

7th July 2019 – 10h00 Sunday Mass
14th 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://ircmassmadeira.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. **We are blessed by the presence of our dedicated English Mass priest: Father Bernardino Andrade.** He celebrates the only English Mass on the island every Sunday morning here at the Chapel at 10h00.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Is 66:10-14; Ps 65(66):1-20; Gal 6:14-18; Lk 10:1-12,17-20)

Third Isaiah wrote this beautiful imagery of a compassionate God to encourage the Jews returning from exile in Babylon to rebuild the Temple. The Lord sends his peace to Jerusalem through which he will give peace and nourishment to those who recognise the new creation coming with Jesus' resurrection. **The psalm** praises God's power as revealed throughout history but especially during the Exodus. This fond farewell concludes our readings from Paul's letter to the **Galatians**. Human distinctions and marks on our flesh like circumcision no longer signify. We have become a new Spirit-filled creation, the "Israel of God" – God's chosen family to carry God's message to the world. The new Mass translation, "and with your spirit", picks up Paul's final phrase. God's grace is to be deep and personal, affecting our whole lives. In the reading from **Luke's gospel** last week, Jesus "set himself to travel to Jerusalem". For the rest of Ordinary Time, the "ordinally numbered weeks", all our gospel readings are from his journey, as Jesus consciously focussed on his coming suffering in Jerusalem. Today we hear of Jesus sending 70 disciples on mission ahead of him, like the 70 elders chosen by Moses to lead the Exodus. But Jesus' disciples are offering Israel a last chance to change her mind about Jesus.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC By: Voice / Organ –

Fátima Cátia Marques. **Cello** – Helena Paula Marques

Entry Hymn: "Father, we adore you" - n. 136

Penitential Act: "Lord have mercy" - n. 659

Gospel Acclamation: "Aleluia"

Offertory Hymn: "Take our bread" - n. 528

Sanctus: "Holy" - n. 704

Agnus Dei: "Lamb of God" - n. 737

Communion Hymn: *Portuguese Hymn*

Thanksgiving: *Instrumental*

Final Hymn: "Let there be love" - n. 317





« I CONFESS TO YOU... MY SON »

«I confess to you my son...»... «I absolve you my mother from all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen! Go in Peace...»

Every day of the year is very special. Every day is a special gift from God to be lived and to be enjoyed. But there are days that are more special than others. One of those days, for me, is the 4th of July. **It was on the 4th of July 1965 that I said my First Mass in my home Parish, in Ponta do Sol, Madeira Island.** I had been ordained in the Diocese of *Quelimane*, Mozambique, on the 12th of June and then travelled to Madeira Island to celebrate my first Mass in my home Parish where I had been baptized, made my First Communion and where my family and I have our deepest roots.

It was a celebration that mobilized the entire Parish. It is a day full of memories. I don't know how good or bad my memory is, but I believe that if I wanted to recount every minute... from my arrival to my home in Ponta do Sol until my first Mass, and then until saying goodbye again, I would be able to remember every event of those glorious moments. Some of them were expected, and some were surprises.

However, there was a moment that, under no circumstances, I could expect or could even imagine. I still don't know if it was seen or observed by anyone else. It was very private even if I didn't try to hide it from anybody else. It was so natural like if it was something that was done every day. Nobody said «close the door» or be quiet because something very private is happening. But I have to confess that I was not prepared for it. And I was a little nervous.

We were almost ready to leave to Church when my mother called me to her bedroom and in a very natural way said: *«Bernardino, please hear my Confession»*. She said that as if it was something that she had been doing regularly. It was like a normal parishioner asking her pastor to hear her confession before Mass, like it has happened to me maybe thousands of times since then. But she was the first one.

And here we are. I was seated on her bed and she was kneeling before me. Mother and Son. Two sinners celebrating the merciful forgiveness of a merciful God.

«Bless me Father for I have sinned»! I don't know if she said: *«Bless me Father»* or bless me *«My Son for I have sinned»*. What I know is that

the Sacrament of Confession, or better Reconciliation, started making more sense to me. Since then she did that very often when I came on vacation and my father followed in her footsteps even after she had died. I was the youngest of eleven brothers and sisters. Also some of them did the same. What a mystery to be a priest. What a privilege to have a father and a mother like them. They never went to school. They didn't know how to write their names. They never read the Bible because they didn't know how to read but without any doubt they are the greatest saints of my life. They didn't leave me properties or money but they left me their faith in God and their human, their family and their spiritual values.



My father and my mother

Love and Peace,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade

THE WORLD'S SMALLEST IMAGE OF THE VIRGIN MARY

Source: www.aleteia.org/2018/06/29/the-worlds-smallest-image-of-the-virgin-mary-our-lady-behind-a-magnifying-glass/



A chapel in the city of Viacha (in Bolivia), is responsible for housing the *Virgin of the Litanies*. This is quite a special image - not only because visiting it involves a trip to a city 4,200 meters above sea level, but also because the image itself is only 4.7 cm tall, making it a contender for the smallest



image of the Virgin Mary in the world. In fact, local authorities proposed that the tiny sculpture be noted in the Guinness Book of World Records.

On very specific occasions during the year, the image is taken to the top of the mountain, where countless devotees from the Bolivian highlands venerate it year after year.

Where does this devotion to the Virgin of the Litanies come from?

Based on various traditions, according to the Bolivian Ministry of Culture, the origin of this devotion dates from the early 19th century, when the Virgin of Litanies appeared to a shepherd girl who was being attacked by a snake, scaring the reptile away. The next day, it is said, the peasants returned to the place and found a small stone with the sculpted image of the Virgin. This miracle led to the building of a chapel on the top of the mountain, on the Hill of the Litanies.

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP) – Cries of the Poor

In last Sunday's newsletter, Fr. Bernardino wrote a little bit about "People Helping People" and shared some of the stories & situations that he has experienced in trying to help those who are in need. Every day, a volunteer "Dalila" receives text messages with desperate pleas for help. These messages, sometimes quite dramatic and desperate, we have given the name of "Cries of the Poor", which we will start publishing on a regular basis from now on (on the last page of this newsletter). In the messages of the *Cries of the Poor*, all stories and messages are true but the names of the people who are helped, out of respect for their dignity, will be fictitious.



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.

- Albert Schweitzer



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 former 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:

ACCOUNT NAME: Associacao Gente Ajudando Gente/PHP

BANK: Banco Santander Totta

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 0003 4938 1759020

IBAN: PT50 0018 0003 49381759020 94

SWIFT: TOTAPTPL **NIB:** 0018 0003 49381759020 94

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:

Sundays:

10h00 English

11h30 Portuguese



Tea and Coffee

After Mass!!

in the Social Room
across the garden -
please join us.



"Cries of The Poor":

Msg received 25/06/2019 from Jorge:

"Please help, yesterday and today we didn't eat anything because we have no gas to cook."

Msg received 22/06/2019 from Carmen:

"Can you please help me. We have nothing to eat. Please can you help us with 2 pkts of spaghetti, 2 tins of sausages, 2 pkts of rice, 2 tins of tuna fish and 12 eggs and some bread and 3 litres of milk and some coffee..."

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*); Cátia and Helena Marques (*Hymns*); Tracy and Jennifer (*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 which is updated every week by Debbie and Tony. ☺