

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:

EUROPE: Pe Bernardino Andrade, Rua das Murteiras, 28 - 1E, 9060-199 Funchal, Madeira, Portugal.

Email: bernardinodandrade@gmail.com

USA: Larry and Janice Contreras, 60 Meeks Ln., Oakley, CA 94561. Tel. 707-333-5501

Email: l.a.contreras@sbcglobal.net

>> TRANSFER TO BANK ACCOUNT IN MADEIRA:

ACCOUNT NAME:

Associação CEDSSG Ajudando Gente

BANK: Banco Santander Totta

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 0003 4938 1759020

IBAN: PT50 0018 0003 49381759020 94

SWIFT: TOTAPPL

NIB: 0018 0003 49381759020 94

Bank Address:

Caminho de Santa Quiteria 46A,
9020-119, Funchal
Madeira, Portugal.



>> PAYPAL:

genteajudandogente2016@gmail.com

>> DONATIONS FROM THE USA:

**Instructions for sending funds to
People Helping People in Madeira,
Portugal, from USA:**

Write a check made out to: Fr
Bernardino Andrade PHP
in the bottom of the check in Memo
area add: **PHP**

Mail the check to:

Mr. L.A. Contreras
60 Meeks Lane
Oakley, Ca 94561



The funds will then be transferred to
the People Helping People account in
Madeira, at no cost.

Any questions or concerns please
contact Larry Contreras at
707-333-5501 or email him at:
l.a.contreras@sbcglobal.net

>> DONATIONS FROM THE UK:

ACCOUNT NAME: Sinead Moynihan

BANK: Lloyds Bank

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 02461743

BRANCH: Univ. of Cambridge

SORT CODE: 30-13-55

IBAN: GB05 LOYD 3013 5502 4617 43

BIC: LOYDGB21035



The funds will then be transferred to Madeira.
Any questions or concerns about transferring to
this account, please contact Sinead Moynihan
at: sineadmoynihn7@icloud.com

When sending any donation, please send an email to penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com with the date, amount, and name on the transfer so that Fr. Bernardino is able to confirm with you as soon as the transfer is received. Thank you.

Older issues of the newsletter can be downloaded from the Chapel's website/blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org

JOYFUL GIFT

3rd of May 2020

4th Sunday of Easter, Good Shepherd Sunday, 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

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www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/



CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH, IN MADEIRA:

Today you are receiving the 4th issue of our "digital" format newsletter. Last week we had no newsletter, but hope that you will enjoy today's issue. We hope that the last newsletters have brought you a little bit of hope and inspiration.

Older issues of the Chapel's newsletter can be read online or downloaded from the internet by visiting the Chapel's website/blog. The website is <http://rcmassmadeira.org/>.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Brought to you by: Chris Oliver. www.bible-groups.info

Acts 2:14, 36-41

Psalms 22 (23)

1 Peter 2:20-25

John 10:1-10



Last Sunday we heard the middle section of Peter's speech at Pentecost, saying the Resurrection shows Jesus was the Holy One expected by King David. Today the consequences: many of his hearers accept this and are told they must repent and be baptised. "Repent" in the sense of radically changing their life and directing it towards God. Even though Jesus does not appear to baptise during his lifetime, baptism is immediately the mark of membership of the new Christian community, at which they receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **The psalm** celebrates God's loving care for his people, like a shepherd guarding and guiding his flock, who are looking forward to his generous end-time feast. **Peter's letter** continues: God's approval comes not from justifiable punishment but from suffering patiently even when we have done right. Christ patiently bore for us unjustified insults and hurts without retaliating, trusting completely in his Father. We must imitate the Lord our shepherd in every way, placing all our trust in him. He will "give us comfort" and "repose". In the Gospel, **John** also sees Jesus as the Good Shepherd. He knows each one of us and leads us. We follow him because we know his voice. He is also the gate, through which we can enter and find safety.

