

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: TOTAPTPL

NIB: 0018 0003 49381759020 94

Bank Address:

Caminho de Santa Quitéria 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

17th of May 2020

6th Sunday of Easter, 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/



CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH, IN MADEIRA:

Today's newsletter is the 5th issue of our "digital" format newsletter. Last week there was no newsletter, but we hope that today's issue will bring you a little bit of comfort and peace in these challenging times. You can read all issues of the Chapel's newsletter online or download them from the internet by visiting the Chapel's website/blog.

The website is <http://rcmassmadeira.org/>.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

Acts 8:5-8,14-17

Psalm 65 (66)

1 Peter 3:15-18 or 4:13-16

John 14:15-21 or 17:1-11



After Stephen had been killed, Saul led "a great persecution" against the Church in Jerusalem. The Hellenists were therefore driven out of Jerusalem and Philip takes the gospel to Samaria. Peter and John came to investigate these first non-Jew converts. The apostles confirmed these new members by laying hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. The psalm praises God's power as revealed throughout history but especially during the Exodus. Peter continues his advice to Christians suffering abuse and ridicule from their non-Christian neighbours. Do not be afraid! Stick to your principles, being ready to explain your reasons politely. And rejoice that your sufferings enable you to share in Christ's sufferings so that you may share in his glory. In John's Gospel description of the Last Supper, Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit to continue his work after he returns to his Father. The supper ends with Jesus' great prayer to his Father for the Church he is leaving behind. All three persons of the Trinity are mentioned in the gospels, but the Church only gradually developed its understanding of the Trinity over many centuries. We believe that the Spirit **proceeds** from the Father **and** the Son (filioque). The Orthodox Church says that the Spirit **comes from** the Father **through** the Son.

PSALM RESPONSE: Cry out with joy to God all the earth.

* 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



THE HANDKERCHIEF IN MY LEFT POCKET

I always use two handkerchiefs. One in each pocket. The handkerchief in my right pocket is coloured, and I use it for everything I might need. It is **my** handkerchief. When I change my daily clothes, the handkerchief in my right pocket goes to the laundry basket.

The handkerchief in my left pocket is white and I never use it for anything. It is not mine. It is always ready for emergencies that are very rare. It goes directly from my pocket to the laundry basket without being used. It is always clean and ready.

* One day I was with my family on a mountain top in Brazil. A lady's son had smashed the door of her car on her finger, and it had started bleeding painfully. I offered her the handkerchief from my left pocket and I assured her that it had never been used. She took it, and I left the handkerchief of my left pocket there, to stop the bleeding of a woman I had never seen before, and that I would never see again. I prayed for her, and thanked God for the gift of the handkerchief in my left pocket.

For a few years my niece, Ana, lived with me in California. Before she took her driver's license she was always a passenger and I was the driver of my car. One thing that started bothering me was that, very often, she used and abused the handkerchief from my left pocket. And of course she knew that that handkerchief would never be returned.



One day she sneezed, and as usual she asked me for the handkerchief from my left pocket. I gave it to her but impatiently remarked, "Ana! You know that a handkerchief is something very personal that you always need. Why don't you start bringing your own tissues?"

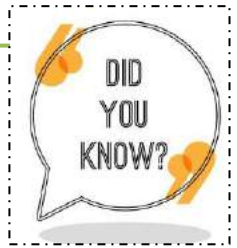
A little embarrassed, she answered, "Tio" (that means Uncle), you will never know how good it is to travel in life with someone who always carries a handkerchief that I can use. In any situation, every time I need, to wipe my tears, blow my nose, with no questions asked. Thank you Tio for always carrying a handkerchief in your left pocket. Please never stop doing it. You may find, in your life, other people who might need the handkerchief from your left pocket, with no questions asked."

Of course I felt tears in my eyes and since then I never forget to carry a white handkerchief in my left pocket. It is always clean and always available for anyone who needs it with **no questions asked.**



"Help carry one another's burdens." – Gal 6:2
(Drawing inspired on **Good News Bible** – Today's English Version)

Love & Peace,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade
May 17, 2020



DID YOU KNOW?... Exactly 103 years ago, on the 13th of May 1917, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to three young shepherd children (Lúcia, Francisco, and Jacinta) in the village of Fatima, Portugal.

Jacinta was 7 years old, her brother Francisco was 8 years old... and their cousin, Lucia, was 10 years old. A church was built at the spot where Our Lady of Fatima appeared to the children, and which to this day receives thousands of visitors from all over the world. When Our Lady appeared to them, she 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.

Not long after the apparitions, the influenza epidemic struck Europe, and both Jacinta and her brother, Francisco, became ill and died. Jacinta passed away at the age of 9, and Francisco at the age of 10. They are both buried at the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima.



Lúcia grew up to become a Carmelite nun, and wrote 6 memoirs during her lifetime. She lived in cloister in the Carmel of Coimbra.

HISTORICAL MEETINGS WITH TWO POPES



On May 13th, 1967, on the 50th anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady, Pope Paul VI came to Portugal, becoming the very first Pope to visit the basilica that was built on the spot where Our Lady had appeared to the 3 children. Sister Lúcia was also present, and it was the first time that she had been seen in public after many years in cloister.



