

## 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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**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! ☺



**02/02/2020**

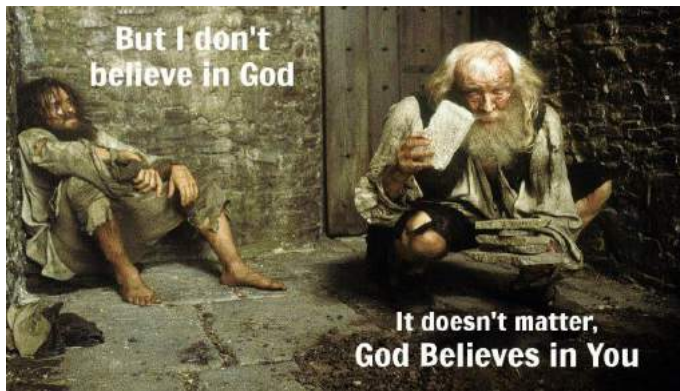
**10h00** Mass in English

**11h30** Mass in Portuguese

**09/02/2020**

**10h00** Mass in English

**11h30** Mass in Portuguese



**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*); Larisa, Rui, Cátia and Helena (*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

**2nd February 2020 – 10h00 Sunday Mass**

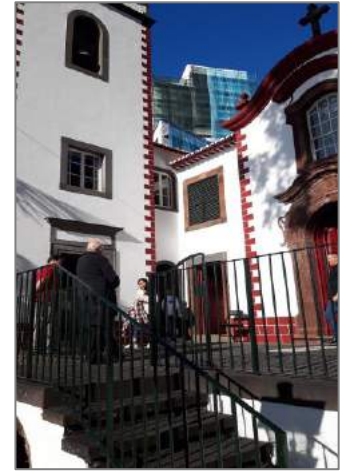
**Presentation of the Lord, Year A**

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/)



### **CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH, IN MADEIRA:**

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. This 10am Mass is the only Catholic Mass which is celebrated entirely in English on the whole island of Madeira. **We are blessed to have Fr. Bernardino Andrade celebrating mass here every Sunday!** The special intention for this morning's mass is for Conceição Rodrigues Figueira Gonçalves who passed away on Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020. May her soul rest in peace. †

**TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS** (Brought to you by: Chris Oliver. [www.bible-groups.info](http://www.bible-groups.info))  
(*Malachi 3:1-4; Psalm 23(24); Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40*)

The **Book of Malachi** was written after the return from exile and the rebuilding of the Temple in 515 BC, and perhaps prompted the reforms by Ezra from 460 BC. Jewish practices had become lax, with easy divorce and intermarriage with pagans. Malachi heavily criticised this fall from covenant standards, and promises the Lord will come in judgement to punish the evildoers. A messenger will come first to prepare the way, then seen as Elijah, but interpreted by Christians as John the Baptist. These **psalm** verses were sung as the Ark of the Covenant was brought into the Temple. The lintels of the gates were seen as too low for the great God to enter. The Letter to the **Hebrews** seeks to strengthen wavering faith. Christ shared fully in our humanity, including death, and was completely faithful to God. Now risen and exalted through his suffering, he is a high priest, the perfect mediator. Having been tempted frequently to give up his mission, Jesus is able to help Christians who are tempted to give up their faith. **Luke's gospel** describes the presentation of Jesus in the Temple. Mary and Joseph were devout Jews, faithfully observing the Law, including the requirement for every first-born son to be consecrated to the Lord, just as Samuel had been.

**PSALM RESPONSE:** Who is the king of glory? It is 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, or sent to you, please contact Chris at: [chris@chris-oliver.net](mailto:chris@chris-oliver.net)

**Voice / Organ** – Fátima Cátia Marques.

**Cello** – Helena Paula Marques

**Entry Hymn:** "Bind us together" - n. 65

**Penitential Act:** "Lord, have mercy" - n. 659

**Gospel Acclamation:** "Aleluia"

**Offertory Hymn:** "Take our bread" - n. 528

**Sanctus:** "Holy" - n. 704

**Agnus Dei:** "Lamb of God" - n. 737

**Communion Hymn:** "Our God loves us" - n. 454

**Thanksgiving:** *Instrumental*

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

### TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC



**MERRY CHRISTMAS IN FEBRUARY!**

It was on the 7th of January of 2020 that I had the privilege of attending, for the first time, a Christmas Mass in the month of January.

It is the day when the Ukrainian Orthodox Church celebrates Christmas Day. I was there.

I don't know one word of the Ukrainian language; however it didn't make any difference.

I didn't understand one word, but I understood the experience of praying, listening and worshipping the same God, and enjoying the presence of my family whatever language they speak.

For many people differences are a problem. For us Christians differences are a blessing.



The People from Puerto Rico end their Christmas Season on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February. It is the Feast of the Presentation of the Baby Jesus in the Temple.

Christmas, more than being just *one day*, is a journey. *Christmas* is all year. *Christmas* happens every time the Good News is announced to the poor.

For all of you, here is my Christmas card. *Merry Christmas!*

*Love and Peace,  
Fr. Bernardino Andrade*



Christmas is when God arrives at the barn.  
That's why Christmas is my feast... because the barn is me; the cattle are me; the hay is me; the manure is me.

But I receive God. I am capable of God. Because God, the God who doesn't fit in heaven, wants to come to my barn. That's why Christmas is my feast. My feast during the entire year.

(João César das Neves).

For 2 Sundays in January this year, we were blessed to have Bishop Tom Burns from the Parish of Menevia, Wales, join us for Mass here at the Chapel. We share with you a poem that he picked up from a *Redemptorist Publications* Sunday Mass Sheet last year, and also some words that he saw on a poster that caught his attention when he was in Plymouth (UK) not long ago:



Rt Rev Tom M Burns, and Fr. Bernardino Andrade

**JUDGE NOT**

Pray don't find fault with the man who limps or stumbles along the road, unless you have worn the shoes he wears or struggled beneath his load. There may be tacks in his shoes that hurt though hidden away from view, or the burden he bears placed on your back may cause you to stumble too.

Don't smear the man who's down today unless you have felt the blow that caused his fall, or felt his shame, that only the fallen know. You may be strong, but still the blows that were his, if dealt to you, in the self-same way, at the self-same time, might cause you to stagger too.

Don't be too harsh with the man who sins or pelt him with word or stone unless you are sure – yes doubly sure that you've no sins of your own. For you know, perhaps, if the tempter's voice should whisper as soft to you, as it did to him when he went astray, 'twould cause you to falter too.

*from a Sunday Mass Sheet  
(Redemptorist Publications)*

A poster on a noticeboard outside a Protestant church in Plymouth (UK) proclaimed:

**ONLY RCs ARE SAVED!**

The small print in the corner of the poster explained that RCs meant:

**REAL CHRISTIANS!**

1.

2.

**BOOK SALE** – Get your copy of “Deadly Drama” this morning



**Last week we had a successful book sale after Mass which raised 230 euros to help the needy.** Mrs Jane Caldwell and her husband, Peter, have been regular visitors to our island for the past 16 or so years. Jane is an author, who lives in England, and after learning about the poverty on the island, decided to write a novel to help the “*People Helping People*” project which was started here at the Chapel in 2010 to help the needy. **Jane has written 3 novels, and this morning, her latest novel, “Deadly Drama”** will be on sale directly after

Mass. Absolutely every cent will go towards helping those in need. Get your copy before they are sold out!

**Happy Reading!** 😊

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