JOYFUL GIFT

Vol. 3, number 97

21st January 2018 – 10h00 Sunday Mass 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

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

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THE CATHOLIC ENGLISH MASS IN MADEIRA:



Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França! Father Bernardino is our English mass priest and will be celebrating Mass for us today. 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 been repaired and the ceiling restored through the generosity of a frequent visitor to our English Mass. The Diocese has also recently done some repairs in the social hall, and fixed the 3 bells in the Chapel's bell tower. **Today's Mass Collection will go towards the repair and restoration of the chancel ceiling and the roof of the Chapel**.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Jonah 3: 1-5, 10; Psalm 24(25): 4-9; 1 Cor 7: 29-31; Mark 1: 14-20)

In the short book of Jonah, God sent a great fish to force Jonah back to the mission God had given him, to warn Nineveh that it was to be destroyed. But, after the fish had spewed Jonah back on to dry land, Jonah was still angry that God relented. He had run away to avoid drawing God's mercy on the hated city, believing only Jews were worthy of God's mercy.

After praying for pardon, the Psalm meditates on God's goodness towards the just.

Responding to questions from the Corinthians about married life, Paul gives detailed advice – but against the background of expecting Jesus to return in glory virtually any minute. There may also have been a famine when he was writing. They should not be alarmed by any current world crisis, even if normal activities are interrupted for a time. But one day the world will end. What will matter then is their faithfulness to the Lord, whatever their social circumstances.

Last week we heard from the Gospel of John about Jesus calling the first disciples. Our year B readings from the Gospel of Mark now resume until Lent, then continuing after Trinity Sunday. Mark describes Jesus beginning his ministry by first proclaiming the Good News, and then also calling the first disciples.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: Lord, make me know your ways.

HYMN NUMBERS:

Organ / Voice – Professor Fátima Cátia Marques

|1| Entry Hymn:

How lovely on the mountains-No. 235

|2| Penitential Act: Lord, have mercy – No. 659

|3| Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia

/4| Offertory Hymn: *Take our bread* – No. **528**

|5| Sanctus: Holy - No. 704

Cello – Professor Helena Paula Marques

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

|**7**| **Communion Hymn:**Portuguese Hymn

|8| Thanksgiving: Instrumental

|9| Final Hymn:

Our God loves us - No. 454

FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART - My Cat's "Spirituality"

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

I don't believe that my cat has learned anything from me even if I have tried. However, I must confess that I have learned a lot from him...

It was one Friday afternoon. A child knocks on my door to tell me that my cat had an ugly wound in his head. When I saw it I was shocked. The wound was big, infected and horrible. I called the veterinarian. A nice doctor was ready to see my cat right away. The gentle vet cleaned my cat's head but left an open and even uglier wound. Then, she gave me some medicine to give him orally and told me to clean his wound daily and never let any dry skin cover it.

It seemed that the kind doctor was ready to let me go but I refused to believe that she was

going to send me away without any ointment or even a bandage to cover that horrible wound. That's when I interrupted her, "Doctor... are you not going to give me some medicine to put on that wound or at least a medicated bandage? That looks horrible." She said, "No. You will not put anything on that wound not even a band-aid. Keep it uncovered, clean and give the cat the medicine I gave you. Healing comes from inside."

In a few days the wound was completely healed. The doctor was right. Healing came from inside. No ointments. No band-aids.

One of the most beautiful and touching experiences of my life as Pastor in the USA was to baptize and welcome adults into the Catholic Church. The preparation would take two years. Scrutinies during Lent used to be one of the highest moments of their journey. The key words for the Scrutinies ceremony were: "to uncover" and "to heal". The candidates are invited to uncover what is bad and sinful in them in order to get the healing they needed.

All of us are wounded and hurt. You and I deserve to be healed. The temptation is to cover with band-aids but my cat's vet was right. Healing comes from inside.

