



4th November 2018 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

31st 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
 www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/



THE CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. This 10h00 Mass is the only Catholic Mass celebrated entirely in English on the whole island of Madeira. We are blessed by the presence of two dedicated priests here at the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França: Fr. Bernardino Andrade, who celebrates the Mass in English every Sunday morning at 10h00, and Father Vitor Sousa, Chaplain, who celebrates Mass in Portuguese on Saturday evenings at 18h30, and on Sunday mornings at 11h30.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Deut 6: 2-6; Psalm 17(18):2-4.47.51; Hebrews 7: 23-28; Mark 12: 28-34)

Deuteronomy, the “second law”, the last of the five books of the Pentateuch, was written long after the Israelites settled in Palestine. It summarises, expands and completes the record of the Law given by God to Moses. It was very familiar to Jesus, who quoted from it frequently. Today's reading ends with the “Schema”: “Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord”, the basic principle of the Mosaic Law, and familiar to all Jews.

The **psalm** is said to be by King David, giving thanks to the Lord for rescuing him after he had called for help in dire distress. David goes on to imagine God sending earthquakes and raining down lightning bolts and arrows to overwhelm his enemies.

The Letter to the **Hebrews** continues from last week, explaining that Christ is a priest forever, replacing the priests of the tribe of Levi, each of whom dies and has to be replaced. For our sake Christ sacrificed himself once and for all.

When Jesus is asked in today's gospel which is the first of all the commandments, the Schema is what he immediately thinks of. There is one God, and we must love him with an undivided heart.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: I love you, Lord, my strength.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

By: Larysa Makarova

Entry Hymn: "When the Saints Come Marching In" – n. 436

Offertory Hymn: “Take my Life and Let it Be” - n. 527

Communion Hymn: *Instrumental*

Thanksgiving: *Instrumental*

Final Hymn: “O The Word of My Lord” - n. 434



FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART – Finding Flowers In The Middle of Garbage

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



1.

Carla has the gift of finding flowers where most people see garbage only.

One day Carla invited me to visit one of her friends. I did. Her friend's body was full of tattoos. On her chest, right below her chin and neck, a very visible tattoo says: "I found hell". On the back of one of her hands, another ugly and obscene tattoo addressed to God says: "Where are you F.....". Her bedroom was painted in black and also decorated with skulls.

It was not a long visit but, when we left, Carla's first words were a quotation of Jesus addressed to Zacchaeus from the Gospel of Luke 19, 1-10.... "Salvation has come to this house today».

On that day, Sara (not her true name), started a long journey of change. Sara returned to school and, after a Parish preparation program, she received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Mrs. Frøydis Gustavsen, a tourist from Norway, along with some of her friends, donated to Sara new dentures to replace her missing teeth. Drugs and smoking also destroy teeth but Sara is not the same and doesn't look the same anymore. There is still a long way to go but as Robert Schuller said «Beginning is half done».

This is People Helping People.

2.

John and Mary (not their true names) were homeless. Very sad story. One day they approached a Parish priest who referred them to a nun. The nun felt helpless and approached Carla with their dramatic situation.

We met John and Mary in a downtown coffee shop last Tuesday (three days ago, on 31/10/2018). They are married. Both very destitute. No place to sleep, no food to eat, no bathroom to take a shower. According to Mary, the last shower and the last time that she had changed clothes had been seven days ago. Very sad scene. I had no idea that this could be possible. Mary is four months pregnant with twins. They sleep on the streets. According to them, they have been rejected by all institutions. Mary came from Azores. No family in Madeira Island.



The day we met this homeless couple expecting the birth of twins, with Carla from "People Helping People".



Carla welcoming John and Mary and their two babies.

After giving them some money to eat, we «sent them» to the streets again. The following day we had scheduled a meeting for the People Helping People community. We had a very well-organized and important agenda to deal with for the meeting. But we decided that John and Mary were more important than any important agenda. So we invited them to join us at the meeting. John and Mary told their story. We learned a lot from them. The poor are our masters and mentors. When they left the place of the meeting, we already had an inexpensive hotel to shelter them until November 5th when there is an apartment available for them. We still don't know where we are going to find the money to pay for the apartment. But we trust in God and this problem is mainly His problem. God is the one who created them, not us. The problem is that God created us to take care of them.

3.

Last Thursday (November 1st) Carla found another «flower» in the garbage of a town far away from Funchal. A desperate mother lives with her only son who is a drug addict. Suffering is her daily «food». Overcoming denial is the most difficult step. It was a long conversation.

Finally we read the Bible, prayed together and made plans. When we left their house there was a plan, there was a smile, there was hope. **This is People Helping People.**

Love and Peace,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade

SOME VERY SPECIAL THANK-YOUS!!



To Sinead and Tadhg Moynihan of Moynihan's Irish pub, who held a fundraiser last week and were able to raise a generous amount of money which went towards helping the poor under the care of People Helping People.



To Mrs Jane Caldwell who wrote a book, and has donated all proceeds from the sale of the book towards the poor. Thank you also to all who supported the book sale the last 2 Sundays!



To Margaret Fichter who has collected Communion dresses, and donated them to young girls in Madeira whose families can't afford to buy them, and to Margaret's brother, **John McDonald**, who thought of the idea ☺ and who so graciously brought the dresses over, all the way from the UK!



“PÃO POR DEUS” – A Portuguese tradition on All Saint's Day



“Pão por Deus” (or "Bread for God's Sake" Day) is an old Portuguese **tradition very similar to Halloween**, where children knock at the door for trick-or-treat.

The tradition started after the Great Lisbon Earthquake on November 1st 1755. Lisbon was hit by a very large earthquake that destroyed a large part of town, and many people lost everything they had. They had no choice but to beg for food, so they went from door to door and begged for bread in the name of God. **“Pão por Deus” means “Bread for God's Sake”**. From then on, the children started doing this every year early morning on the 1st of November, going from house to house carrying bags. Here in Madeira, in the old days, the poorer children would go to the houses of the more well-off people to ask for goodies to fill their bags. **The tradition is still celebrated in schools on the island.** In some schools, children are walked to elderly care homes where **they will dance and sing**, and come back with **bags full of fruit, nuts and little cakes**.

ALL SAINTS DAY MASS ON 1ST NOV. – Saint stories here at the Chapel



On Thursday morning **we celebrated “All Saint's Day”** Mass here at the Chapel.



Father Bernardino asked if anyone present at Mass would like to share which Saint they admired, or felt especially connected to, or someone

that they felt was like a Saint in their life... and we were blessed to hear some beautiful stories. Do you have a Saint that you admire, or would like to share a story with us? Send us an email (penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com), and we'll publish it in our newsletter! ☺

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 FOR DONATIONS:

BANK: Banco Santander Totta **ACCOUNT NUMBER:** 0008 0130 1547020

ACCOUNT NAME: Bernardino Correia Andrade **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

Donations
are greatly
Appreciated!

People Helping People is **in need of bed linen** to donate to a very poor family.



Can you help? ☺

Tea and Coffee
After Mass!!
in the Social Room
across the garden -
please join us.



Please sign our
Chapel's Visitor's Book
in the Social Room
- We'd love to know
which
country you're from!



MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturdays: 18h30 Portuguese

Sundays: 10h00 English

11h30 Portuguese

Other Holy Day Masses in English:

Dec.8th – Immaculate Conception.

10h00

Dec.25th - Christmas Day.

10h00

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 (*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: penhafanca.newsletter@gmail.com , or download it from the Chapel's website/blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org which is updated every week by Debbie. ☺