PSALM RESPONSE: The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

* 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



GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Today, (May 3rd, 2020) the fourth Sunday of Easter, is the Good Shepherd Sunday.

Shepherding in Judaea was a hard and dangerous task. Pasture were scarce, and thorny scrub jungles with wild animals and vast desert areas were common, posing a constant threat to the wondering sheep.

But the shepherds were famous for their dedicated, sacrificial service, perpetual vigilance, and readiness for action. Hence the shepherd was the national symbol of Divine Providence, and self-sacrificing love in Israel. Two or three shepherds

might be personally responsible for the sheep owned by several families in a village. If any sheep was missing, one of the shepherds would go in search of it, sending the other shepherds home with the flock. The whole village would be waiting for the return of the shepherd with the lost sheep and would receive him with shouts of joy and of thanksgiving. That is the picture Jesus draws of God. God is as glad when a lost sinner is found as a shepherd is when a strayed sheep is brought home. Men may give up hope of reclaiming a sinner, but not so God. God loves those people who never stray from Him, but He expresses even greater joy when a lost sinner comes home. (Father Tony Kadavil)



Jesus loves each one of us with unconditional love but he has his favourites. His favourites are the last, the lost and the least.

Love & Peace,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade

May 3, 2020

HAVE YOU HEARD – of the sleeping St. Joseph?



Did you know that Pope Francis has a statue of a sleeping St. Joseph in his room?

Joseph is one of Pope Francis' most beloved saints. During a trip to the Philippines in 2015, Pope Francis explained: *"I have great love for Saint Joseph, because he is a man of silence and strength. On my table I have an image of Saint Joseph sleeping. Even when he is asleep, he is taking care of the Church!"*

"When I have a problem, or a difficulty, I write a message to St. Joseph on a piece of paper and I put it under the statue of

him I have in my room, so that he can dream about it. This means: so that he can pray for this problem," Pope Francis explained. *"It is a statue of St. Joseph asleep. And now he sleeps on a pillow of little papers!"*

The statue evokes the state in which St. Joseph received his messages from God: It was in his dreams that he was told he should take Mary as his wife, and that he must take her and the Child to flee from Herod.

Pope Francis' devotion to St. Joseph goes all the way back to his youth, when at age 17 he received his calling to the priesthood in the Basilica of St. Joseph. To have the statue of the sleeping saint next to him on his nightstand, the pope says, is better than any sleeping pill.

Source: www.pt.aleteia.org/2015/03/19/a-imagem-de-sao-jose-dormindo-que-o-papa-francisco-guarda-no-quarto/

THANK YOU - Community of friends and "feet washers"

"Thank You" to everyone who has continued to donate towards People Helping People since the dramatic appeal made by Fr. Bernardino asking for help. The donations have been helping so many families who are having a really hard time right now.

Father Bernardino has been making a list with all of your names, and has placed it on the little altar where he says Mass every day at home with his niece.

The list of «Community of Feet Washers» on Fr. Bernardino's altar:

Below is the updated list of everyone who has donated to People Helping People and made it possible to help struggling families with food, medication and also part of rent payments over the last few weeks. A sincere Thank You to all of you! To respect confidentiality of those of you who have donated, we are using only the first names and the initial letter of the surname of the donors.



Donations received this week:

- 27 April - Hunter J.
- 28 April - Janet & Ron H.
- 28 April - Teresa H.
- 28 April - Elisa M.
- 28 April - Michael Andrew B.
- 29 April - John & Sandra M.

Donations last week:

- 21 April - Anthony & Jaquine D.
- 21 April - Michael Andrew B.
- 21 April - Alberto F.
- 22 April - Phil F.
- 23 April - Meredith L.
- 23 April - Jayne H.
- 23 April - Barry & Pat J.
- 23 April - Antonino J.

