




22nd July 2018 – 10h00 Sunday Mass
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, 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:

Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França.

Today we are blessed by the presence of Father Aires Gameiro (from the Hospitaller Order of Saint John of God) who will be standing in for Father Bernardino this morning, and also next week Sunday, while Father Bernardino enjoys a much deserved 2 week break. Thank you Father Aires Gameiro!

After this 10am Mass in English, there will be a mass in Portuguese celebrated by Father *Vitor Sousa*, at 11h30.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS



(Jeremiah 23: 1-6; Psalm 22(23); Eph 2: 13-18; Mark 6: 30-34)

Jeremiah was preaching around 600 BC. For forty years before the exile he reminded Judah's rulers how they had broken the covenant, worshipping other gods and taking advantage of the poor. His warnings were ignored, Jerusalem was destroyed, and the people taken into exile in Babylon.

But the Lord promises to rescue his people. He will make a new covenant and send a descendant of David to rule with truth, integrity and honesty.

The psalm celebrates God's loving care for his people, like a shepherd guarding and guiding his flock, and looking forward to his generous end-time feast.

Paul tells the Ephesians that Gentiles and Jews, previously separated by the Law, have now become one "by the blood of Christ". The Law's barriers have been broken down, and God's covenant now extends to Gentiles. Early proposals for Christians to ignore the Jewish Scriptures were rejected, and the Old Testament readings now included at Mass can help our faith.

Mark's Gospel has described the death of John the Baptist while the apostles were away on their mission. On their return Jesus takes them away 'on retreat'. But the crowds follow, setting the scene for the feeding miracles. For the next five weeks we switch to John's Gospel for a fuller account of Eucharistic feeding.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

Entry Hymn: " This is the Day " - n. 574

Offertory Hymn: " Give me Joy in my Heart " - n. 161

Communion Hymn: Instrumental

Thanksgiving: Instrumental

Final Hymn: " The Spirit Lives to set us free " - n. 561



FROM FATHER GAMEIRO'S DESK - God, atheists and believers in court

- *Brought to you by* Fr. Aires Gameiro (aires.gameiro@isjd.pt)

God does not exist, atheists say, in faith. We cannot know whether God exists, say the agnostics, with ignorance. In many ways God speaks and more through His Son Jesus Christ, believe the believers, with Christian faith. Atheists, agnostics and believers do not make God exist, nor do they make it nonexistent. Everyone speaks of God because He created them. All ask questions: who are we? Why do we see the universe? We see this and that and everyone asks: who did? One sees both good and so much evil, so much injustice and suffering. Who are the culprits? How will it end? So much beauty and pieces of happiness are inebriating, but at last one dies. And then? Atheists and indifferent ask many questions about God, give many answers to answer the questions they ask. They ask even more questions and give more answers, but sometimes they refuse God's answers because they say, in faith, that He does not exist. And if He does, He is the author of evil; is a false god. So, it is like this, in few words. Some atheists say: God is guilty of the evils and injustices of the world, of human suffering; but God does not exist, they say. Believers say: God is to blame for the evils of humans, because God exists and created free men capable of doing good and evil. The atheists arm their court and condemn God, that does not exist, to be punished of evil and punished to a no existence. Believers are always defending God who does not need to be defended for He is good, caring for his children even when the worst evils and sufferings occur, only because they are free. But they believe that God has to do with evil and good. And God, what does He say? God says, "I am," I exist and I accept being culprit for having created free men "like" Me; and so I am at the origin of the sins of all men who do them because I have created them with freedom and not robots. Even today I would make them free to be good, but I would accept the punishment of atheistic tribunals for so many evils that men do using their freedom. I agree to be punished instead of men. And I acknowledge, in a divine and human court, that my work is good but imperfect, it allows ills and sufferings, many of human initiative. But I want my children free. So now, it's like this. To remedy and rescue the humans that abuse of freedom, I accept the judgment and give my only Son, of my own nature and human nature, to die and suffer the punishment that the atheists apply to Me and continue to say that I do not exist; I accept the punishment that good and sinful atheists and believers deserve for misusing freedom. My last word is the death of my Son on His Cross, and the merciful pardon which He asks for all atheists, agnostics and faithful, and gives to those who recognize that they need it (cf. Joseph R. Aylón, "10 Atheists who changed buses", 2010). Now, my Son, my last Word, will continue to speak, but I remain silent until the judgment that I will make, at the end of time, at the beginning of the new heavens and new earth, which will be presided over by my Son surrounded by his apostles, who have been condemned with him at the first judgment in the presence of Pilate.



