

## 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 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: sineadmoynihian7@icloud.com

When sending any donation, please send an email to [penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.rcmassmadeira.org)

## JOYFUL GIFT

Vol. 3, number 216

31<sup>st</sup> of May 2020

**Pentecost, 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:

Today's newsletter is the 7<sup>th</sup> issue of our "digital" format newsletter. We hope that you have been enjoying all of them so far. You can read all issues of the Chapel's newsletter online or download them from the internet on the website/blog: <http://rcmassmadeira.org/> If you'd like to receive them by email every week, just ask to be added to the newsletter mailing list. ☺

### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Brought to you by: Chris Oliver. [www.bible-groups.info](http://www.bible-groups.info)

**Acts 2:1-11**

**Psalm 103 (104)**

**1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13**

**John 20:19-23**



Pentecost was less understood by Christians than the other two Jewish pilgrimage feasts of Passover and Tabernacles. Then the Dead Sea Scrolls showed that Pentecost was associated with God giving the Covenant on Sinai, and enrolling new community members. The coming of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles fits neatly with this Covenant feast. **The Psalm** calls us to praise God's creative wisdom. Filled with wonder at the details of God's glorious works, this psalm is well worth reading in full. **Acts** tells us that they "had all met", including Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. Wind and fire remind us of Sinai. The list of peoples who hear is effectively the programme for the mission now starting. After rebuking the **Corinthians** for their factions and giving us the earliest description of the Eucharist, Paul shows how Christians together make up the one body of Christ on earth. It is the one Spirit who gives the gifts each of us needs for the particular task God has given us. In the first ending of **John's Gospel**, Jesus appears to Mary Magdalen after his resurrection, and then to the disciples together in a closed room "for fear of the Jews". Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on them, sending them on mission with power to forgive sins.

### PSALM RESPONSE: Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of 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](mailto:chris@chris-oliver.net)*

(bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)



This is a letter written by Fr. Bernardino to Manolito, a young boy celebrating his First Communion. It was read out to him during Mass:

**DEAR MANOLITO ON YOUR FIRST COMMUNION**

One day an eight years old boy, called Pepe, was invited by his friends to spend a day playing and having fun in a park. His parents prepared a small bag with two sandwiches, some fruit, some peanuts, some cookies and a bottle of orange juice. They knew that it would be enough for him and share some with a friend, just in case. When Pepe was playing with his friends his attention was drawn to an old lady who was seated by herself, on a bench, under one of the trees of the park. She called his attention and his sight. She was different. Once in a while he would look at her and she would smile at him. At lunch time every child picked up his lunch, got together and enjoyed their meal and the company of one another.

Pepe took his lunch bag and approached the elderly lady, told her good morning and asked her if she was hungry. She smiled and said... -«just a little bit». - «Would you like to have some of my lunch? I have a lot», said Pepe. The elderly lady answered: «If you don't mind». - «Oh... by the way... what's your name»? - «My name is Sara. » Then they started having lunch together. Not too many words but lots of smiles. Pepe could see that Mrs. Sara was not just a «little bit» hungry. Sara was really hungry. It was time to go home. They said good bye to each other and separated into different ways. But when Pepe got home he was feeling so happy and expressed that happiness not just in his face but also in the way he acted with his parents and the kindness he expressed to his brothers and sisters.



Everybody was very happy with the kindness and joy he was treating everyone. That was not his normal way of arriving home. Usually he was very tired and would feel irritated with anything: with his parents, his sisters and even with the cat. His mother asked him: - «Why are you so happy today»? Pepe's answer was: «I had lunch with God in the Park. She had such a beautiful smile». When Sara got home she looked so happy. She was transformed. Love has the power of transforming people. Her family was very surprised. That was not the normal way of Sara arriving home. She was always tired, angry and bitter. But this time she looked so happy. Her son approached her and asked: - «Mom! You look so different. You look so happy. What happened with you? ». Her answer was:

«I had lunch with God in the park. He is younger than I thought».

\*\*\*\*\*

Manolito! The Bible says: «It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me». (Gal. 2:20). Do you want to know a secret? Pepe had a father and a mother like you have. I feel so privileged for having baptized you eight years ago. And giving you today your First Communion. I feel so privileged for having baptized your sister, Natalia, and your brother, Pedro. And I feel so privileged for having your father, Manolo, your mother, Carolina, and your grandmother, Arlinda, playing such an important role in the «People Helping People» Association.

God loves you and so do I.

Fr. Bernardino Andrade  
May 31, 2020, Pentecost Sunday



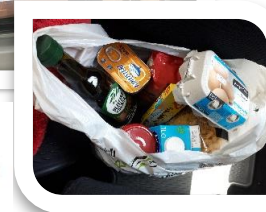
Manolito with his father, his little brother Pedro, his mother, and his sister Natalia



Many thanks to everyone who has been sending in donations to help alleviate the suffering of our local families who are having a hard time right now. Every donation, no matter how small, has been helping in a big way. Thanks to you, People Helping People has been able to help struggling families buy food, medication, pay some of their bills, or even helped them to pay part of their outstanding rent payments.



Due to the coronavirus pandemic, some have seen their salaries cut, or even lost their jobs, and would be going hungry if it was not for the generosity of all of you who have helped them through your donations. A most sincere Thank You, from all the families.



If you would still like to help someone who is struggling right now, please have a look at the last page of this newsletter for the different ways available for you to help. Father Bernardino continues to make a list with all of the names of those who donate, which he puts on the little altar where he says Mass every day at home with his niece.

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

**Donations received this month:**

- 04 May - Ron & Julie G.
- 04 May - Marie & John W.
- 04 May - Manuel Adolfo B.M.
- 04 May - Alan OB
- 04 May - Anthony S.
- 04 May - Jane & Peter C.
- 05 May - Anthony & Jaquine D.
- 05 May - David Arthur V.
- 05 May - Michael Andrew B.
- 06 May - Annemarie M.
- 08 May - Debra & David V.
- 08 May - Denis and Mary D.
- 08 May - Patricia K.



Thank You for your generosity

- 08 May - Maria Arlinda S.
- 11 May - Helmut U. & Sieglinde K.
- 12 May - Robert John M. OBE
- 12 May - Michael Andrew B.
- 13 May - Lurdes S.
- 13 May - Alastair R. & Ann T.
- 15 May - Mike & Veronica B
- 17 May - John & Joan T.
- 20 May - Maria Francisca F.
- 25 May - David Arthur V.
- 26 May - Michael Andrew B.
- 27 May - Jayne Marie H.
- 28 May - Joyce P.

(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).

**CAN YOU HELP US WITH THESE 2<sup>ND</sup>-HAND ITEMS?**

PHP has received 2 requests for help this week. If you can help with the following, please get in contact with us:

- any second-hand clothes for a baby girl (10 months old).
- a second-hand car seat for a baby

If you are able to help, it will be greatly appreciated.



Thank you!