




22<sup>nd</sup> April 2018 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Year B

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

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

 **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel](http://www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel)

 **Instagram:** [www.instagram.com/capela\\_penha\\_franca/](http://www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/)

## THE CATHOLIC ENGLISH MASS IN MADEIRA:

The Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França was founded by Antonio Dantas in 1622, and originally built to minister to the soldiers of the small garrison at the Pontinha Redoubt (stronghold) in the bay of Funchal, but the Chapel soon became so famous a shrine that people came to it on pilgrimage from all parts of the Island. In the meantime, the Franciscans had been coming to Madeira to carry out apostolic duties, and in 1935, they 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. **We are blessed by the presence of two dedicated priests here at Penha de França: Father Bernardino**, who celebrates the English Mass every Sunday morning at 10h00, and **Father Vitor** who celebrates Mass in Portuguese at 11h30.



## TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

*(Acts 4: 8-12 ; 117(118) ; I John 3: 1-2 ; John 10: 11-18)*



After healing the cripple in Jesus' name and calling on the people to repent, Peter and John were put in prison overnight. Peter then repeats his preaching to the Jewish leaders. The leaders cannot deny "a notable miracle has been worked". Undecided, they order the Apostles not to speak in Jesus' name again, and release them without punishing them – at least this time. **The psalm** is from the Passover psalm heard on

Easter Sunday, thanking and praising God for repeatedly saving us. John's first letter insists that the love the Father has given us makes us his children now, anticipating already in some way what we shall be "when he appears". John goes on to contrast the righteous who do not sin with those who commit sin. You are either for God or against him – there is nothing between. **In John's gospel**, after healing the man born blind, Jesus describes himself both as the door through which we can enter and be saved, and also as the good shepherd, whom the sheep know and follow. In contrast to the false shepherds criticised by Ezekiel, the good shepherd cares for his sheep, even at the cost of his life. Jesus emphasises that he is in control of his life, causing division among the Jews.

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

**PSALM RESPONSE:** The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.



## TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

**Brought to you by:** Professors Cátia & Helena Marques  
Every Sunday the music at our Chapel is brought to you by 2 talented sisters: Cátia and Helena Marques. Cátia plays the organ and sings (she is a soprano). Helena also sings and plays the violoncello. We are blessed to have them here at Penha de França!

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

Dr. Vittorio Ventura (from Italy) and Beata Balazova (from Slovakia) have been, for a while, members of the Penha de França Community. Don't ask them to read during Mass or to do anything in front of people because they will show their kind smile but they will decline the invitation. Not because they don't like to help but only because, according to them, they are too shy. That's why last Saturday when I invited them to take a special picture they said yes but with one condition. They had to wear a mask, ha... ha... ha... Well ! I think that we both exaggerated a little bit.

Any way if you come to the Sunday Mass and if you want to meet Vittorio and Beata don't look for them among the «normal» community. If you want to meet them you have to climb a stairway and find them in the choir loft among a small group of shy people. They may be too shy but with a deep spirituality and a profound sense of community. But what I most admire in their spirituality is their option for the poor, for the suffering and for the «subversive» project of Jesus that is to «bring good news to the poor» (Lk. 4: 18). For them, this option is not negotiable. It is the center of their spirituality as it was the center of the Mission of Jesus and the center of the Bible.



"I promise to be true to you in good times and in bad times, in sickness and in health. I will love you and honor you for the rest of my life".



"Take this ring as a sign of my love and fidelity. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"

Dr. Vittorio and Beata exchanged their Marriage vows in this Chapel last Saturday, April 14th. They had told me that it was going to be a small wedding, meaning a small number of attendants. It really was. Less than 10 people. But I have to tell you that it was the greatest Wedding ceremony I have ever performed during my entire life as a priest. What made this ceremony so special, besides the beautiful and different bride's dress, so different and so beautiful, was that they decided to give their friends and guests an envelope, addressed to the "People Helping People" project and instead of wedding gifts they suggested a donation for the poor. The returned envelopes were supposed to be anonymous. I confess that I have been smiling while writing this story. It has been written with a little bit of humor. But now I stopped smiling and have tears in my eyes. The result of the envelopes

of that «small Wedding» was the amount of 900.00 Euros. Vittorio and Beata's «small» Wedding ceremony was without any doubt the «greatest» Wedding ceremony of my entire life.

