden)

- ☞ leave us your comments,
- ☞ let us know where you're from! ☺

We also have a **map** where you can place a pin on your home town!

Tea and Coffee After Mass

Please join us in the Social Hall across the garden.



Remember 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. **To subscribe to this newsletter please send an email to: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com** or download it from the Chapel's website/blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org