Donations received 30th March to 18th of April from:

- 30 March - Julie Marie S.
- 30 March - James Bernard S.
- 30 March - Graham and Mary H.
- 30 March - Michael Andrew B.
- 31 March - Jayne H.
- 31 March - Froydis G.
- 31 March - Stefanie L.
- 31 March - Helmut U. and Sieglinde K.
- 31 March - João Carlos S.
- 01 April - Lurdes S.
- 01 April - Francis and Joan C.
- 01 April - Michael and Patricia K.
- 01 April - Jane & Peter C.
- 01 April - Patricia and Terence H.
- 02 April - Anthony S.
- 02 April - Jim and Morag
- 03 April - Manuel Adolfo B.M.
- 03 April - Alan OB
- 06 April - Sean De B.



- 06 April - David and Joanna B.
- 06 April - Harry C.
- 07 April - Neil and Dena S.
- 07 April - Hugh S. and family
- 08 April - Graham B.
- 08 April - Michael Andrew B.
- 09 April - David Arthur V.
- 09 April - Christine and Tom M.
- 09 April - Ron and Janet H.
- 14 April - Michael Andrew B
- 14 April - Philip and Brenda F-P
- 14 April - Ron and Julie G.
- 14 April - Dirk and Margaret Van G.
- 15 April - Veronica and Peter B.
- 15 April - John & Patricia H.
- 15 April - Maurice L.
- 15 April - Antonio Fernandes F.
- 18 April - David V.

If you sent a donation and don't see your name on the list, please let us know by sending an email to: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com **so that we can check what has happened. Thank you.**

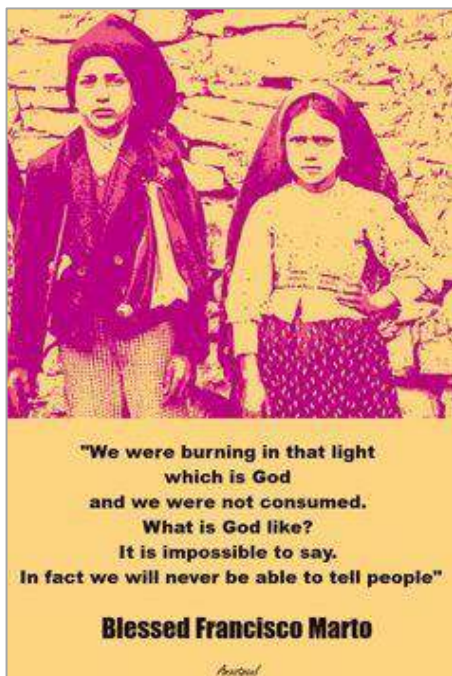
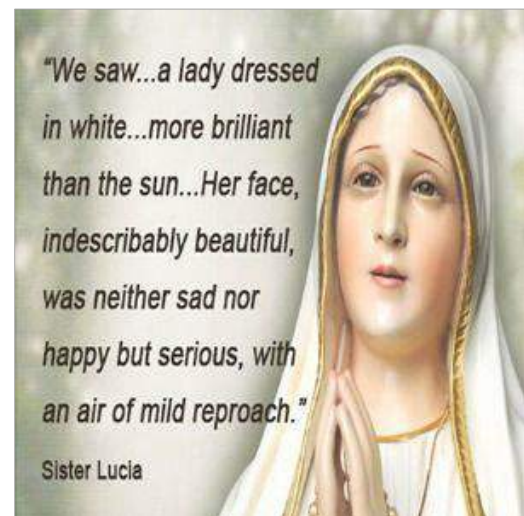
THE MONTH OF MAY IS DEDICATED TO OUR LADY – This is the reason why...



Did you know that the month of May is dedicated to Mary, the Mother of Jesus? This is **because the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to three shepherd children** (Lúcia, Francisco, and Jacinta) in Fatima, Portugal, on the 13th of May 1917.

Our Lady told the children that she was Mary, the Mother of Jesus and that she had been sent by God with a message for every man, woman and child in our century. A church was built at the spot where Our Lady of Fatima appeared to the children, which every year receives thousands of visitors from all over the world. This year will mark the 103rd anniversary of this miraculous event!

