



30th June 2019 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

13th 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, which was founded by Antonio Dantas in 1622. **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

(1 Kgs 19:16-21; Ps 15(16):1-11; Gal 5:1, 13-18; Lk 9:51-62)

The Books of Kings give some of the history of the two kingdoms of Israel in the north and Judah around Jerusalem. They are mostly concerned with how many of the kings led their people away from God, and so ultimately into exile. And with prophets trying to stop them. By burning his plough Elisha shows his commitment to accepting Elijah's prophetic mantle. **The psalm** expresses the Jews' total loyalty to God, keeping him ever in mind, confident of the resurrection he promises. For Paul holiness and freedom are closely linked. Holiness is giving ourselves in love in the service of others. Paul tells the **Galatians** holiness can be developed and exercised only in relationship with others – ie in community. "The whole of the Law is summarised in a single command: Love your neighbour as yourself". This new freedom is not freedom from restraint, it is freedom for love – the love of service to each other. "Self-indulgence", the "opposite of (guidance by) the Spirit" tends to disrupt community and is not acceptable in God's kingdom. **In Luke's gospel**, Jesus refuses to call down fire from heaven on unwelcoming villagers, as did Elijah on Ahab's idolatrous priests. Instead, as he sets his face towards Calvary, Jesus gives examples of the unwavering faith and loyalty he demands.

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



PSALM RESPONSE: O Lord, it is you who are my portion.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC By:

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

Entry Hymn: "Bind us together, Lord" - n. 65

Offertory Hymn: "Take our bread, we ask you" - n. 528

Communion Hymn: "Amazing Grace" - n. 32

Thanksgiving: *Instrumental*

Final Hymn: "Go, the Mass is ended"- n. 175



« CRIES OF THE POOR »

'I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying for help on account of their taskmasters. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings'. (Ex. 3: 7).

If the Book of Exodus is the heart of the 46 books of the Old Testament, we can say that verse 7 of Chapter 3 is the heart of the book of Exodus. It was the starter. It was the hurricane for all that movement of liberation of the Hebrew People from the slavery of Egypt. It all departed from a God who heard the pain and cries of His People. And one day, that God who saw the suffering, chose Moses to lead the whole journey of deliverance that took 40 years through scorching and troubled deserts until they reached the promised land.

The "People Helping People" Association was born of a group of people who heard these cries; who saw this suffering. No one can imagine that on this island of Madeira, so beautiful and so attractive, there is so much suffering and so much misery. There are people who go days without food. We know where they are. One mother confided in me that the only thing she had been giving her children for the past three days was boiled guava leaves. The insensitive and cruel bureaucracies of some institutions leave people on the floor of misery.



One mother, single and unemployed, went to an institution that was supplying her with milk and nappies for her baby. One day, she arrived there, for the usual routine. She was just going to pick up her usual supply of nappies and milk. She was met with a disagreeable *"No more. This is over."* Her adorable baby was no longer entitled to nappies or milk because she had turned one year old a few days earlier. I thought it was a misunderstanding. I went there in person and asked if this was true. The answer was a cold and indifferent *"Yes, it's true"*. I asked if there was no other alternative. The answer was an even colder and indifferent *"No"*.

There are people dying of curable diseases because after they go to the doctor they do not have the money to buy the medicines they need. Other people who are very sick cannot get a doctor's consultation through the state hospital until years later. As they cannot wait that long, they decide they need to see a private doctor. But who will pay?

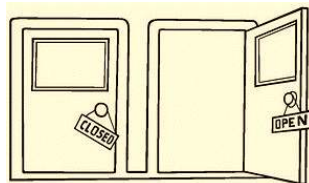
One day I was waiting for an appointment at the "External Consultations" of the Hospital. After a long wait, the receptionist came in and said, *"The Doctor is not coming in to do any consultations today."* A lady who had been waiting for the same doctor as me, said: *"I've been waiting for this consultation for three years."* The look of defeat on her face was shocking.



Free dental medicine is only available after you're 60 years of age. I think most people, even after 60, are unaware of this privilege. I only came to know about this at the age of 81. There are unemployed people who are able to find employment, but when they arrive to start working, they are sent away because their missing or damaged teeth *"project a bad image of the company"*. And *image* in today's society is not the "most important thing." *Image* in today's society is the "only important thing."

The People Helping People Association was born from this. It was born of a group of people who heard the cries of other people, and saw their suffering. This happened after the floods that destroyed part of Madeira Island on February 20th, 2010. The main objective of "People Helping People" is to "mobilize a lot of people to help a lot of people". It is not to change people, but to alleviate their suffering, whatever the cause. It is not taming people, but helping them to free themselves from poverty.

We have always felt that helping people should be a way of life, with preference for the most vulnerable, the excluded, the discarded... and not an institution. Then, for various reasons, we decided to make People Helping People an official institution. Today, *People Helping People* is a non-profit association with the same objective of mobilizing many people to help many people. We would like it to always be **an open door when all the others close**.



However, even though we have a working group, mainly because of the limitations of committed people and financial possibilities, and due to the lack of a venue for meetings that have to be moved from one place to another and from one day to the next (which destabilizes the group), the coordination of family support is being provisionally handled by a wonderful lady called *Dalila Oliveira*. She has no headquarters (office), nor set working hours. Most of the contacts are made by phone and from there, Dalila schedules a meeting time and a place (usually in a cafe or restaurant) to listen to the pains and needs of each person, and with sometimes only a few possibilities, she is doing her "miracles" to alleviate their sufferings. All this is done around a cup of coffee, a plate of soup or a meal, and according to the circumstances and our limited possibilities. There are hundreds of phone calls that Dalila regularly receives. But in addition, she also receives many SMS text messages. Some of these messages, we thought would be a good idea to publish in English in the newsletter of the Chapel of Penha de França. 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 are true but the names of the people who are helped, out of respect for their dignity, will be fictitious.

Love and Peace

Fr. Bernardino Andrade

- ❖ The only regular source of income for *People Helping People* is a collection that takes place every Sunday morning outside the chapel after the Mass in English.

POPULAR SAINTS FESTIVAL (*Festa dos Santos Populares*): 12-29th June

The Popular Saints Festival (*Festa dos Santos Populares* – in Portuguese) takes place all over the island in the month of June, and is strongly rooted in the traditions of Madeira. They are the high social point of many regions on the island. **These festivities are dedicated to the 3 popular saints: St. Anthony (*Santo António*), St. John (*São João*) and St. Peter (*São Pedro*).**



The celebrations begin with Saint Anthony, traditionally the saint of love, and a match-maker, but St. John is the most popular saint. From 19th - 24th June, **local shops prepare and show off their creativity by decorating small altars in honour of the 3 saints. There are also lively musical performances** in the city centre.



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 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).

>> 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 4938175902094

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 Chapel's

Visitor's Book

in the Social Room.

We'd love to know which country you're from!



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 and Sharon (*Hymns*); Tracy and Jennifer (*stories of interest, 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. ☺