

## 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:

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### >> 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! ☺



**SUNDAYS:**  
10h00 English  
11h30 Portuguese

**SATURDAYS:**  
18h30 Portuguese

### BABY GIRL CLOTHES AND TOILETRIES – Thank you! ☺

A big thank you to Debbie, and to all who last week generously gave baby toiletries and donated towards helping a pregnant young lady whose baby will be born on the 15<sup>th</sup> of October. She is poor and has almost nothing for the arrival of her baby girl. Many thanks for your generosity in helping!



THANK YOU FOR CARING ☺

**Tea and Coffee After Mass!! in the Social Room across the garden - please join us!**



## JOYFUL GIFT

Vol. 3, number 186

**6<sup>th</sup> October 2019 – 10h00 Sunday Mass**

**27<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel)

**Instagram:**  
[www.instagram.com/capela\\_penha\\_franca/](http://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. This morning we are blessed to have **Fr. Aidan Kelly** (who is visiting Madeira from the Archdiocese of Liverpool, UK) celebrating Mass together with Fr. Bernardino Andrade. Welcome Fr. Aidan!

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. The social hall has a map of the world where you can place a pin on your home town (do let us know what country you are visiting us from! ☺) check out our free little library, or leave a message in our visitor's book.

### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS (Brought to you by: Chris Oliver. [www.bible-groups.info](http://www.bible-groups.info))

(*Hab 1:2-3,2:2-4. Ps 94(95). 2 Tim 1:6-8,13-14. Lk 17:5-10*)

Habbakuk appears to have prophesied while Judah was being threatened by Babylon, who destroyed Jerusalem in 586 BC. Habbakuk expresses the ever-present frustration of mankind that evil people always seem to triumph. Since God is good and just, why doesn't He intervene to help those who worship Him? Instead of punishing his erring people by a nation even more wicked? God's answer here is that "the upright man will live by his faithfulness". So Habbakuk agrees to "quietly wait" for the invaders to be punished. The Psalm invites us to praise and worship the Lord daily, for he is our king and shepherd. We must not lose faith in God, as did the Israelites in their desert journey. In the first of four readings from Paul's second letter to Timothy, he is urged to "bear the hardships" relying on God's power, using and developing his skills to testify to the good news. You should "guard the rich truth that has been entrusted to you" the truth that Jesus, "has abolished death". In Luke's Gospel Jesus continues to teach on his way to Jerusalem. We must have confidence in God's plan, carrying out the tasks God has given us. We must not expect God to put this world to rights in our lifetime.

### PSALM RESPONSE: O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

\* 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](mailto:chris@chris-oliver.net)

### TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

Larysa Makarova on the violin (from the Ukraine)

**Entry Hymn:** "Colours of day dawn into the mind..." - n. 93

**Offertory Hymn:** "Take my life, and let it be" - n. 527

**Communion Hymn:** "A new commandment I give unto you" - n. 2

**Thanksgiving:** *Instrumental*

**Final Hymn:** "Lord, the light of your love is shining" - n. 344



**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](mailto:penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com), or download it from the Chapel's website/blog: [www.rcmassmadeira.org](http://www.rcmassmadeira.org) which is updated every week by Debbie and Tony. ☺



**My Teacher of Theology was a 12-Year-Old Girl**

When I was a seminarian, I remember one day, I started reflecting about my future job as a priest. And my reflection was based on this question: «What kind of job or ministry that other priests do, will I be able to do or not?». Finally I concluded that I would be able to try any job that other priests were doing, except for two: «teacher» and «journalist». Those two jobs were out of the question. I was sure that no Bishop would give me that kind of work. I

didn't like them and I knew that I would never be able to do a good job as a teacher or as a journalist. Well... years later, even before I was ordained as a priest, my first two jobs that I was supposed to do simultaneously, was a professor of religion and a journalist. Now I understand better the saying I heard later in life: «If you want to make God laugh, tell Him your plans».