I strongly believe that when a couple makes room in their hearts for the poor, for the suffering, for God and for the world they are building a bigger room for their spouses. If in the hearts of a woman and a man who get married there is no room for Jesus, for the poor and for the world that means that they are two selfish people with shrinking hearts that take the risk of not finding room for each other anymore.

Congratulations Vittorio and Beata. You have been a 5th Gospel announcing to the world the arrival of the Kingdom of God. Have a happy journey.

### **Love and Peace,**

Fr. Bernardino Andrade



**PS.** When I mention the 5th Gospel is because there are 4 Gospels of Jesus, according to Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. But I believe in the 5th Gospel. It's the Gospel or Good News of Jesus Christ according to the life of each one of us. There are lots of people in the world who will never read Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The only Gospel they will read is the life of each Christian. Martin Luther King said that the biggest tragedy of the world is not the evil done by evil people. The biggest tragedy of the world is the silence of the good people. The world needs to read these Good News.

## MADEIRA'S FLOWER FESTIVAL

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The Flower Festival is a Madeiran tribute to spring. Today is the highlight of Madeira's famous flower festival. **At 4pm today**, the main streets of Funchal will be transformed with dancing children and flower-filled floats. The flower parade takes place every year, two weeks after Easter, and has been a tradition here on the island since 1979. This year there will be 11 groups taking part in the parade, with a total of approximately 1500 participants in all.



Next week Saturday, as part of the flower festival, hundreds of children will gather in the *Praça do Município* (the town square in front of the Colégio Church) where they will build a 'Wall of Hope', made of flowers. The children will each place a flower on the wall to symbolize the hope for a better and more peaceful world. Other activities that have been taking place in Funchal this week is the making of flower carpets in the streets, folklore performances, flower shows, classical music concerts and variety shows.

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## WHY DO POPES WEAR RED SHOES?

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- *Source:* <https://aleteia.org/2018/04/16/the-history-behind-the-popes-red-shoes/>

Perhaps many recall Pope John Paul II with his red shoes, or wonder why Pope Francis doesn't wear them. But did you know that these shoes are as ancient as the Church itself? Or that they have a highly significant meaning? Most popes wore three types of shoes: red silk shoes for inside the Vatican, episcopal sandals to celebrate Mass (until 1969) according to the liturgical colors, and red leather shoes for outside. Red was used not only for the pope's shoes but for his entire vestment, although this changed to white with Pope Pius V in the mid-16th century, as he was a Dominican. Red symbolized both the worldly authority of the pope and the Passion of Christ. It also symbolized the Pope's submission to Christ, the love of God for humanity,



and the remembrance of all the martyrs who gave their lives for Christ. Some were even buried with their shoes: Paul VI, John Paul I, and John Paul II, for example. For quite some time, John Paul II set aside the bright red in favor of a more burgundy tone with a simpler look. Pope Francis chose to wear the red only indoors and opted for the black outdoor shoes he has always worn - and with which he arrived to the Vatican - as a sign of humility and austerity. His shoes are made by Carlos Samaria, the same shoemaker he has used for more than 40 years.



# PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)



“You should wash each other’s feet”. (John 13:14)

*People Helping People 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

## Bible Group:

**Joint Anglican - Roman**

**Catholic Bible Group:**

Thursdays 2:00pm-3:30pm at Holy Trinity Church, in the Library.

Where: Rua do Quebra Costa nr.18, Funchal. →

Studying: the Pilgrim Course. Church and Kingdom: A Course for the Christian Journey.

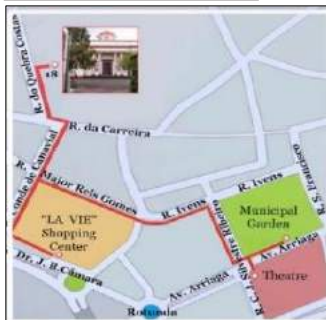
Everyone welcome.

Further questions contact Jean Faulkner at:

shallomhouse@freeuk.co.uk

## Tea and Coffee After Mass

**Please join us in the Social Hall across the garden for a cup of coffee and a chat.**



## 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! Our Social Hall has 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 ☺



**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 receive this newsletter every Sunday by email, ask to be included on the distribution list. Send an email to: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com or download it from the Chapel's website/blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org**