

## 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:

**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

### SMALL TABLE & 4 SMALL CHAIRS

**This week we received a request** from a poor family (a lady living with her elderly father, and her 2 children) for help in asking for a small 2nd-hand table or 4 chairs so that they can eat their daily meals. They have no table, and so they have to eat their meals using the bed as their "chairs" and with their plates on their laps.

**If you, or anyone you know, has a small table (or 4 small chairs) that you no longer need or want, and would like to help by donating to this family**, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Fr. Bernardino (91-61-92-783) or email bernardinodandrade@gmail.com



**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 & stories of interest). **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. ☺



## JOYFUL GIFT

15th December 2019 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

3rd Sunday of Advent, Year A

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 which has the only Catholic Mass in English on the entire island. This morning we are blessed to have **Revd. Michael Jarman** joining **Fr. Bernardino Andrade** in celebrating Mass.

**TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS** (Brought to you by: Chris Oliver. [www.bible-groups.info](http://www.bible-groups.info))  
(*Isaiah 35:1-6,10; Psalm 145(146); James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11*)

To encourage and console all whose confidence in God falters, **Isaiah** continues his triumphal vision of the peace that will come from God, when those ransomed by the Lord will go to Zion, singing God's praises. It was written in Babylon shortly after 540 BC, when the Persian king Cyrus had unexpectedly authorised Jewish exiles to return to Jerusalem. Isaiah's portrayal of the people's expectant joy was later seen by Christians as a foretaste of the peace Jesus Christ will bring. **The psalm** praises the goodness of God who keeps his covenant promises. The letter attributed to **James**, probably the brother of the Lord, the leader of the Jerusalem Church, was written late in the first century. It is full of pastoral advice and warnings against riches and presumption. Religion is not a private matter – the Christian community is in a covenant relationship with God, and our faith in God must be visible in love of our neighbour. We must patiently practise our faith, not swearing but letting our "yes" mean "yes", leaving justice to God. In **Matthew's Gospel**, Jesus fulfills Isaiah's vision – he is already enabling the blind to see, the lame to walk – his kingdom is already coming into being. But this deputation from John the Baptist in prison introduces two chapters describing growing opposition to Jesus by the Jewish leaders.

**PSALM RESPONSE:** Come, Lord, and save us.

\* 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 contact Chris at: [chris@chris-oliver.net](mailto:chris@chris-oliver.net)



### TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

- Larysa Makarova (from the Ukraine)

**Entry Hymn:** "O come, O come, Emmanuel..." - n. 397

**Offertory Hymn:** "Blest are you, Lord, God of all creation..." - n. 69

**Communion Hymn:** "One bread, one body, one Lord of all..." - n. 449

**Thanksgiving:** Instrumental

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



MY FRIEND'S DREAM

**My friend was a builder.** It was during the month of November, on a rainy day, when he invited me to see a piece of land where he was planning to build a beautiful house.

The only thing I could see under my feet was mud, some rocks where I could put my feet and small puddles of water. Everything was the best definition of a mess. It was really messy and muddy. But my friend didn't care about the mess. He didn't even apologize for taking me to "nowhere" just to make my shoes dirty and show me an *invisible* plan.

**But John was seeing things with different eyes. He had a dream.** And he took me to that place to show me his *invisible* dream. In his dream, he could see perfectly where the kitchen was going to be, where the living room was going to be, where the bedrooms were going to be. That beautiful house was already built in his dream, and he knew all the details of what was going to become a beautiful piece of heart. It was with a smile that on a muddy piece of land he told me about his dream. He had no doubts that a beautiful and imponent house would be in that same place very soon.

This story of my friend reminds me of the *Gospel of John, chapter 17*. In this messy world, talking with His Father, Jesus talks about his most important dream that is: "...that they may be one as we are one... that they become completely ONE" (Jo. 17: 22-23). **This was the biggest dream of Jesus, that "WE WILL BE ONE".**

The tragedy is that we, human beings, have the power to sabotage that dream of Jesus. The Body of Jesus is hurting with many divisions. On the other hand, many people are making small efforts to heal those wounds and those divisions ... Today we have the privilege of welcoming in our Catholic Community of Penha de França, *Father Michael Jarman*, the Chaplain of the Anglican Church in Funchal, to share with us the *Word of God*. We thank him and congratulate him for this little effort to heal the wounds of the Body of Jesus by bringing Catholics and Anglicans closer to each other and closer to God.