One day I was in front of a class of little girls «teaching» religion in a public school in Mozambique. The theme was about our purpose in life. The question was «what do you live for». I even told them that if they went to the streets and stopped cars, or entered coffee shops or stopped people in the streets and asked this question, it would be interesting to find out how many people would be confused about that question.

I didn't suggest that they do it. It was only an example. What happened was that they went to the streets, and to public places, with a pencil and paper in their hands and started questioning people. «I am sorry for stopping you. We need your help. We are doing a school work. Would you please tell us what do you live for?». Most of the answers were really funny. Nobody was impolite or rude to them. Many answered: «I live for nothing». - «Thank you. Can we have your name?» «Wait... wait...» and the majority of the people started reflecting and giving more serious answers. This was in a small city where everybody knew everybody. When, in the following class, they told me about this experience I was glad that they had not asked me. I thought, and I think, that I know my purpose in life but if I was surprised with a question like that I was not sure if I knew how to formulate my answer.

It was Isabel, a 12-year-old girl, who taught me when she gave me her answer: «My purpose in life is to continue the work of God». In this field, Isabel was my best teacher in Theology. Since then, I was able to formulate my answer in a second. And learning how to formulate my answer helped me a lot on how to live accordingly. «I live to continue the work of God».

What I find amazing is to discover that God needs us to build this world at all levels. Our purpose is to continue what He started and is still doing. Unfortunately we have two choices. One is to work with God and daily help Him to build a better world, or we also have the power to

sabotage and destroy His dream and His work and slowly kill and destroy His project.

We have a choice. Planting a tree or taking care of a little garden, we are helping God to fulfill His dream and His project. A simple plastic bag thrown into the ocean is sabotaging His project. Freeing the poor from their poverty and alleviating the suffering of the world is an essential part of this project that involves every human being. And this is part of our spirituality

Love and Peace  
Fr. Bernardino Andrade



During his daily morning mass on the 7th of June 2016, at Casa Santa Marta in Vatican City, Pope Francis said that as Christians, we must be the salt of the earth and light of the world, but never be self-serving: salt must add flavor and light must illuminate the other. He explained, to be salt is: “to give of oneself, to give flavour to the lives of others... salt is something to be used, not to keep for oneself, but to give to others”. “It’s curious,” he continued, “both salt and light are for others, not for oneself: salt does not give flavour to itself; light does not illuminate itself.” Pope Francis urged Christians to shine brightly and always overcome the temptation to shine light upon themselves. “Be light to illuminate, be salt to give flavour and to preserve”. “What must a Christian do in order for the salt not to run out, and so that the oil to light the lamp does not come to an end?” The Pope says we have a special “battery” we can use to generate light: it’s called PRAYER. He said that our prayers, in all their forms, must come from the heart... it is what lights up Christian life.



SAINTS – FUN FACTS

**SAINTS FUN FACTS** by John Sheppard

St John Baptist Vianney was born in France in 1786. After being drafted into the Army, he deserted and returned home and entered the seminary in 1813.

He was assigned to Ecully and in 1818 he became Cure, as pastor of Ars. He worked 16 to 18 hours a day working in the confessional, administering the Sacrament of Penance, or Reconciliation.

John died at Ars and was canonized in 1925 and was made patron saint of parish priests.

**SAINTS FUN FACTS** by John Sheppard

St. Monica, thru the power of prayer and patience, converted her pagan husband and mother-in-law to the Catholic faith.

She also prayed for 17 years for her son to change from his life of sin.

She is the patron of wives and abuse victims.

**SAINTS FUN FACTS** by Mario D. Macari

SAINT ROSE OF LIMA, THE PATRONESS OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE PHILIPPINES AND THE FIRST SAINT BORN IN THE AMERICAS, WAS SO REMARKABLY AND PERFECTLY BEAUTIFUL, SHE WOULD CAUSE PEOPLE TO STOP WHAT THEY WERE DOING TO STARE AT HER! AFRAID THAT HER BEAUTY MIGHT BE A TEMPTATION TO SOMEONE, SHE CONSTANTLY RUBBED HER FACE WITH PEPPER AND LYE SO HER COMPLEXION WOULD NOT BE SO ATTRACTIVE.