



24th June 2018 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

Nativity of John the Baptist, 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. 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. 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. Over the years it has been necessary to carry out repair work inside the Chapel, which was made possible through the generosity of a frequent visitor to our English Mass. At the moment, repair work is again taking place on the ceiling above the altar as it has been in danger of falling down.



TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS



(Isa 49:1-6; Ps 138 (139); Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66,80)

One of the oldest Christian celebrations, the Birth of John the Baptist marks a turning point in the year. The last of the prophets, John "the forerunner" proclaims the Consoler soon to come. Second Isaiah consoles the people of Israel during their exile in Babylon: God's plan is working, they have not been forgotten. But salvation will not come in a way they expect, it will be through God's servant, unrecognised in their midst. He will raise the tribes of Israel to be the light of the nations. Isaiah goes on to insist that this servant must suffer – not the sort of saviour Israel expects. The psalm meditates on the all-seeing eye of God, who knows us before we existed. Therefore we should try to live sincerely in God's sight.

In Acts, as Paul begins his mission to the Gentiles, his first speech appears to indicate the way Paul usually preached: he summarises the promises God made during salvation history, until John the Baptist pointed to Jesus, the long awaited saviour. In Luke's Gospel, after Mary returns from visiting her cousin Elizabeth, we hear about John's miraculous birth and circumcision. God's plan comes a step nearer.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: I thank you for the wonder of my being.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

Entry Hymn: "Bind us together, Lord" – n. 65

Offertory Hymn: "Blest are you Lord" - n. 69

Communion Hymn: Instrumental

Thanksgiving: Instrumental

Final Hymn: "Go, the Mass is ended" - n. 175





They had come from different places for a meeting of “important” businessmen. The agenda was long and the “important” discussions lasted more time than was expected. As soon as the meeting was over, they hardly had the time to say goodbye in order to be able to catch the last train; they just ran through the doors and through the streets so that they could get onto the train before the train doors were closed.

Among their inconveniences, there was a boy selling fruit. Without paying attention, some of them were not able to avoid bumping against the boy's fruit stand.

Within the next few seconds there were oranges, apples, plums and all kinds of fruit rolling all over the pavement. It was a real mess.

One of the men, before entering the train, stopped for one second and yelled at his colleagues: “Please go. Don't wait for me!” Then he turned back to the fruit stand. Most of the fruit was still lying on the pavement. The young boy, who was selling the fruit, was on his knees trying to collect the fruit that had fallen. The businessman approached the young boy, apologised and offered to help him to pick up the fruit. **That's when he realised that the young boy was blind.** He felt really, really bad. Then he told the boy not to worry; he was going to collect the rest of the fruit.

As it is obvious, a good part of the fruit was bruised and broken. It was not good for sale. The man reached for his pocket, took some money, apologised again, and said: “Please take this money to pay for the fruit that cannot be sold because of this incident”.

The young boy smiled, thanked him and asked: “Sir!... are you Jesus”?



Love & Peace,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

- Saint Catherine of Siena -



www.CatholicResources.com

You are rewarded not according to
your work, or your time,
but according to the measure of your
love.

- St. Catherine of Siena

FEELING ALONE & DEPRESSED? - Pray this prayer to St. Jude for hope

Source: www.aleteia.org/2018/01/23/feeling-alone-and-depressed-pray-this-prayer-to-st-jude-for-hope/



Depression affects everyone at some point during their lives. Whether it is severe depression or something more mild, **we all know that feeling of being alone and forgotten.** It can take us down a dark path, one where there is little light at the end of the tunnel. **The good news is that God wants to lift you out of that rut and bring you into the glorious light of day.** Prayer, matched with proper medical attention, can be a powerful aid in bringing a person out of the depths of depression into a new life of Christian joy.

Below is a powerful prayer to St. Jude, who is a constant intercessor for all hopeless causes and wants to help you in your

need:

“St. Jude, friend to those in need, I am weary from grief, without joy, without hope, struggling to find the light I know is in my soul. I turn to you, my most trusted intercessor. Take away this emptiness and the pain of my broken heart. In your compassion, help my tears to lead me to a place of peace in my heart. Too long have I forgotten the goodness of God’s world. Heal me. I yearn to feel light, to feel joy. Envelop me in brightness, and do not hold back. And I promise, if I receive these gifts, I will share them always in your name. Amen.”

SAINT PETER FESTIVITIES – June 27th to 30th

Source: www.visitmadeira.pt/en-gb/what-to-do/events/search/st--peter-festivities

The Popular Saints Festivities are celebrations that are held in several countries. Madeira is no exception, and a bit throughout the Region, the month of June is synonymous with celebrations in praise of the three Popular Saints: **Saint Anthony, Saint John and Saint Peter.** The municipality of *Ribeira Brava*, located to the west part of the island, hosts the popular saints’ marches in honour of Saint Peter, held from June 27th to 30th. This is a popular event, characterised by night-time crossings of highly decorated boats and the traditional marches (*“marchas populares”*), in honour of Saint Peter (*“São Pedro”*).

There are market stalls throughout the centre of the city, where traditional kebabs (*“espetada”*) are made and served, with traditional *“bolo do caco”* bread.

On the 28th of June, around 10 pm, the streets of this municipality are centre stage of the typical popular marches, culminating around midnight with a fireworks display, filling up the skies of this locality with light and colour.



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.

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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:

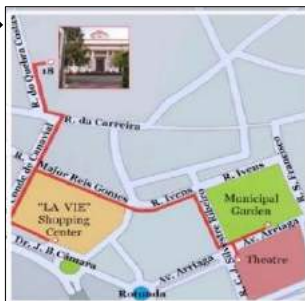
Thursdays 2:00pm-3:30pm at Holy Trinity Church, in the Library.

Where: Rua do Quebra Costas nr.20, Funchal.

Studying: the Pilgrim Course. 21st June onwards - "The Beatitudes". 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*). **The newsletters are printed by Cartridge World Funchal**, in Rua Elias Garcia, nr 5. We can email this newsletter to you every week. If you would like to receive the newsletter, just email the word "Newsletter" to: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com, or download it from the Chapel's website/blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org