15 years later, on May 13th, 1982, Sister Lúcia met with Pope John Paul II when he came to Portugal and visited the Shrine in Fatima for the first time, to thank Our Lady for having survived the assassination attempt on his life the year before.

Sister Lucia died on the 13th of February 2005, at the age of 97.

THANK YOU FOR GIVING WITH YOUR HEART - Friends and "feet washers"


A few weeks ago, Fr. Bernardino made a dramatic appeal in order to help local families who have a hard enough time in normal circumstances, but have been desperately struggling even more since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic. A huge "Thank You" to each and every one of you who were touched by the appeal and who have been donating towards *People Helping People*. Every donation, no matter how small, has been making such a major difference to these families. Thank you to all of you who continue to donate, as you have made it possible to help struggling families with food, medication, and also help some with part of their rent payments.

A most sincere *Thank You*, from their hearts to yours!

Father Bernardino has been making a list with all of your names; he calls it his list of "Community of Friends and Feet Washers". This list of names is on the little altar where he says Mass every day at home with his niece:

DONATIONS RECEIVED IN MAY:

- 04 May** - Ron & Julie G / Marie & John W. / Manuel Adolfo B.M. / Alan OB / Anthony S. / Jane & Peter C
05 May - Anthony & Jaquine D. / David Arthur V.
06 May - Annemarie M.
08 May - Debra & David V. / Denis & Mary D. / Patricia K. / Maria Arlinda S.
11 May - Helmut U. and Sieglinde K
12 May - Robert John M.
13 May - Lurdes S. / Alastair R. & Ann T.
15 May - Mike & Veronica B.

**DONATIONS RECEIVED IN APRIL:**

- 01 April** - Lurdes S./ Francis & Joan C. / Michael & Patricia K / Jane & Peter C./ Patricia & Terence H
02 April - Anthony S. / Jim and Morag
03 April - Manuel Adolfo B.M. / Alan OB
06 April - Sean De B. / David & Joanna B. / Harry C.
07 April - Neil & Dena S. / Hugh S. and family
08 April - Graham B. / Michael Andrew B.
09 April - David Arthur V. / Christine & Tom M. / Ron & Janet H.
14 April - Michael Andrew B / Philip & Brenda F-P / Ron & Julie G. / Dirk & Margaret Van G.
15 April - Veronica & Peter B. / John & Patricia H. / Maurice L. / Antonio Fernandes F.
18 April - David V.
21 April - Anthony & Jaquine D. / Michael Andrew B / Alberto F
22 April - Phil F.
23 April - Meredith L. / Jayne H. / Barry & Pat J. / Antonino J.
27 April - Hunter J.
28 April - Janet & Ron H. / Teresa H. / Elisa M. / Michael Andrew B. / Meredith L.
29 April - John & Sandra M.
30 April - Germaine F.

**DONATIONS RECEIVED IN MARCH:**

- 30 March** - Julie Marie S. / James Bernard S. / Graham & Mary H. / Michael Andrew B
31 March - Jayne H. / Froydis G. / Stefanie L. / Helmut U. and Sieglinde K. / João Carlos S.

(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). **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.**

CATHOLIC TEEN DRAWS OUR LADY – Inspiring her neighbourhood

Source: www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/catholic-teen-seeks-to-inspire-neighborhood-with-marian-sidewalk-art-99542

A young Catholic artist has drawn an image of the Blessed Virgin Mary on her parents' driveway, bringing religious art to her local community during the quarantine. The Diocese of Fargo, in the USA, posted on their Facebook page on May 4th an image of Our Lady of Lourdes drawn by Maria Loh, a 17-year old who grew up in Fargo. She said it was an enjoyable experience to share her faith and art with her neighborhood. "Being able to interact with people when they walked by was very moving in a way because a lot of people have never really seen sidewalk art done like that locally. So being able to share in that kind of experience, it was very, very good," she said. The chalk drawing of Our Lady of Lourdes by Hector Garrido is the image that she drew (an image she had seen as a magnet on her grandparents' refrigerator growing up). The picture has always been an inspiration, she said, noting that she decided to replicate it after Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine in France had temporarily closed due to the coronavirus pandemic.



"I heard that the shrine had been temporarily closed off to the public, and I remember ... thinking that's really sad because especially in this time, we're really looking for healing in more ways than one, like physically and mentally and spiritually," she said. "It really felt like people wouldn't be able to go to experience that. So I felt like drawing this image of Our Lady of Lourdes would be a good way to remind people that **Our Lady is still with us even if we can't go to her shrine.**" While she was working on the piece, Loh said, a majority of passersby did not know who the lady in the image was. She expressed hope that the picture would help remind people of Mary and the beauty of the Church, which, she said, is a powerful attraction to the faith. "One thing that I hope this kind of art and image will evoke is a desire to come to know who Mary is and how rich our faith is. ... All the beautiful art that can be seen in Catholic churches, especially like in Rome, there's almost a transcendental beauty to them that draws people into the faith to come to know things that they've never dreamed of before," she said.

**A DIFFERENT KIND OF INSPIRATION –**

Leading by example during the time of the coronavirus pandemic in Portugal....



The man in the blue shorts is the President of Portugal... casually waiting in line to do his grocery shopping during a pandemic just like everyone else. This is why we love Portugal !