





25<sup>th</sup> February 2018 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

2nd Sunday of Lent – 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](http://www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel)  
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**Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Penha de França!** Today is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent. Father Bernardino is our English mass priest who celebrates Mass for us here at the Chapel every Sunday morning at 10am.

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Gen 22:1-2,9-18; Psalm 115(116):10.15-19; Rom 8:31-34; Mark 9: 2-10)



In Genesis God sets a greater test of Abraham's faith than might appear: Isaac seems now to be Abraham's only son. His wife, Sarah, had persuaded Abraham to drive out into the desert his other son, Ishmael, with her mother, Hagar, the slave woman. God had promised Abraham would be father of a host of nations, with as many descendants as stars in the sky. How could this now come about?

On the way Isaac had asked "Where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham answered: "God will provide himself". Abraham's faith is rewarded and God renews his covenant. The psalmist offers sacrifice and grateful praise after God heard his prayer at death's door. Paul urges the Romans to have similar trust in God. That God gave up his only Son to death shows how completely God loves us. Paul insists that nothing can separate us from the love of God. In our last reading from Mark's gospel until the Ascension, the disciples appear confused by Jesus' transfiguration. Although God has again confirmed Jesus as his Son, they do not understand how Jesus relates to Moses and Elijah, representing the Law and the Prophets. After Jesus' resurrection they would realise Jesus had come to fulfil the whole of Israel's scriptures.

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

## PSALM RESPONSE:

**I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.**

### HYMN NUMBERS:

Organ / Voice – Professor Fátima Cátia Marques

Cello – Professor Helena Paula Marques

- [1] **Entry Hymn: Lent Hymn:** *Colours of day* – No. 93
- [2] **Penitential Act:** *Kyrie*
- [3] **Gospel Acclamation:** *Glory and praise to You* – No. 690
- [4] **Offertory Hymn:** *Portuguese Lent Hymn*
- [5] **Sanctus:** *Sanctus*
- [6] **Agnus Dei:** *Agnus Dei*
- [7] **Communion Hymn: Lent Hymn:** *Jesus, the Lord, said: "I am the Bread"* – No. 288
- [8] **Thanksgiving:** *Instrumental*
- [9] **Final Hymn: Lent Hymn:** *Word made flesh* – No. 635



## FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART – Touching The Untouchable

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

On February 11th the Catholic Church celebrated the *World Day of the Sick* and by coincidence the Gospel told the story of Jesus healing a leper.

In the time of Jesus there was not a more horrifying illness than leprosy. It was not just a body painfully being decomposed in life but especially the condition of being ostracized, excluded and outcast. Their loneliness was unbearable, but lepers, their family and friends had no choice according to the cruel rules of the time of Jesus. They were accused, judged and condemned for being «sinners». According to their laws, leprosy was a punishment from God for their sins. They «deserved» to be excluded. They were «unclean». And if any person touched them, that person would become unclean. Jesus, who was a rebel against inhuman laws, in the process of healing the leper, touched him, and consequently became unclean.

During Mass on the *World Day of the Sick*, we reflected about today's lepers: the «unclean» and the «untouchable» of our society. And we identified some of them like the homosexuals, the poor, the homeless, the prostitutes, the beggars and so on.

Since I started saying Mass in English at Penha de França I have been «condemned» to encounter, every Sunday, a homeless man called “Antonio”, begging for money. I never liked that and I still don't like it. Instead of Antonio extending his hand begging for money I would prefer to see Carla dressed as a folkloric ballerina offering flowers to the tourists who attend Mass at Penha de France. It doesn't look good, especially for the tourists. Somebody said that «In today's society, image is not the most important thing. Image is *the only* important thing». His presence «ruins» our image of «good and clean» Portuguese People. The problem is that Jesus didn't ask for my opinion. What he tells me is that «Whatever you do to the least of my brothers you do it unto me» (Math. 25:40). This is not negotiable. Then I started seeing Jesus in the person of Antonio. That's why, before giving him some money, I always hug him. He knows that, that's why when he sees me, before extending his hand to receive money, he extends his arms to hug me with his wonderful smile.

