JOYFUL GIFT

27th January 2019 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C
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. Our priest this morning is Fr. Bernardino Andrade, who celebrates the Mass in English every Sunday morning at 10h00. There are also masses celebrated in Portuguese here at the Chapel: on Saturday evenings at 18h30, and on Sunday mornings at 11h30.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Neh 8: 2-10; Psalm 18(19); 1 Cor 12: 12-30; Luke 1: 1-4; 4: 14-21))

In 538 BC King Cyrus of Persia helped the Israelites to return to Jerusalem from exile in Babylon. There Ezra and Nehemiah shared the tasks of re-establishing the Jewish state and religion. Nehemiah rebuilt the city's walls and administration. In today's reading we hear about Ezra's formal reading of the Jewish Law, and the people's joyous celebration of God's gift of the Law. The psalm praises God's moral law – and asks forgiveness for our transgressions.

In Paul's letter to the Corinthians he compares a community to the human body. Every Christian becomes part of Christ's body by baptism. So all gifts come from the spirit; all gifts are necessary; all contribute to the good of the whole community. All Christians are equally valuable and wanted by God. Our reading of Luke's Gospel over the ordinary Sundays of Year C now resumes, to be interrupted only for Eastertide. First we are reminded of Luke's reason for writing a gospel: he is carefully putting into an orderly sequence what he has heard from eye-witnesses, so that his hearers may "realise the certainty of the teachings" they have received. Today's reading then continues from the beginning of Jesus' ministry in Galilee, including his self-proclamation in his home town. Next week we hear his neighbours' reactions.

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



PSALM RESPONSE:

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

By: Larysa Makarova (from the Ukraine) and Rui César Gomes (from Madeira)

Entry Hymn: "This is the day, this is the day" – n. 574 Offertory Hymn: "Take our bread, we ask you" - n. 528 Communion Hymn: "Amazing Grace" - n. 32 Thanksgiving: "Sweet heart of Jesus" - n. 521 Final Hymn: "Walk in the Light" - n. 561

FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART



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

Mother Teresa and the Guide

A story is told about Noelene Martin, a Franciscan Monk in Australia assigned to be the guide and the «gofer» for St Teresa of Calcuta (Mother Teresa) when she visited New South Wales.

Thrilled and excited at the prospect of being so close to this great woman, he dreamed of how much he would learn from her and what they would talk about. But during her visit, he became frustrated. Although he was constantly near her, the friar never had the opportunity to say one word to Mother Teresa. There were always other people for her to meet. Finally her tour was over, and she was due to fly to New Guinea. In desperation, the Franciscan friar spoke to Mother Teresa: «f I pay my own fair to New Guinea, can I sit next to you in the plane so I can talk to you and learn from you?»

Mother Teresa looked at him.

«You have enough money to pay the air fare to New Guinea?» She asked.

«Yes, he replied eagerly».

«Then give that money to the poor;» she said. «You will learn more from that than from anything else I can tell you».

Mother Teresa understood that Jesus' ministry was to the poor, and she made it hers as well. She knew that they, more than anyone else, needed Good News.



Love and Peace, Fr. Bernardino Andrade

Do things for people not because of who they are or what they do in return, but because of who you are.



The world is changed by your example, not by your opinion.



Saint Francis de Sales was born in 1567 in Haute-Savoie, France. In 1592 he received his doctorate in law and theology. One year later he was ordained and



appointed a provost of the Cathedral Chapter of Geneva. Later he became Bishop of Geneva, but continued to live in what is now modern day France, because Geneva was by then under strict Calvinist control. To counter this, de Sales became a prolific writer and arranged for broadsheets and books to be widely distributed in an effort to halt the prevailing Protestant culture.

He also developed a sign language to teach the deaf.

For all these reasons he is patron of writers and journalists and also of the deaf. He died in 1622 and was later styled 'the Gentleman Saint', because of his patience and gentleness. His Feast Day is celebrated on January 24th.

POPE FRANCIS: God looks for you, even if you do not seek him

Source: https://zenit.org/articles/pope-encourages-christians-to-come-to-god-as-a-child-to-a-father/

On January 16th, during the General Audience in Paul VI Hall, Pope Francis made it clear that prayer can be simple and always comes back to a single word: "Abba." And,

yes, "Abba" means "Father", but most in the context of "dad" or "papa." He spoke about the Lord's Prayer, saying that "For a Christian, to pray is simply to say '*Abba*', to say "*Papa*", to say '*Dad*', to say '*Father*' **but with the trust of a child**."

"God looks for you, even if you do not seek Him. God loves you, even if you have forgotten about Him," the Pope said. "God perceives in you a beauty, even if you think you have squandered all your talents in vain."



Our Father, Who art in heaven Hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.'

"When you say the "Our Father", God's ear is next to your lips."

- St. Andre Bissette

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).

>> <u>PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE CONTACTS:</u>

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>> BANK INFO FOR DONATIONS:

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Every Sunday morning at the door of the Chapel there will be a **basket to collect food for the poor.** You are welcome to bring any little thing to help alleviate their suffering. (Rice, pasta, milk, canned tuna, biscuits etc.) Thank you to all who have donated so far! ©





Newsletter from Madeira. Keep in touch! <u>This newsletter is brought to you every week by a team of volunteers:</u> 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*). <u>The newsletters are printed by Catridge World Funchal</u>, 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** which is updated every week by Debbie and Tony. ©