



10th February 2019 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

5th 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

Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França, founded by Antonio Dantas in 1622. The Chapel was originally built to minister to the soldiers of the small garrison at the Pontinha Redoubt (stronghold) in the bay of Funchal, but the Chapel soon became so famous a shrine that people came to it on pilgrimage from all parts of the Island. In 1721 the chapel was restored and enlarged. When the Diocese of Funchal took possession of the chapel it was used as the Bishop's Summer Residence for many years. In the meantime, the Franciscans had been coming to Madeira to carry out apostolic duties, and in 1935, they 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. 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 was in danger of falling down. Our priest for the 10am mass in English on Sunday mornings is Fr. Bernardino Andrade. 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

(Isaiah 6:1-2a,3-8; Psalm 137(138); 1 Cor 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11)

Isaiah's calling vision in 742 BC is much quoted in the book of Revelation. He sees God enthroned, with Seraphs who had two wings covering their faces, two covering their body, and with two they flew. They praised God for his total otherness, and their "Holy, Holy, Holy" is repeated before the central part of every Mass. Isaiah expects to die after seeing God's face. But he is symbolically purified by a burning ember on his lips, and so is fit to deliver God's message of doom to those who mistreat the poor. Only a remnant will survive. **The Psalmist** thanks the Lord for answering his prayer, while calling on all rulers to join in this hymn of thanks for the Lord's words. Paul reminds the **Corinthians** of their roots and especially the gospel he taught them. He uses an existing creedal formula that he himself "had been taught", namely "that Christ died, was buried; was raised; and appeared". In rising, Christ has conquered death. The dead will also rise, bodily and spiritually. After Jesus was rejected in Nazareth he went down to Capernaum, where he taught and healed many people. Today **Luke** describes Simon Peter recognising Jesus as "Lord", his title after the Resurrection. Peter and his partners accept Jesus' call, and follow him, leaving absolutely everything.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: Before the angels I will bless you, O Lord.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

Entry Hymn: "Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?" - n.247

Offertory Hymn: "All that I am, all that I do..." - n.21

Communion Hymn: "Christ be beside me" - n.82

Final Hymn: "Shine, Jesus, shine" - n.344





WHEN THEY ARE DIFFERENT DOESN'T MEAN THEY ARE BAD

1. HER HEAD DOESN'T WORK LIKE OURS

The project *People Helping People* was trying to help a lady living in extreme poverty. The first time we visited her cave (no resemblance with a house) we had to climb 80 steps to see her. This happened in Funchal. In an attractive and touristic city. Cindy (not her true name) had lived in the USA most of her life where she was involved in high criminality. Cindy was born in Azores from a relationship between a Portuguese mother and an American soldier who had been deployed to Azores.

Cindy was two years old when she went to the USA. Unfortunately she never became an American citizen. She grew up in a very bad family environment. It was very common to see her mother being «visited» regularly by strange men.

After being arrested and doing her time in horrible prisons she was deported to her country that was Portugal.

According to her, she had a university degree in landscaping. After the tragedy of February 20 of 2010, when part of this Island was partially destroyed by a terrible storm, she decided to come to Madeira in hope that she would find a job in her area. Cindy spent many years in Madeira and never found a job (or maybe she never accepted a job offer). She slept on the streets and one day she showed me the «best» garbage cans where she used to find her «meals». Drugs, alcohol and cheap prostitution were part of her life. We paid rent in different houses but it never worked. She wanted to go back to the USA but every time we tried, her Visa was denied. We were completely lost without knowing what to do. We really loved Cindy. ***People Helping People* is not about judging and domesticating people but about loving and helping people** until the last consequences.

Cindy was rejected and mistreated by some «wonderful» institutions with their cruel rules. One of the institutions that «helped» Cindy has been named, at different times, by some people like Cindy as being like concentrations camps. I have been there a few times and I've never had a good experience.

One day, after so much effort, prayer and love for Cindy, we convinced her to see a psychiatrist who admitted her into a mental institution. However, after a long period of time, Cindy didn't want to stay there and the psychiatrist told us that she could not be forced to stay against her will. But we (Dalila and I) never forgot what the psychiatrist told us in the parking lot of the hospital. That was an epiphany for us. His words changed our way of looking at the poor and are still in our minds and our discussions when we deal with those who really rebel against our work and our efforts. **His words were very simple: «Her head doesn't work like ours».** Every time we deal with people who prefer wine rather than milk, prefer cigarettes rather than bread, who prefer begging rather than working, we repeat the words of the reputable psychiatrist Dr. Luís Filipe: «Her head does not work like ours».



But my concern is that Dr. Luis Filipe did not tell us that our heads work better than hers. Actually I have my doubts. I believe that if our heads worked better than hers, maybe now we wouldn't be grieving and crying for Cindy.

Cindy committed suicide and I presided over her funeral. We are still grieving for Cindy and for all the Cindys of the world who are accused, judged and condemned without being heard and loved. «When we start by judging we have no time to love».

Love and Peace,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade

27th WORLD DAY OF THE SICK – Monday, February 11th

Tomorrow is the 27th World Day of the Sick. Every year the pope sets a theme for the World Day of the Sick. The theme for this year is provided by the words that Jesus spoke when sending forth his apostles to spread the Gospel, so that his Kingdom might grow through acts of love:

“You received without payment; give without payment” (Mt 10:8).

Pope Francis says that *“Caring for the sick requires professionalism, tenderness, straightforward and simple gestures freely given, like a caress that makes others feel loved.”* The World Day of the Sick also coincides with the commemoration of the Feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes.

FEAST DAY OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES – February 11th

February 11th is the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes, one of the most famous apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary that took place in southern France.

Here in the Chapel, a little above and behind the altar, you will see a statue of Our Lady of Lourdes set in a “cave”, with St. Bernadette kneeling at her feet. This statue was offered to Bishop D. Manuel Agostinho Barreto (Bishop of Funchal from 1877-1911) who lived permanently here at Penha de França during the 34 years of his pontificate. This bishop had the altar adapted to receive the image of Our Lady of Lourdes, the first of the island, which was offered in 1878 by the French citizen *M. Goubeaux* who lived in Madeira.



TO THE ANGELS WHO HELPED MAKE A DIFFERENCE...



Thank you to all who have understood the true meaning of “People Helping People”, and who have the poor in their heart, like Jesus.

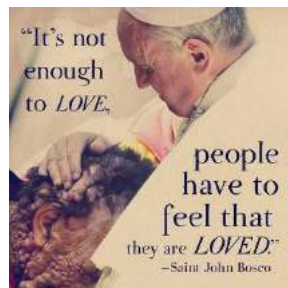
Bianca Margarida is Cátia’s beautiful baby daughter. She was born 2 weeks ago, on January 28th. Last month an appeal was made here in the newsletter for help: for donations of baby clothes, nappies, toiletries etc. Thank you to all who generously donated towards helping

this family.

You are like Angels helping to alleviate a bit of the suffering of one of the many poor families struggling through hard times.

God bless you all.

THANK YOU!



PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)

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).



"You should wash each other's feet"
(John 13:14).

>> 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



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! ☺



MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturdays: 18h30 Portuguese

Sundays: 10h00 English

11h30 Portuguese

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, and 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 ☺

Tea and Coffee After Mass

Please join us in the Social Hall across the garden for a cup of coffee and a chat.



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, Sharon & Josefina (*Hymns*); Tracy and Jennifer (*stories of interest, newsletter layout*). **The newsletters are printed by Cartridge World Funchal**, in Rua Elias Garcia, nr 5. If you would like to receive this newsletter 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. ☺