

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! ☺



Tea and Coffee After Mass

Please join us in
the Social Hall
across the garden
for a cup of coffee
and a chat.



16/02/2020

10h00 Mass in English

11h30 Mass in Portuguese

23/02/2020

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*); Larysa, 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, or download it from the Chapel's website/blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org which is updated every week by Debbie and Tony. ☺

JOYFUL GIFT

16th February 2020 – 10h00 Sunday Mass

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, 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

Instagram: www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/



19/10/1930 – 04/02/2020
Francisco Gomes do
Nascimento

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 Francisco Gomes do Nascimento, loving father of Rita, and father-in-law of Marcelino Dos Ramos, who passed away in South Africa last Tuesday, 4th of February. May his soul rest in peace. †



TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS (Brought to you by: Chris Oliver. www.bible-groups.info)
(*Sirach/ Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20; Psalm 118(119); I Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-37*)

Writing about 132 BC, Ben Sira was a learned and widely travelled Jerusalem scholar. Today's reading is one of the clearest statements in the whole Bible on free will. God created human beings and - as an essential part of our nature - gave us the ability to choose between right and wrong, life or death. God notes our actions, but "gives no one permission to sin". The **psalm** praises God's law, which should be followed because it is designed to help us become who we are meant to be. After saying he did not come using clever human oratory, Paul now tells the **Corinthians** something no human being could work out, namely God's wisdom - his plan from the beginning for our salvation. Because this knowledge comes to us only by revelation, we must be open and listen to the Spirit who reveals it. Continuing the Sermon on the Mount in **Matthew's Gospel**, Jesus states clearly that He is not abolishing the Jewish Law. But He then goes on to clarify the Commandments - we must obey them in spirit, not just a literal minimum. Our free will should be exercised with wisdom, so that we help to build the kingdom of God here on earth. (Matthew 5:32 is usually understood to refer to marrying within forbidden degrees of kindred.)

PSALM RESPONSE: They are happy who follow God's law!

* 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

HYMN NUMBERS:

Larysa (on the keyboard & violin) and Mr. Bruno (on the flute)

[1] Entry Hymn: "...When I in awesome wonder" – No. 419

[2] Offertory: "In bread we bring you, Lord" – No. 258

[3] Communion: "Amazing Grace" – No. 32

[4] Thanksgiving: Instrumental

[5] Final Hymn: "Go, the Mass is ended" – No. 175





20-02-10 / 20-02-20

The 20th of February of two thousand ten (20-02-10) is a date that opened, in this beautiful Madeira Island, wounds that are still bleeding.

It was a Saturday morning. Heavy rains, and large floods that swallowed and killed lots of people, destroyed buildings, inundated streets with rocks mixed with cars turned upside down, cars mixed with uprooted trees being dragged to the ocean to never be seen again. This is a little image of that day... February 20th, 2010 in Madeira.



A few days ago somebody said in a local newspaper that we were very lucky that this tragedy happened on a Saturday. If it had happened during the week when the schools were full of children, with their parents desperately looking for them, without being able to fight the waters to drive their cars and use their phones, the tragedy would have been much worse.



Everybody suffered, but one of the things that most called the attention and the hearts of the community of the English-speaking people attending the English Mass



at Penha de França Chapel at that time was to discover that the poor became poorer, and most of them were left in misery. In the words of Pope Francis, misery is poverty without hope. They have never been able to recover. This was the moment when, at this chapel, we started the project «People Helping People». The main goal is to alleviate their suffering and our biggest dream is to free them from poverty. Its slogan is «To mobilize many people to help many people». (There is more information about the project on the last page of this newsletter).

My heart rejoices with gratitude for the generosity of so many tourists who leave Madeira Island know that because of them the poor become less poor, and because of them there is less suffering in this piece of land called the Pearl of the Atlantic.



The centre of Funchal. 20/02/2020

Love and Peace,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade

* Photos of the 2010 tragedy courtesy of "Foto Canhas"



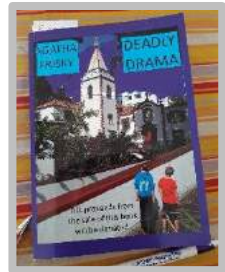
For the last 3 weeks we have had a book sale after Mass to raise funds to help the needy. Mrs Jane Caldwell and her husband, Peter, have been regular visitors to our island for the past 16 or so years. Jane is an author, who lives in England, and after learning about the poverty on the island, decided to write a novel to help the "People Helping People" project which was started here at the Chapel in 2010.

Last Sunday's sale of Jane's latest book, "Deadly Drama" was a huge success... with all copies being completely sold out!

THANK YOU to everyone who bought a copy of the

book, which helped to raise a total of 270 euros for People Helping People.

And a huge thank you especially, to Jane, (and her husband) for their wonderful generosity, which has helped to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate!



PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE - February

Where we helped this Week: 01-09 February 2020

Description	+ €	- €	Total €
Balance brought forward			36,42
PHP Mass Collection	485,00		
Donations	512,00		
Expenses Paid:			
1 - House Rent		250,00	
2 - Medication		95,00	
3 - Doctor's Consultations		145,00	
4 - Bus fare		160,00	
5 - Water		0,00	
6 - Electricity		0,00	
7 - Gas		90,00	
8 - Telephone		0,00	
9 - Food		210,00	
10 - Miscellaneous		80,00	
Balance on February 9th			3,42