God loves you and so do I,

Fr. Bernardino Andrade

BOOK SALE THIS MORNING

This morning at the Chapel there will be a book sale straight after our regular 10am Sunday Mass in English. Jane Caldwell, from England, is an author and has written a book to help the "People Helping People" (PHP) project... (more info about PHP on the last page of the newsletter).

«During the past fifteen years we have had many wonderful holidays in this beautiful island. We have been impressed with the friendly and resilient people, but sadly also by the poverty that exists on the island. As a result, we have become staunch admirers of PHP (People Helping People) and I have now written a novel to help the project. It is a light hearted, slightly romantic detective story, set in some places people may recognize: it is a typical holiday read. "Frozen



Mrs. Caldwell, and her book, "Frozen Stiff"

people may recognize; it is a typical holiday read. "Frozen Stiff" by "Agatha Frisky" will be on sale today after Mass at Capela Penha de França for 10 Euros; absolutely every cent will go directly to PHP. Alternatively, it is available as a Kindle e-book for £3,50. Happy Reading!

Source: aleteia.org

Pope Francis visited Chile this past week (15-18th January 2018). As he flew to his last stop, on January 18th, the Pope celebrated a surprise wedding on board for two of the crew members of LATAM Airlines!



The pair, Carlos and Paula, have been civilly married for eight years but had never received the sacrament of matrimony. (In many parts of the world, it is typical that civil marriages are performed apart from "church weddings" as priests do not have the civil authority to bind the couple as legally married. So couples do the legal process before a judge and then receive the sacrament - joining their lives in the eyes of God and the Church - some days afterward.)

Carlos and Paula had planned to wed in 2010, but an earthquake destroyed the church where their wedding was to take place. So now, 8 years later, during the papal flight, the pair approached Pope Francis to ask for his blessing. Pope Francis asked if they were married, to which they responded yes, but only civilly, and they explained the situation of the earthquake. At this point, the pope offered to marry them, and both said yes.

"We couldn't get married sacramentally because of the earthquake of February 27, 2010. ... So the pope told us, 'Ok, I'll marry you. Are you sure? I need a witness.' So I immediately went to look for a witness, Ignacio Cueto (the general manager of LATAM Airlines). He asked us if there was love in our marriage, and if we wanted to stay together for the rest of our lives," Carlos related to the press on hand. "He took our



hands, blessed the ring. He said some words, privately to us.

And he married us in the name of God," he said.

A marriage certificate was drawn up by hand on a piece of paper, a Vatican document requested by the pope, written out by the cardinals, and signed by the witness, the couple, and the pope.

WHY YOU SHOULDN'T FEAR THE FUTURE - According to St. Francis de Sales

Source: aleteia.org

The fear of some future suffering is often greater than the suffering itself. That's because when we are anticipating the future, we are not yet being given the grace that God will give at that moment. **Here's how St. Francis de Sales puts it:**

Do not look forward to the trials and crosses of this life and fear. Rather, look to them with full confidence that, as they arise, God, to whom you belong, will deliver you from them. He has guided and guarded you this far in life. Do you but hold fast to His hand, and He will lead you safely through all trials. Whenever you cannot stand, He will carry you lovingly in His arms.

Do not look forward to what may happen tomorrow. The same Eternal Father who cares for you today will take good care of you tomorrow and every day of your life. Either He will shield you from suffering or He will give you the unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace then and put aside all useless thoughts, vain dreads, and anxious imaginations. - St. Francis de Sales



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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Please sign our Visitor's book in the Social Hall

leave us your comments, or suggestions, let us know where you're from! ©
We also have a map where you can place a pin on your home town! You'll find the Social Hall at Social the garden



Remember to <u>leave</u> 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.



Joint Anglican - Roman Catholic Bible Group: Thursdays 2.00 pm in The English Church Library.

English Church Library, Rua do Quebra Costas nr.18. Funchal.

For more info: chris@chris-oliver.net



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