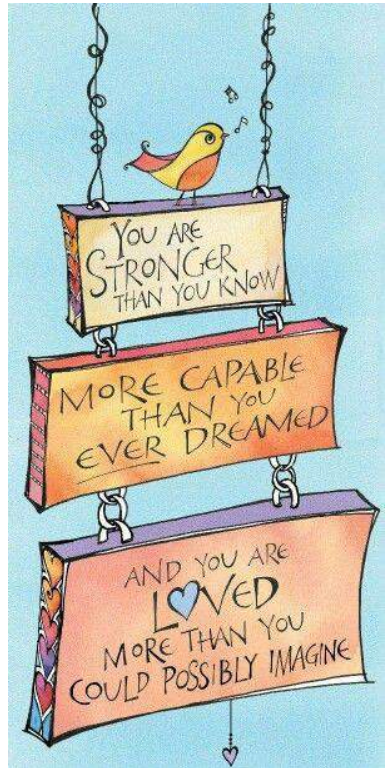
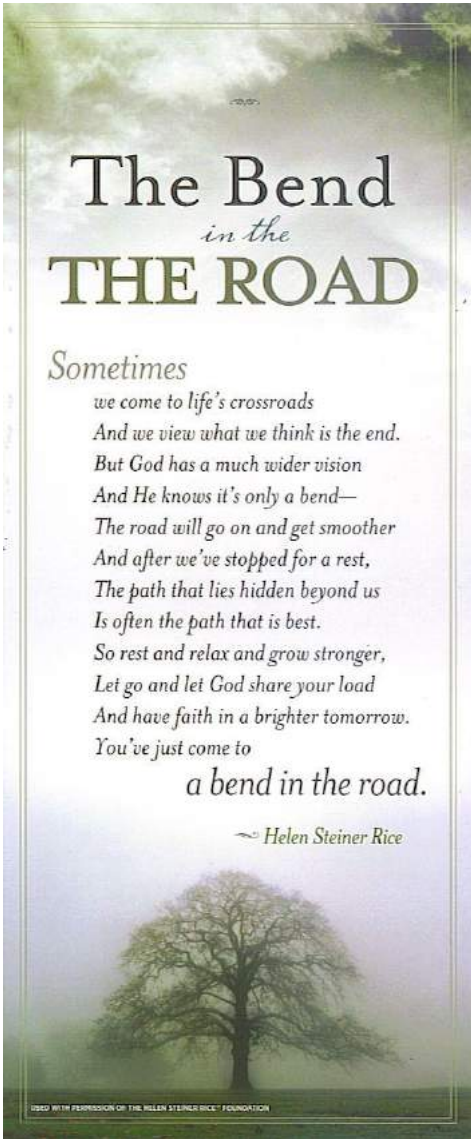
OUR SOCIAL ROOM – Please join us after mass

Please come and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea in the Chapel's social room after mass. You can find it right across the garden, in front of the Chapel. We have a Visitor's Book there, where you can leave a short message, and tell us what country you are visiting us from!

We also have a world map where you can put a pin on your home town.

We'd love to know where you're from!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



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

Bank Address: Caminho de Santa Quiteria 46A, 9020-119, Funchal, Madeira, Portugal

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 0008 0130 1547020

IBAN: PT50 0018 0008 01301547020 17

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: "The Beatitudes".

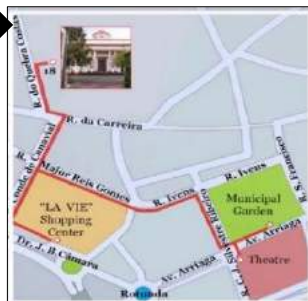
Everyone welcome.

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 it, just email the word "Newsletter" to: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com , or download it from the Chapel's website/blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org