Thank you, Father Michael.

Love and Peace,  
Fr. Bernardino Andrade



Father Bernardino & Father Michael.  
Anglicans & Catholics getting closer

Now a few words from Fr. Michael ...

**Hope.** *Christians approach the season of Christmas with a sense of hope. In Scripture, according to the Hebrew And Greek words translated by the word 'hope' and according to the biblical usage, hope is an indication of certainty. 'Hope' in Scripture means a strong and confident expectation. Though archaic today in modern terms, hope is akin to trust and a confident expectation.*

*As a Christian Priest, I have a hope not just at Christmas but throughout the whole year that we can be more united in our beliefs and worship, because in unity there is strength and endurance. In the world in which we live, where there is so much need, poverty and secularism, it is our duty as Christians to be strong, to speak out against injustices of all kind and to follow as closely as possible the teachings of our Lord.*

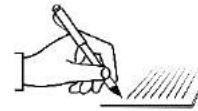
*In addition, whether you believe in a God or no God at all, it is natural to have a sense of hope for family and friends as the old year ends and a new one begins, a hope of wellbeing for those we love.*

**Hope is important because it can make the present moment less difficult to bear. If we believe that tomorrow will be better, we can bear a hardship today.**

*And for those who are not Christians and perhaps don't believe in any God whatsoever there must be a feeling of hope, if for nothing else then for the planet, as it faces the effects of global warming and how that will affect our children, our grand-children and generations to come.*

**Hope can be a powerful force.** *There's no actual magic in it, but when you know what you hope for most and hold it like a light within you, you can make things happen, almost like magic.*

**My other hope as a Priest is that more people who don't believe in God will come to know and love Him.** *As Christians we can facilitate this by showing the love of Christ in our everyday lives. We can't convert people to Christianity, the Holy Spirit does that, but we can facilitate it by our own example. It is my hope, wherever you are, whatever you do, that you will, by God's grace, remain safe and happy now and for the coming year.*



Father Michael Jarman  
Holy Trinity Anglican Church  
Funchal

ADOPT A FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS

**Last week Sunday, Father Bernardino spoke of a plan that he has to help the needy at Christmas time.** He calls it "*Adopt a Family for Christmas*". On this beautiful island, many people have no idea how much suffering and misery there is, and the hope is that in some small way this "Christmas program" will help to make some needy families just a little bit happier. Father Bernardino's plan is to invite people attending this English Mass to *adopt* a needy family for Christmas. We have been given a list of these needy families (those with children, and their ages) by Dalila, the lady who has been involved in the *People Helping People* project that helps the needy. The main aim of the "Adopter" of a particular family, is to maybe buy a bag of food and some toys for their children. No rules. We just ask people to love them and follow their hearts. If you would like to "Adopt a Family for Christmas" you can contact:

- 1) HELEN LUMGAIR (Speaks English only); Email: helenlumgair@gmail.com
- 2) MANNY DE PONTE (Bilingual), 96-91-33-074
- 3) ALEXANDRE SILVA (Bilingual), 96-78-19-322, Email: alex.lupus@gmail.com
- 4) DALILA Oliveira (Speaks Portuguese only), 96-50-13-173

Love and Peace,  
Fr. Bernardino Andrade



A BIG THANK YOU – From People Helping People



**A big thank you to Sinead and Tadhg, the owners of Moynihans Irish Bar,** for their continuing generosity towards "People Helping People" (a project started by this Chapel to help those in need). They have a bookstand in their bar where people are encouraged to take a book to read, and leave a small donation in return. All the proceeds go towards helping the poor. Through this, they were able to donate €45,00 to PHP. **THANK YOU VERY MUCH SINEAD AND TADHG!**