

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

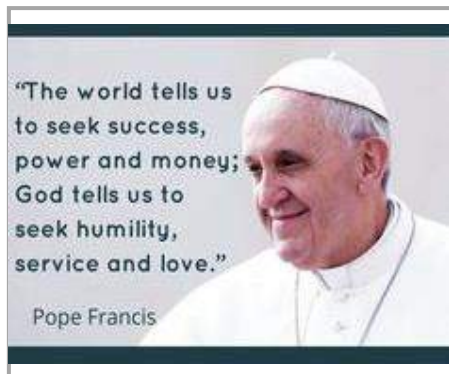


Every Sunday morning at the door of the Chapel there will be a **basket to collect food for the poor**. You are welcome to bring any little thing to help alleviate their suffering. (Rice, pasta, milk, canned tuna, biscuits etc.) Thank you to all who have donated so far! ☺



SUNDAYS:
10h00 English
11h30 Portuguese

SATURDAYS:
18h30 Portuguese



**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 (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. ☺

JOYFUL GIFT

Vol. 3, number 192



17th November 2019 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

33rd 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 which has the only Catholic Mass in English on the entire island. This morning we are blessed to have **Fr. Bernardino Andrade** celebrating Mass here at the Chapel. Please join us afterwards 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)
(*Mal 3:19-20. Ps 97(98). 2 Thess 3:7-12. Lk 21:5-19*)

Writing anonymously about 460 BC, after the Jews returned from their Babylonian exile to rebuild the Temple, **Malachi** criticises the people's religious indifference, priestly abuses, intermarriage with pagans and divorce: "Where is the God of justice?" But he promises the day of the Lord is coming, preceded by a messenger to prepare the way, seen by Christians as John the Baptist. When that day comes, evil-doers will be burnt up, while those who fear the Lord will be energised and healed, gambolling with joy, treading on ashes of evil-doers. **The psalm** urges all creation to praise the Lord for His victorious salvation. The **Thessalonians** had heard a forged letter saying the Lord's second coming was very close. Some had stopped working for a living and were "interfering in everyone else's" work. Paul says they are "busybodies", stirring up trouble! They should be shunned until they pull their weight in the community, as Paul did when he was with them. In the Gospel, Jesus foresees the destruction of the Temple, and the disasters, persecutions and false prophets that must precede the second coming. But we must not worry about these future problems, nor try to guess the day of the Lord's second coming. We should concentrate on the day-to-day following of Jesus, placing all our trust in Him.

PSALM RESPONSE: The Lord comes to rule the peoples with fairness.

* 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 (from the Ukraine) on the violin and keyboard

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

Final Hymn: "Walk in the light" - n. 561



Bad Teams With Excellent Players

1.- WHEN GOOD PLAYERS PLAY TOGETHER

It was Monday morning and I was listening to the radio. The theme was about football. For sure this is not my main field of interest. I like cooperation. I dislike competition even if it is football. But the radio

was on and I was doing something else. All of sudden I heard a statement that made me think and brought me many memories. Some very good, and some not that good. What I heard was: «*This team has very good players but this team is a very bad team*». Even if it sounds like a contradiction I understood immediately and perfectly. I have been many times part of that «*bad team*» with «*good players*». To be a good team doesn't mean necessarily to have good players. To be a good team means that the players play TOGETHER.



2.- TOO MANY COFFEE POTS

In many parishes of America, where I worked for 32 years, there is a very good tradition. When people meet, before the meetings, there is always somebody in charge of making coffee and when the members of the group start arriving they are welcomed with a hot cup of coffee. It is a good ice-breaker to help people to socialize and be «*warm*» before starting the meeting. Some parishes have many groups and associations. But one of the things that I don't like and makes me sad is when each group has its own coffee pot. Maybe this is not general but some even write their names and don't appreciate when other groups «*invade their property*» and use a coffee pot that is theirs. One day I heard a priest saying that we can evaluate the life of a Parish on how many coffee pots exist.



