JOYFUL GIFT

24th February 2019 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

7th 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/



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. 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 10:00am 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 6:30pm, and on Sunday mornings at 11:30am.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

Entry Hymn:

"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



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

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(1 Sam 26:2,7-9,12-13,22-23; Ps 102(103); 1 Cor 15: 45-49; Luke 6: 27-38)

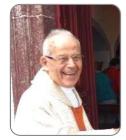
In the first book of Samuel, Saul, Israel's first king, became unreasonably jealous of David, his anointed successor, and tried to kill him. Saul entered a cave where David and his men were hiding, but David merely cut off a piece of Saul's cloak. Then David crept into Saul's camp but only took away his spear. David believed it wrong to kill an anointed king, preferring to put his trust in God. The **psalm** offers grateful thanks and praise to God that his mercy is so great because of our frailty. In last Sunday's reading Paul had insisted to the Corinthians that Christ's resurrection is essential to our faith. In today's reading Paul quotes Genesis saving that the first Adam became a living soul. But the last Adam, Christ, became a life-giving spirit. Therefore, after the earthly man, there must be a heavenly man, whose body is animated by the Holy Spirit. Now we are modelled on the earthly man, subject to natural death. After the resurrection of the body we will be modelled on the heavenly man. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus takes David's restraint further: do good to your enemies, do not judge or condemn lest you suffer the same. In the Lord's Prayer we ask for forgiveness, but the pre-condition is that we forgive others.

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

PSALM RESPONSE:

The Lord is compassion and love.

(bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)



YOU ARE GOOD FOR NOTHING

In his book, *Anatomy of an Illness*, Norman Cousins tells a revealing story about Pablo Casals, the great cellist. Cousins describes meeting Casals shortly before his ninetieth birthday. It was almost painful for Cousins to watch the old man dress. Arthritis, emphysema, the frailty of advanced years had taken their toll.

The hands swollen, the fingers clenched, how could a man in such condition ever hope to play his beloved music again? And yet, even

before eating breakfast, Casals made his way slowly and with much difficulty to his piano. There, a miracle took place right before Norman Cousin's eyes. As he describes it, "The fingers slowly unlocked and reached toward the keys like the buds of a plant toward sunlight. Casals' back straightened. He seemed to breathe more freely." He began with a number by Bach which he played with sensitivity and control that would have been the

envy of a young and agile planist. He then launched into a Brahms concerto, and his fingers seemed to race above the keyboard. «His entire body seemed fused with music», Cousins wrote. «It was no longer stiff and shrunken but supple and graceful and completely freed from his arthritis coils.» By the time he walked away from the piano, he seemed to be an



entirely different person from the tired old man who had struggled out of bed and into his clothes. He stood straighter and taller. He immediately walked to the breakfast table, ate heartily, and then went out for a stroll on the beach. «The sense of uselessness,» said Thomas Huxley, «is the severest shock which our system can sustain». Conversely, when we have a great purpose to live for, a purpose that is high and noble, our whole being is enhanced. That is the first conclusion about happiness which we can derive from the teachings of Jesus on the Beatitudes. Happiness is found in giving ourselves to a high and noble purpose.

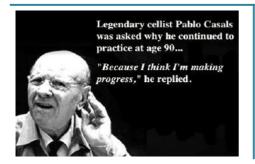
I don't know what can be worse than going to bed at night without knowing why you got up in the morning.

I don't know what can be worse than when you are old, seeing a dirty and torn piece of plastic thrown onto the side of the street and looking at someone who is walking with you and then you share: «I feel like that piece of plastic. I am good for nothing».

I don't know what can make you happier when you are old, than hearing from a family member or from a faithful friend a joke like: "You are good for nothing but I cannot live without you".

Love and Peace,

Fr. Bernardino Andrade





We are not some Casual and meaningless product of evolution. Each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Source: aleteia.org

The fear of some future suffering is often greater than the suffering itself. That's because when we are anticipating the future, we are not yet being given the grace that God will give at that moment.

Here's how St. Francis de Sales puts it:

Do not look forward to the trials and crosses of this life and fear. Rather, look to them with full confidence that, as they arise, God, to whom you

belong, will deliver you from them. He has guided and guarded you this far in life. Do you but hold fast to His hand, and He will lead you safely through all trials. Whenever you cannot stand. He will carry you lovingly in His arms. Do not look forward to what may happen tomorrow. The same Eternal Father who cares for you today will take good care of you tomorrow and every day of your life. Either He will shield you from suffering or He will give you the unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace then and put aside all useless thoughts, vain dreads, and anxious imaginations. - St. Francis de Sales



OUR CHAPEL HAS A CANDLE-LIGHTING MACHINE!









have real candles burning in the Chapel, but the electronic candle machine has been a wonderful alternative! You'll find it right at the front of the Chapel, just below the statue of Our Lady of Penha de França.

> There is also a small prayer by the candle-lighting machine which you're welcome to read.

A FRIDGE NEEDED!

Not everyone being helped by the "People Helping People" association are all homeless. Some are just passing through extremely difficult times and need temporary help. One of the families being helped by People Helping People at the moment is in desperate need of a fridge. The one they had, broke down this week, and it's not possible to repair it. They can't afford to buy a new one. If you, or anyone you know is able to help with a second-hand fridge to help this family, please contact Father

Bernardino on 916192783 or email: bernardinodandrade@gmail.com

THANK YOU @

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

Date: 6th of March 2019

Time: 10am

Fr. Bernardino will be celebrating mass on Ash Wednesday here at the Chapel. All are welcome!



PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)

them hopeful, and keep them dreaming...



"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

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 Jessus, 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



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: 6:30pm Portuguese
Sundays: 10:00am English
11:30am 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. ©