




13th May 2018 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

7th 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

 **Instagram:** 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 1:15-17, 20-26; Psalm 102 (103); I John 4:11-16; John 17:11-19)



After the Lord had ascended, Acts describes the apostles returning to Jerusalem, apparently without knowing quite what to do next. But the community, now grown, devote themselves to prayer, with Mary in their midst. They seem to realise that "the twelve" have to be re-constituted before they can do anything. So they select a replacement for Judas, now dead, though accounts of his manner of death vary. The

new witness is to be someone who has accompanied Jesus from his baptism to his ascension. Matthias is chosen by lot – and is never mentioned again.

The psalm is a hymn of grateful praise to God, whose mercy is great because he knows man's frailty. In last Sunday's reading from John's first letter we were told the nature of God's love is revealed in the free gift of His Son. Our final reading from John's first letter draws the conclusion that our love for each other must be equally self-sacrificing. This, and our willingness to acknowledge Jesus as the Son of God, is the basis of our Christian life.

The climax of Jesus' last discourse before his arrest: this "high priestly prayer" is addressed directly to the Father, asking God's protection for his followers. Christians are not to be removed from the world, though they do not belong to it. (**Brought to you by:** Chris Oliver) (**more info:** www.bible-groups.info)

PSALM RESPONSE: The Lord has set his way in heaven.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

Entry Hymn: "Morning has broken," - n.368

Gospel Acclamation: "Aleluia" – n. 683

Offertory Hymn: "Make me a Chanel of your peace" - n.359

Communion Hymn: Organ (Instrumental)

Thanksgiving: Violin (Instrumental)

Final Hymn: "Immaculate Mary" - n.256



FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART – THE DISCIPLES FINISHED THE JOB

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

The Italian composer, *Giacomo Puccini*, wrote *La Boheme*, *Madama Butterfly* and *Tosca*. It was during his battle with terminal cancer in 1922 that he began to write *Turandot*, which many now consider his best work. He worked on the score day and night, despite his friends' advice to rest, and to save his energy. When his sickness worsened, Puccini said to his disciples, "If I don't finish *Turandot*, I want you to finish it." He died in 1924, leaving the work unfinished. His disciples gathered all that was written by Puccini, studied it in great detail, and then proceeded to write the remainder of the opera.

The world premier was performed in La Scala Opera House in Milan in 1926, and Toscanini, Puccini's favorite student, conducted it. The opera went beautifully, until Toscanini came to the end of the part written by Puccini. He stopped the music, put down the baton, turned to the audience, and announced, "*Thus far the master wrote, but he died.*" There was a long pause; no one moved. Then Toscanini picked up the baton, turned to the audience and, with tears in his eyes, announced, "*But his disciples finished his work.*" The opera closed to thunderous applause and found a permanent place in the annals of great works.

Jesus instructs us in his Ascension message to finish his work of saving mankind by proclaiming His Good News by words and deeds.

Jesus didn't say: «If I don't *finish* my job, I want you to finish it». He didn't say it because He knew He wouldn't. He sent His disciples do the world to *continue* His job. Before ascending to heaven He sent you and me to the world to continue his job. To proclaim the Good news of liberation and salvation. He sent you and me to bring good news to the poor and transform this world into a family where we take care of each another and together we arrive to our final destination which is Heaven.

Love and Peace,

Fr. Bernardino Andrade

The Secret to a Long and Successful Marriage:



Mr and Mrs Ridout with
Father Bernardino

Fr Bernardino has a tradition here at the Chapel of inviting anyone attending Mass, and who may be celebrating a birthday, wedding anniversary, or any other special event to come up to the altar for a special blessing.

Two weeks ago, John and Shirley Ridout, who were here in Madeira on holiday, attended Mass on the Sunday morning. After Fr. Bernardino's usual "special blessing" invitation, they came forward for a blessing. **They were celebrating their Diamond Wedding anniversary (60 years together)!**

After receiving their blessing, Father Bernardino asked them to share with

everyone the secret to their long, successful, and romantic marriage. They answered: "*Listening to one another... and the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ!*". And it has worked wonderfully for them!

May God bless them both with many more years to come!



THE MONTH OF MAY IS DEDICATED TO OUR LADY – This is the reason why...

Did you know that here in Madeira and in Portugal, the month of May is dedicated to Mary, the Mother of Jesus?

This is because **the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to three shepherd children (Lúcia, Francisco, and Jacinta)** in the town of *Fatima*, in Portugal, on the 13th of May 1917, which is **exactly 101 years ago, today!**

Our Lady told the children that she was Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and that she had been sent by God with a message for every man, woman and child in our century. A church was built at the spot where Our Lady of Fatima appeared to the children, which to this day receives thousands of visitors from all over the world.



WHY IS THIS STATUE OF OUR LADY UNDERWATER?



Source: www.catholic.org/news/hf/faith/story.php?id=74173

Off the coast of the Bohol province in the Philippines, is a 14-foot statue of the Virgin Mary, situated underwater. To visit the statue requires scuba gear. Divers visit the statue regularly to honour Our Lady. The beautiful statue was placed on the reef by local officials to help discourage illegal fishing techniques that use dynamite. The locals have used dynamite, which destroys the reef and kills sea life indiscriminately. Fishermen harvest only the fish they want, and leave the rest to decay. This practice is traditional, but it is also destructive. Since the statue was placed, the dynamite fishing has stopped. This is because the fishermen know that the statue is down there, and so they won't use dynamite. The placing of the statue of Our Lady has helped to protect the reef, providing sanctuary for all life there.

Thoughts For The Week:



Renewed Wedding Vows:



Jim and Denise Blair

Last Sunday, another special couple, Jim and Denise Blair, (visiting Madeira all the way from Glasgow) were blessed by Father Bernardino as they renewed their wedding vows to each other.

It was a beautiful and emotional renewal of their 40 year journey of love together. ❤️



PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)



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:

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>> 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: penhafanca.newsletter@gmail.com or download it from the Chapel's website/blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org