3.- WHO WOULD GET THE CREDIT

Actually, in reality, this is a parable of what, very often, happens in our lives and in the lives of our churches and in our society. More important than serving is *who will get the credit*. That's why I can be a good player but I also want the credit. I also want the reward to add to the other rewards that are already on my shelves to show others how good I am.

4.- ANGLICANS AND CATHOLICS «PLAYING» TOGETHER

One of the most meaningful things about Ecumenism is when we invite the non-Catholics attending our Mass at Penha de França, to join the priest around the altar and say the *Our Father* or the *Lord's Prayer* together. Now with the arrival of Father Michael Jarman to serve the Anglican Community of Madeira, we are planning different ways to unite our churches with more gatherings to pray together, to spread the good news together and to serve the poor together. The first step is to exchange pulpits. Fr. Michael already gave me the date when he is coming to our Chapel and preach at the English Mass, and also invited me to visit his Church and preach to his congregation. Another extremely good thing is that on November 21st, the members of the *People Helping People Association* are going to start meeting in the facilities of the Anglican Church. They will be part of us and we will be part of them. Until now we have been meeting at Moynihan's Irish Pub, kindly offered by the owners, Tadhg and Sinead Moynihan. Unfortunately we have not been allowed to meet at Penha de França even if we have never been told the reason why.

Anglicans and Catholics are trying to be a good team with good players because we decided to follow the words of Jesus in the Gospel of John 17:21-23.

Love and Peace,

Fr. Bernardino Andrade



Today is the 3rd World Day of the Poor. It was established by Pope Francis and has been celebrated every year on the 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time since 2017.

In the middle of Saint Peter's Square in Rome, there is a medical facility for the needy that Pope Francis inaugurated during the week leading up to this third annual World Day of the Poor. Homeless and impoverished people find medical help here, and a welcoming and warm relief from the cold weather leading up to the holidays. «*Disadvantaged people, who are anxious at coming in at first, feel welcomed once they come inside,*» says Roberta Capparella, a volunteer from the Red Cross who coordinates the doctors and nurses offering their time in support of the papal initiative. This is the third year that she has been volunteering there.



This year the medical facility is offering even more services than in previous years. People coming in can take advantage of cardiology, vision, dermatology, rheumatology, gynaecology, virology, diabetology, echography and podology check-ups... all for free. **There are between 100 and 150 people coming into the clinic every day,** and word is spreading around town of the pope's gift to the city's poor. Each person usually takes advantage of four or five of the services the facility offers, including vaccinations. **The people who come in have different backgrounds, nurse Capparella explains, from homeless people to those who are struggling financially or hail from other countries and**

can't afford Italy's mixed private and public healthcare system. «*The pope gave us the opportunity to prescribe medicines here,*» she explains, «*which can be very expensive.*» Doctors volunteering at the facility give prescriptions that are then brought to the Vatican pharmacy, which delivers the medication for pickup the day after. At any given time, there are between three and four doctors working at the facility and about 20 nurses.

«*We have chief physicians who come to offer their service like everybody else. That is the beauty of this place,*» Capparella said. «*When we are here, we are all here for a purpose, which is to help the largest number of people possible.*»

«*Certainly, the poor come to us also because we give them food, but what they really need is more than our offer of a warm meal or a sandwich,*» Pope Francis wrote in his speech, setting the tone for World Day of the Poor. «**The poor need our hands, to be lifted up; our hearts, to feel anew the warmth of affection; our presence, to overcome loneliness,**» he wrote. «**In a word, they need love.**»



People walking inside the facility «*feel welcomed and cuddled.*» A coffee station near the entrance offers a heated space to retire from the tireless November rainfalls and a chance to chat. Sometimes they ask for more visits because they like being here and not feeling like numbers, but people.

In his message, the pope emphasizes that «the poor are not statistics to cite when boasting of our works and projects,» but persons «to be encountered.» The increasingly popular hospital will be closed on Nov. 17, when Pope Francis will celebrate a mass in Saint Peter's Basilica before hosting a luncheon at the Vatican for over 1,500 poor people from Italy and Europe.