


1st of October 2017 – 10h00 Sunday Mass


26th 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/>

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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.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Ezek 18:25-28 ; Ps 24(25) ; Phil 2:1-11 ; Matt 21:28-32)

The priest Ezekiel appears to have been among the first Israelites taken to Babylon in captivity in 598 BC. He had strongly urged Israel's leaders to be faithful to God and his covenant, instead of resisting their enemies. But in vain: Israel's further rebellion led to the final destruction of Jerusalem in 586. Ezekiel insists that children are not punished for the sins of their fathers. Each generation and each person must accept responsibility for their own behaviour. Why choose sin and death: "I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God, so turn, and live".

The psalm is a personal prayer for guidance and pardon, while meditating on God's goodness to the just.

Paul urges the Gentile Christians in Philippi to strive for unity, putting their own interests behind those of the Christian community.

The hymn glorifies the way the already existing Christ obediently humbled himself to become man so that "every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord" – the basic definition of a Christian.

In Matthew's gospel Jesus has entered Jerusalem and cleansed the Temple. Now, challenged by the Jewish leaders, Jesus asks which is better – to refuse a command and then do it, or to say 'yes' but disobey? Israel frequently broke their Covenant with God, so sinners will enter God's kingdom before the Jews.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: Remember your mercy, Lord.

TODAY'S HYMNS:

Prof. Cátia Marques & Prof. Helena Marques



[1] **Entry Hymn:** *How lovely on the mountains* – No. 235

[2] **Penitential Act:** *Lord, have mercy* – No. 659

[3] **Gospel Acclamation:** *Aleluia*

[4] **Offertory:** *O Lord, my God - How great thou art.* – No. 419

[5] **Sanctus:** *Holy* – No. 704

[6] **Agnus Dei:** *Lamb of God* – No. 737

[7] **Communion:** *Portuguese Hymn*

[8] **Thanksgiving:** *Instrumental*

[9] **Final Hymn:** *Portuguese Hymn*



FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART

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

NO STRINGS ATTACHED

This was in the city of Half Moon Bay, California; a beautiful city with a beautiful beach and all the characteristics of a countryside city. Farming, flowers, cows and dairies were still the main scenery of that place. Also in this city there were many poor Mexican undocumented families with lots of children.

A young couple, with a few children, had the routine every Saturday morning of going together to a local restaurant and enjoying a non-expensive but delicious breakfast. No school, no work and no hurry. Just enjoying a nice meal in the presence of the family. The father of the family decided to consult with his family and share the same experience with the rest of the community. - **Love is not love until it is shared.**

They borrowed a hall from the City and started going to the supermarkets asking for eggs, bread, milk, vegetables, and anything else they could get. Then they started inviting people to join them every Saturday to also enjoy a nice breakfast. The young father and some volunteers prepared the food, and any person could take a plate, sit down and eat. The hall was big enough where the children could run, play, make friend and just be children. There were also tables with lots of bread and cakes, and also vegetables donated by the supermarkets for people to take home. This was something that I had never seen before.

The food was good, the company was excellent, but what impressed me the most was that there were no lists, nobody asking for documents, not even anybody asking for their names. There were just people eating together, enjoying the company of one another and building relationships.

A new program had started and its name was NO STRINGS ATTACHED.

This program had lots of influence on me when I started in my parish the project «*People Helping People*». No names, no lists, just people in need and people helping them. Very often bureaucracy kills programs, kills dreams and kills people. *People Helping People* should never be a program or an institution. *People Helping People* should be a way of life 24 hours a day.

CASA = HOME

Last Sunday, I had in this city of Funchal, an «impossible» experience. It is called CASA = HOME. In Portuguese it means «Support Center For the Homeless». In this world, and country, where the rules become heavier and heavier (*no papers no food*) I had the privilege of eating with the homeless the best food that can be served at any table. However, you don't have to be a homeless to eat there. Just show up or ask somebody to bring you food and that will be available for you. No questions asked. No strings attached.



Good food, excellent company with the homeless.

A few fine hotels in Funchal share their left overs with this association called «Casa» (Home). Some volunteers pick up the food, bring it to this place where people are waiting for their meals. The little inconvenience is that it has to take place after 10:30 PM when the hotels finish serving meals to their guests. People can bring their Tupperware and bags and take home how much food they want. Again... «No strings attached» or «No questions asked». Nobody asks for their names, addresses, IDs or whatever.

Along with «No Strings Attached», it is the most revolutionary association I have ever seen in my life. On the other hand, I have heard yesterday that some Catholic Associations just received instructions to be stricter in their rules in helping the poor in order to prevent abuses. Mother Teresa says that «When you start by judging you have no time to love».

«Casa» started to help the homeless but anybody even if he is a millionaire is welcomed. No questions asked. Like *People Helping People*, «Casa» is a combat against bureaucracy, against social inequality and against a society of waste.

Love and Peace,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade



Eating with the homeless.



At CASA (Home).

They sleep in the streets.
What's the future of these young people?



Diogo sleeps in the streets. He is mentally special. Diogo asks Dalila from *People Helping People* to be his mother. She said "*Of course*". He was more in need of a hug and a kiss than of a dish of food. Dalila "adopted" him.

Saint of the Month: October – Saint Francis of Assisi (Feast Day 4th October)

Saint Francis of Assisi is one of the most popular Catholic Saints, not least because his name was adopted by our present Pontiff, who was educated not as a Franciscan, but as a Jesuit.

The appeal of Saint Francis crosses all human divides. At the heart of his ministry are the Buddhist qualities of kindness and compassion that extend not just to people, but to all living creatures.

The forgoing contrasts sharply with his upbringing and early life. Saint Francis was born into a rich merchant family, whose lifestyle he publicly renounced by giving away all his possessions and fine clothes to the poor.

During his subsequent ministry he rebuilt many derelict Churches; obtained permission from Pope Innocent III to authorize the Franciscan Order and later helped to found the Order of Poor Clare's.

He preached throughout the duty of mankind to protect and enjoy nature and the environment. He would despair at the modern world's indifference to despoiling both land and sea.

Pope John Paul II recognized his 'Green' credentials and in 1979 declared Saint Francis the Patron Saint of Ecology.

PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.





"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