



29th September 2019 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

26th 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

 Instagram:
www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/



THE CATHOLIC ENGLISH MASS IN MADEIRA:

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. We are blessed to have *Father Bernardino Andrade* celebrating Mass here every Sunday morning. Father Bernardino was born in Madeira but spent many years as a priest in Mozambique and also in the USA. For those who may be wondering about the “age” of this small Chapel... it was founded by Antonio Dantas in 1622, almost 400 years ago. Please join us after Mass in the Social Hall across the garden for a cup of tea or coffee, and cake.

TODAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS (Brought to you by: Chris Oliver. www.bible-groups.info)
(*Amos 6:1, 4-7, Ps 145:6-10, 1 Tim 6:11-16, Lk 16:19-31*)

Amos warns both the northern kingdom, Israel, ie Samaria, and the southern kingdom, Judea, with its capital Zion or Jerusalem, that the idle rich in both kingdoms will be the first to go into exile. 40 years later, in 721 BC, Samaria was conquered, and later Judea followed into exile. **The Psalm**, echoed by Mary in Luke’s Magnificat, confirms that God’s justice will prevail: the hungry will be fed, the blind given sight, but the wicked will lose out. Instructing **Timothy** how to organise the early Christian church, Paul also insists the rich should use their wealth for good deeds. Christians should ideally aspire to show the Christian virtues as examples to all, and so witness to the truth, until our Lord Jesus Christ returns to appear in glory as King of kings. And Paul insists that only God “has immortality”: we do not simply have souls that live on after death - our creed says we believe in “the resurrection of the body”, a gift from God in which our whole person, body and soul, lives for ever. The Gospel graphically illustrates the dangers of riches: the rich man, who is not named, asks that the poor man - who is named - Lazarus - be sent to relieve his torments in hell. Abraham tells him the rich should listen to the prophets.

PSALM RESPONSE: My soul, give praise to the Lord.

** These Scripture notes are sent to us every week by Chris Oliver from the UK. If you’d also like to have these included in your parish newsletter, you are welcome to ask your Priest to contact Chris at: chris@chris-oliver.net*

TODAY’S HYMN MUSIC

Larysa Makarova on the violin (from the Ukraine) and Rui César Gomes on the accordion (from Madeira)

Entry Hymn: “This is the day...” - n. 574

Offertory Hymn: “Let us break bread together” - n. 318

Communion Hymn: “This is my body...” - n. 572

Thanksgiving: *Instrumental:* Va’ Pensiero

Final Hymn: “Walk in the light” - n. 561





The Opposite of Love is Indifference

My niece, Ana, lived with me for some time in my Parish residence in the suburbs of San Francisco, California. Once in a while, when we had some free time, we enjoyed going to San Francisco, and spend some time in the *Fisher Men's Warf* where we could eat a clam chowder from a bowl that was edible. The bowl



was made of a round loaf of French bread which had a large portion of the middle cut out. It was really fun to stand or sit outside eating the clam chowder and throwing pieces of bread to the doves that were flying by or walking around us.

Ana was very creative. One day Ana told me that she would like to go to San Francisco, but get lost in San Francisco. No plans, no maps, no schedules. Just walk without any destiny.

But one day it was my turn to suggest something very different. In the same city, and walking through the same streets, I suggested: *«Ana, I would like to bring you to San Francisco to walk through the same streets, but during the night. I would like you to see San Francisco at night is very depressing. I can tell you Ana, to see San Francisco at night is very depressing. The sidewalks of certain streets are full of human misery. We can see homeless men, women and children. Some are sleeping on pieces of cardboard, some are begging with babies on their laps; some are drunk, and others, slowly getting destroyed by drugs. The lack of hygiene is repugnant. This is what you are going to see in some «beautiful» streets of San Francisco. Ana... it is very depressing.»* It was then, when Ana with her angelic voice told me: *«Don't worry uncle. I will put my blinders on and I wouldn't have any problems».*



How many passed by... but indifferent

On one of the Sundays when the Gospel was about the rich man and the poor Lazarus (Lk 16:19-31), I asked Ana's permission to tell the

story of us walking through the streets of San Francisco during the night, and the episode of using the blinders not to see the misery and avoiding feeling depressed. When I thought that she was going to feel embarrassed about her approach, she came to me after Mass and said: *«Uncle! Next time you tell that story about the blinders, please be stronger».*

In this story, Jesus doesn't say that the rich man had caused any damage or pain to Lazarus, or that he had stolen anything from him. It simply shows the indifference of a rich man before the suffering of the poor. Some time ago I found this sentence that made me think: *«That man was so poor that the only thing he had was money».*

In this story, the rich man has no name. He was only *the rich man*. The poor man had a name. His name was Lazarus. In the Gospel, for the followers of Jesus, helping the poor is not optional. It will be for each one of us the difference between heaven or hell.

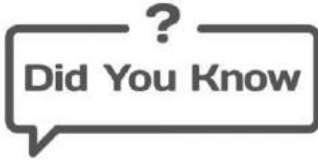
The opposite of love is not hatred. The opposite of love is indifference.



Ana decided never to use blinders. She became a nurse, married and is now teaching her daughters to be close to those who are suffering, even if they are not attractive, like in the streets of San Francisco.

Love and Peace

Fr. Bernardino Andrade



Just eight miles (12 km) off the southwestern coast of Ireland there is a small island in the sea that is dedicated to St. Michael the Archangel. It is called ***Skellig Michael***.

The island has been dedicated to St. Michael the Archangel for the past fifteen hundred years, and it's also the site of an ancient Gaelic monastery of the same name, founded between

the 6th and 8th centuries. The monastery can be approached by a number of narrow and steep flights of stone steps which ascend from three landing points. The hermitage on the south peak contains a dangerous approach, and is largely closed to the public. Because of the often difficult crossing from the mainland and the exposed nature of the landing spots, the island is accessible only during summer months. *Skellig Michael* was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1996.



Full view of the monastery complex with garden terrace at front



Monk graveyard and large oratory

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Nothing is permanent in this world, not even our troubles.

Charlie Chaplin



Love is caring for each other even when you're angry.



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.

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USA: Janice Contreras, 60 Meeks Ln., Oakley, CA 94561. Tel. 1-925-813-2888

Email: larryjanc@aol.com

>> BANK INFO:

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

SATURDAYS:

18h30 Portuguese

BABY GIRL CLOTHES AND TOILETRIES – Can you help?

We have received a request for help from a pregnant young lady whose baby will be born on the 15th of October. She is poor and has almost nothing for the arrival of her baby girl. Any help with nappies, clothing, toiletries, sheets for baby's bed, etc. will be greatly

appreciated. Please contact Father Bernardino if you'd like to help.

THANK YOU FOR CARING 😊



Tea and Coffee

After Mass!!

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



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 (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. ☺