To experience the uncomfortable message of Jesus, at the end of the Mass two Sunday's ago, I asked Manny and his wife Tracy to invite and escort Antonio to join me close to the altar and bless him. And blessing Antonio (a homeless and a beggar), we also blessed all the «lepers», the «untouchable» and the «unclean» of today's society. We blessed him and I hugged him, and I promised that any «leper» who decides to come to our church we are going to extend a red carpet to welcome him or her. They are our masters. They make us more human. That's why I expect one day to see in every newsletter and in every news board of any Christian church this slogan: COME AS YOU ARE.

Love and Peace,

Fr. Bernardino Andrade



## FUNDRAISER – Help Us Restore The Chapel Of Our Lady Of Penha de França

Father Vitor Sousa (our chaplain) has been raising funds towards repairs which are urgently needed to preserve and help restore our beautiful Chapel. (The Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França is almost 400 years old!) The chancel ceiling above the altar is especially in need of intervention. **Raffle tickets** are available for sale at the Chapel at a cost of **1 euro** each, with the purpose of helping to pay for the restoration work necessary at the chapel.

The draw was authorized by the Regional Authority for Economic Activities (ARAE) and will take place on Sunday April 15<sup>th</sup>, at 12h30, in the Social Hall of the Chapel, where Fr. Vitor will hand out the 27 Prize vouchers. Some of the prizes include:

- Dinner for 2 at *The Vine* hotel
- Official T-shirt of the soccer team *Club Sport Marítimo*
- Tea for 2 people at *Belmonte Reid's Palace Madeira*
- Embroidered cloth of a Poinsettia flower from *Casa do Turista*
- A meal for 2 people at *Istanbul Turkish Restaurant*
- Lunch for 2 people at *Design Centre Nini Andrade*
- 2 tickets to watch a *Club Sport Marítimo* soccer game



## THE CHAPEL'S SOCIAL HALL – Come and have a look:



**Please join us after Mass** in the social hall of the Chapel (just across the garden) for a **cup of coffee, tea, homemade cake and a chat!** ☕

We have a **visitor's book** in the Social Hall, where you can leave a message, and tell us where you are from! There is a world map to the one side, where you can place a pin on your home town, and we even have a **Free Little Library**: a cabinet full of books. You're welcome to take a book, leave one in exchange, or contribute with a small donation for the book you take – all proceeds go to our *People Helping People* fund. Happy Reading!

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## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Cast all your anxiety on Him because he cares for you.

**1 Peter 5:7**

## 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:

**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  
**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

### PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

Where we helped this Week: 11-17 February 2018

Description	+ €	- €	Total €
PHP Mass Collection	211,06		211,06
<b>Expenses Paid:</b>			
1. House Rents		0,00	211,06
2. Medication		208,70	2,36
3. Doctor's Consultations		55,00	- 52,64
4. Bus fare		13,50	- 66,14
5. Water		0,00	- 66,14
6. Electricity		0,00	- 66,14
7. Gas		25,00	- 91,14
8. Telephone		0,00	- 91,14
9. Food		135,00	- 224,14
10. Miscellaneous		38,00	- 264,14
Balance at 17 <sup>th</sup> February			- 264,14

### Bible Group:

**Joint Anglican - Roman Catholic Bible Group:** The Lent Course, following the Pilgrims Course, concentrating on the Eucharist for 6 sessions.

**Time:** 2pm - 3.30pm.

**Where:** Trinity rooms of the English Church.

EVERONE welcome

**For more info contact Jean**

**Faulkner by email at:**  
shallomhouse@freeuk.co.uk

**English Church  
(Holy Trinity Church),  
Rua do Quebra Costas  
nr.18, Funchal.**

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](http://www.rcmassmadeira.org)