



17th of September 2017 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

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

 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

(Ecclesiasticus (Sirach) 27:30-28:7 ; Ps 102: 1-4, 9-12 r.8 ; Rom 14: 7-9 ; Matt 18:21-35)

The Wisdom book, **Ecclesiasticus**, was written in Hebrew about 200 BC by Ben Sira, a Jewish sage. There are many allusions in the new Testament to the later Greek version. At a time of increasing pagan Greek influence, Ben Sira showed that Israel's religion was still a firm basis for moral living. He gives many practical examples, helping Christians of every age to apply moral truths to their own times. His strict condemnation of nursing anger and resentment is all too relevant for us today. **Psalm 102(103)** is a hymn of thanksgiving and tender piety for God's generous mercy – because of our frailty. How blessed we are that God "does not treat us according to our sins". The last of our Sunday readings from Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome emphasises that we belong to the community of all believers, both those alive now – and in the future – and those who have died. Our lives have influence on others. Linking both to Sirach and **Matthew** in the next verse Paul says "Why do you pass judgement on your brother?"

In today's Gospel Sirach's advice to forgive is graphically illustrated: Jesus tells Peter we must always forgive. We are saved by forgiveness – ours as well as Christ's.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

TODAY'S HYMNS:

Prof. Cátia Marques & Prof. Helena Marques

- [1] **Entry Hymn:** *Bind us together* – No. 65
- [2] **Penitential Act:** *Lord, have mercy* – No. 659
- [3] **Gospel Acclamation:** *Aleluia* – No. 679
- [4] **Offertory Hymn:** *Take our bread* – No. 528
- [5] **Sanctus:** *Holy* – No. 704
- [6] **Agnus Dei:** *Lamb of God* – No. 737
- [7] **Communion:** *Amazing grace* – No. 32
- [8] **Thanksgiving:** *Instrumental*
- [9] **Final Hymn:** *Go, the Mass is ended* – No. 175



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

1 - WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

There was a Church where the pastor and the minister of music were not getting along. As time went by, this began to spill over into the worship service:

The first week the pastor preached on commitment and how we all should dedicate ourselves to the service of God. The music director led the song "I Shall Not Be Moved". The second week the pastor preached on tithing and how we all should gladly give to the work of the Lord. The music director led the song "Jesus Paid it All". The third week the pastor preached on gossiping and how we should all watch our tongues. The music director led the song "I Love to Tell the Story".

With all this going on, the pastor became very disgusted over the situation and the following Sunday told the congregation that he was considering resigning. The musician led the song, "Oh Why Not Tonight?".

As it came to pass, the pastor did indeed resign. The next week he informed the Church that it was Jesus who led him there and it was Jesus who was taking him away. The music leader led the song, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus".

Is there anybody you have trouble getting along with?

2 - REFUSE TO BE THEIR PRISONER

When Bill Clinton met Nelson Mandela for the first time, he had a question on his mind:

«When you were released from prison, Mr. Mandela,» the former President said, *«I woke my daughter at three o'clock in the morning. I wanted her to see this historic event.»*



Then President Clinton zeroed in on his question: *«As you marched from the cellblock across the yard to the gate of the prison, the camera focused in on your face. I have never seen such anger, and even hatred, in any man as was expressed on your face at that time. That's not the Nelson Mandela I know today,»* said Clinton, *«What was that about?»*.

Mandela answered: *«I'm surprised that you saw that, and I regret that the cameras caught my anger. As I walked across the courtyard that day I thought to myself, "They've taken everything from you that matters. Your cause is dead. Your family is gone. Your friends have been killed. Now they're releasing you, but there's nothing left for you out there." And I hated them for what they had taken from me. Then, I sensed an inner voice saying to me " Nelson! For twenty-seven years you were their prisoner, but you were always a free man! Don't allow them to make you into a free man, only to turn you into their prisoner! ". You can never be free to be a whole person if you are unable to forgive. You see that, don't you?»*.

There are many people who are imprisoned by their own anger, their own hurt, their own inability to let go of the past and move on. Here's the other thing we need to see about forgiveness: **THERE IS ONLY ONE PLACE YOU CAN FIND THE ABILITY TO FORGIVE.** It is at the throne of Christ.

Love and Peace,

Fr. Bernardino Andrade

PRAYER CARRIED BY A PRIEST who died in WTC attack on Sept 11th 2001

Source: America: The National Catholic Review

(www.americamagazine.org/content/all-things/1000-walk-remember-father-mychal-judge-first-recorded-victim-sept-11)



Firefighters carry Father Mychal's body from the rubble

Last Monday marked the 16th anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center; a day that will forever remain in the thoughts and hearts of many people all over the world.

Father Mychal Judge was a Franciscan friar and Catholic priest, who served as a chaplain to the New York City Fire Department. He was the first recorded victim of the 9/11 attacks while he was ministering to a fallen firefighter. Father Mychal walked into the World Trade Center on Sept. 11 to perform last rites and he never walked out. Since then, every year in New York, on the Sunday before Sept 11th, a Remembrance walk is held in his memory. During his life he touched many lives.

He was known for carrying with him a card with the printed words of a prayer which he handed out to anyone who he felt needed it.

Here are the words to that prayer:

*Lord, take me where you want me to go.
Let me meet who you want me to meet.
Tell me what you want me to say,
And keep me out of your way.*

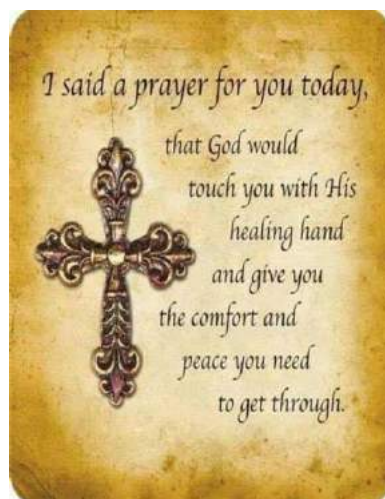


PLEASE PRAY

As you wait for Mass to begin, or if you are reading this newsletter online, please say a short prayer for all those whose names appear on our prayer list below... your prayer for healing and/or spiritual strength will help to make a difference in their lives.

Please pray for:

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



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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>> 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

Tall?

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



Please sign our Visitor's book

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

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.



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

You'll find the **book and
map** in the Social Hall...
(across the garden)

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