In 2017 Pope Francis made a pilgrimage visit to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima on May 12-13th and led the evening recitation of the rosary and celebrated Mass on the anniversary of the apparitions. Pope Francis was the fourth pontiff to visit the Marian shrine in Fatima, following in the footsteps of Blessed Paul VI, St John Paul II and Benedict XVI, who each made visits on a May 13 to mark the anniversary of the first apparition.



THE SHEPHERD –

- Where are you going to Shepherd?
- *Looking for my sheep*
- What happened to your sheep?
- *My sheep took advantage of the silence of the night and ran away from me and from my flock.*
- And where did she run away to?
- *I don't know. Maybe to very far away.*
- To where?
- *Until she gets tired, falls down and wouldn't be able to walk any more.*
- And where are you going to look for her?
- *In the ravines, among the rocks, in the creeks, between the hard rocks of the beaches, among the thorny bramble bushes and in all dangerous places. My sheep likes dangerous places and she likes to defy wild and dangerous wolves, from where she always leaves hurt and humiliated. She likes to play with wolves but wolves don't like her. They only like to use her and hurt her. Maybe I am going to find her alone, bleeding and shivering.*
- And what are you going to do when you find her?
- *I am going to approach her, very slowly, in order not to frighten her. I am going to call her by name. I am going to take her in my arms. I am going to bring her back to the sheep-fold. I am going to heal her wounds. I am going to warm her with the warmth of my arms and my heart and also with the warmth of the other sheep who miss her a lot. I am going to feed her. I am going to let her rest. I know that she will be very tired and very sick. I am going to caress her until she feels loved and forgiven. I am going to feed her until she feels healthy and strong. If she tells me that she is sorry I am going to believe in her and I am going to cry with her.*
- And... then? What is going to happen then?
- *I don't know. Maybe again, she is going to take advantage of the silence of the night and run away again. She likes so much to take risks. But... she is my sheep.*
- And if she runs away again what are you going to do?
- *Again I am going to look for her on the desert sands, by the dangerous ravines, by the thorny bramble bushes wherever she finds lots of thorns. It seems that she feels good in being hurt. But that causes her so much pain especially when the wolves attack her with their ferocious teeth and ferocious claws. And also it causes me so much pain. The wolves don't like her but she likes the wolves that's why she never gets tired of taking risks. She is always dreaming with a beautiful world created especially for her where wolves and sheep can be happy, eat from the same plate and live in peace.*
- And what are you going to do when your find her?
- *Slowly I am going to approach her in order not to frighten her. I know that she is going to be very cold and scared. She acts like if she is strong but she is so fragile and so feeble. Anything frightens her.*
- And then?
- *Then even with tears in my eyes and a lump in my throat I am going to smile at her and very softy, in order not to scare her, I am going to call her by name. I am going to caress her. I am going to take her in my arms and I am going to conduct her to the sheep-fold. I am going to heal her wounds, warm her and then I am going to lay down by her side in order to make her feel protected and forgiven again.*
- But are you sure she is not going to run away again?
- *No! I am not sure that she is not going to run away again. It is because my sheep can get tired of me but I will never get tired of my sheep. She can live without me. But I can not live without my sheep. I worry more and cry more for my rebel and lost sheep than for the ninety nine that are always faithful to me and protected in the sheep-fold. (Luke 15)*

Authors: Carla Rodrigues, Maria Ivone Andrade, Cristina Alves and Fr. Bernardino C. Andrade, from «People Helping People», inspired by Jesus in the Gospel of Luke Chapters 6 and 15. Also inspired by an experience dramatically lived by this group during the months of August, September and October 2010. Dedicated to all of those who never get tired of searching hugging, welcoming and are not afraid to take risks and being abused and manipulated.
- (Madeira, Portugal Oct 7, 2010, Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary)