



23rd September 2018– 10h00 Sunday Mass

25th 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/>

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THE CATHOLIC ENGLISH MASS IN MADEIRA:

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França.

We have been blessed to have **Fr. Ricardo Teixeira** celebrating Mass here at the Chapel for the last two Sundays while our parish priest, Fr. Bernardino, is away. This morning we will also be joined by **Fr. Aidan Kelly** who is visiting Madeira (from the Archdiocese of Liverpool)!

This 10h00 Mass is the only Catholic Mass celebrated entirely in English on the whole island of Madeira. Father Vitor Sousa, Chaplain, celebrates Mass in Portuguese here at the Chapel every Saturday evening at 18h30, and on Sunday mornings at 11h30.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Wisdom 2:12,17-20; ; Psalm 53(54); ; James 3:16 - 4:3; Mark 9: 30-37)



Wisdom was the last book of the Old Testament to be written, probably in Alexandria about 50 BC. Written in Greek, it is not in the Hebrew Scriptures and is therefore treated as apocryphal in non-Catholic bibles. The wicked are blinded by their thoughts: "haphazard were we born", they thought, and we leave no trace when we die, "because no-one returns." So "let us enjoy the good things that exist" and "oppress the righteous", simply because "he annoys us". But Wisdom responds: "God

formed man to be imperishable; in the image of his own nature".

The psalm implores God's help against our enemies, confident that he will help.

James' letter continues emphasising we must show our faith in good works, for which we need "wisdom from above". We must "show works in the meekness of wisdom", not in "jealousy and selfish ambition". "Friendship with the world is enmity with God".

In the Gospel Jesus uses a quiet moment on the way back from the Transfiguration to tell his disciples again that he will be killed and "after three days he will rise". But as yet they cannot understand. He then insists that his way is to "be last of all and servant of all", giving welcome to the least significant, even little children. God's wisdom is not the world's wisdom.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: The Lord upholds my life.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

– By: Larysa Makarova

Entry Hymn: "All over the world the Spirit is moving" – n. 19

Offertory Hymn: "Fill my house unto the fullest" - n. 141

Communion Hymn: "Lay your hands gently upon us" - n. 307

Thanksgiving: *Instrumental*

Final Hymn: "Lord, the light of your love is shining" - n. 344



FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART - "Cheese and Wine"

A continuation of Fr. Bernardino's column from two weeks ago about his recent trip to England...

When I was growing up I was surprised that in Portugal after Weddings or when big personalities visited the country, they would meet for a «Glass of Water». It took some time for me to discover that a "Glass of Water" meant to be a big and luxurious banquet. In England «Cheese and Wine» if I understood well, means a gathering of friends where food is served in a non-formal way. No special chairs for special people but simple food being served to people who could find a chair or be standing, drinking, eating and mainly socializing with one another.

Guess what! My hosts Neil and Dena Spence planned a «Cheese and Wine» gathering for July 26th. It sounded «normal». What happened «above» the normal was that gathering for «Cheese and Wine» meant to be a fundraiser event for the poor being helped by the project «People Helping People». From that gathering I could bring 555 Euros. I brought that money to Funchal on Monday, July 30th. The following day when I was on my way to deposit that money in the Bank I received a very angry telephone call from a frustrated lady in charge of coordinating the distribution of the services and the money to the poor. She was very upset because this man had been ringing her house door bell, very early in the morning, when she was still in bed. This man was desperately asking for help. Hunger has no rules, especially when children are involved... when there is hunger and no food, illness and no medicine, babies and no nappies. The man had come from far away. He had walked for an hour and a half to be able to catch a lift to Funchal. People Helping People wants to be an open door when all the other doors close. That's the price we have to pay in our combat against bureaucracy and social inequality.



Neil & Dena Spence hosted a "Cheese and Wine" gathering that brought to the poor in Funchal the amount of € 555.00

Pope Francis says that the poor are our doormen to heaven. Jesus says that "Whatever you do for the least of my children you do it unto me" (Math. 25). This lady in America was sleeping in her old car in the city of Concord, California. The police officer, who was a woman, knocked at the window of her car and told her that she had to move. It was illegal to sleep in cars inside the boundaries of that city. The city of Concord was distant from my city only about 20 minutes. She rang the bell of my Parish residence asking me if I would give her permission to park her car in the huge parking lot of my Parish. Of course she got something better than a car to rest for the night. We spent some time together listening to her pain and frustrations and agony for being poor. At a certain point she said something that was "nailed" in me forever. What she said was: *"This country is in a war against the poor"*. I closed my eyes and said *"I wish it was this country only"*. But it is not true. Actually, the whole world is in a war against the poor. One of Mother Teresa's sayings that has been guiding «People Helping People» is: "WHEN YOU START BY JUDGING YOU HAVE NO TIME TO LOVE".

From all our hearts to the people who gathered in the Spence's family house for "Cheese and wine" here is our sincere and deep gratitude. I hope you don't mind that I mention your names. It is for you that I will offer the Celebration of the Eucharist this coming Sunday.

Thanks to: Barry and Heather, Elizabeth and Nick, Ivan and Geraldine, John and Jenny, Robin and Rosemary, John, Ben, Trish and Jim, Julie and Doug, Nicola and Gavin, Chris, Eric and Jeanette, Kirstie and Sam. And last but not least, Jack and Lilly (my favourite English Angels).

Love and Peace,

Fr. Bernardino Andrade

(bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)



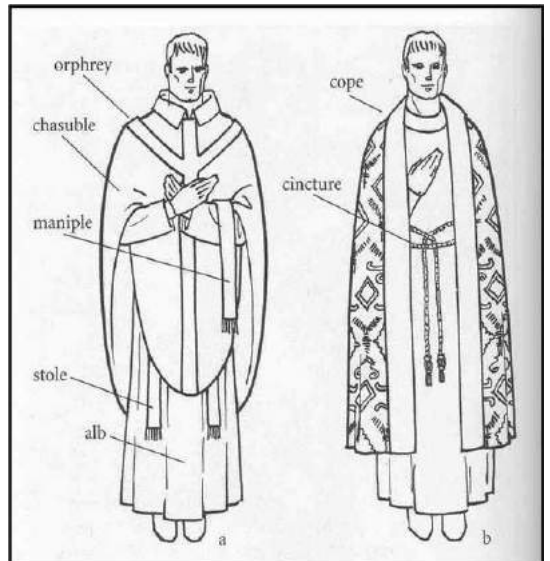
" It was in the Spence's house that I could meet my nephew, Agostinho, and his wife, Maria José, who live in London. "

Neil has a beautiful green arch in his beautiful garden. I asked him to please pose for a picture under the arch and put his hands like if he was in prayer looking like a saint's statue. Neil told me: "Father don't do that. I am an Anglican. I am not Catholic". To please him, I avoided that he would look like a Catholic Saint. Then I made him to look like an Anglican Angel. Anglican Angels don't need to have wings. They only need Christian hearts.

"Lilly and Jack, are two beautiful grandchildren of Neil & Dena. They are the most faithful and punctual Acolytes (Mass Servers) of their Catholic Parish. Reason? They have the most faithful and punctual driver, who happens to be their proud Anglican grandfather, Neil Spence, who never misses Mass with his wife Dena".



PRIEST'S VESTMENTS HAVE SPECIAL NAMES – Here's what they are:



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

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 0008 0130 1547020

NIB: 0018 0008 01301547020 17

IBAN: PT50 0018 0008 01301547020 17

SWIFT: TOTAPTPL

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

JOIN US AFTER MASS FOR TEA AND COFFEE!

- The **Social Room** is right across the garden, **in front of the Chapel**. Please feel free to go there after mass this morning, and **enjoy a cup of coffee or tea**, and cake.



- We also have a **Visitor's Book** there, where you can leave a message, tell us what country you are from, write a short note about your experience of being at mass in Penha de França Chapel, or give us any suggestions.

- We have a **world map where you can put a pin on your home town**. Please take a few minutes to do this... we'd love to know where you're from!



- And we also have a **Little Free Library** where 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 [we are in partnership with Sinead (from Movnihan's Irish Bar, on the corner up the road from the Chapel) who collects any unwanted books]. **So please join us!** 😊



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*); Larysa and Josefina (*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 by email every Sunday, just email the word "Newsletter" to: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com , or download it from the Chapel's website/blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org