

## PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)



"You should wash each other's feet"  
(John 13:34)

*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: 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

12<sup>th</sup> of July 2020

15<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel)

**Instagram:** [www.instagram.com/capela\\_penha\\_franca/](http://www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/)

[penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com)



### CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH, IN MADEIRA:

**Good morning!** We are back! Today we have resumed the printed edition of the Sunday morning newsletter. As attendance at the Chapel is still very small due to the coronavirus pandemic, we will only have a few copies printed. The digital version will still be available on the Chapel's website/blog for downloading ([www.rcmassmadeira.org](http://www.rcmassmadeira.org)) or sent by email on request. ☺

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

*Is 55:10-11*

*Psalms 64(65)*

*Rom 8:18-23*

*Matthew 13:1-23*



**Second Isaiah**, writing around 550 BC, concludes his "Book of Comfort" to the Jewish exiles in Babylon with an invitation to a joyful banquet. After renewing His covenant of peace, God has reminded Israel that "my thoughts are not your thoughts": God's words come down gently to bring forth divine fruits, like the rain which enables the earth to yield its fruits. **The psalm** give God praise and thanks for his power over all the earth and the rains which produce abundant crops. Paul continues this theme of God's plan slowly moving towards its climax: creation is unable to attain its purpose without help, and it was made this way by God. Paul gives us a brilliantly clear vision of God's plan: with the coming of Christ creation is now groaning in the birth pangs of being set free. It is worth listening carefully to Matthew's explanation of the parable of the sower. And especially to Jesus' very difficult statements that he talks to the crowds in parables because "they listen without hearing or understanding". He says "They have shut their eyes, for fear they should see, ... and be converted". The coming of Jesus brings both judgement and mercy. But some will not receive God's words, unless their minds are open and cease making their own image of God.

### PSALM RESPONSE: Some seed fell into rich soil and produced its crop.

\* *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)*



**A NIGHTMARE AFTER THE ENGLISH MASS**

«Be open to be surprised» is a sentence I heard a few days ago. «I found God by surprise» is the refrain from a touching Thanksgiving hymn that has been sung many times by the Soprano, Cátia Marques, here at the English Mass at the Chapel.

Last Sunday (July 5<sup>th</sup>) after Mass and after the cake, professionally baked by Manny, and coffee generously offered at the Moynihan's Irish Pub, I had an unexpected surprise that has been bothering me ever since.

I don't know how Marta (not her true name) found out about us; how she was informed about the English Mass and about *People Helping People*. What I know is that when I was getting ready to enter my car, this very nervous lady, with an expression of profound pain, approached me, pleading for help. Unfortunately I was not as hospitable as I wanted to be because the first thing I did was to ask her if she had a mask. She said yes, but she kept talking and getting closer to me, expressing her agony. Politely, but with no hesitation, I kept telling her that we could not talk until she put her mask on. She put her mask on. I suspected that she had been carrying the same mask for many weeks. That's when I better understood what I had read in the beginning of this pandemic. What I had read was that this corona virus was going to be a genocide among the poor. They have less access to the information and because they don't feel any pain they don't understand why they have to wear things like masks, that don't even look good, when what they really need is food and medication.



In a few moments she showed me her neck and her shoulders, completely full of scars. Her husband, with the help of his mother, had burned her with hot water, leaving a big part of her body full of scars. Then, in her words, he left her and their six children and chose a young girl.

Marta has six children. The oldest girl is thirteen years old and is mentally challenged. They were very hungry with no food to eat and no place to go. They lived on the other side of the city but they lost the place where they were living and presently are living in a garage on the other side of the city.

The first thing I did was to go to an ATM machine to withdraw some money using Carla's card. But first I checked to see how much money *People Helping People* had available. Four euros was all that was available in the account. Any way I borrowed fifty euros and with that money I was able to help Marta a little bit. But after buying a bottle of gas how much money would be left for her to feed her family?

I asked her if she had a telephone. She said no. I volunteered to give her a lift and she was very happy to accept. After our arrival, she asked me to leave her there, said good bye and I came home.

This has been the nightmare that I have been living with during the last week. How to find her and her six children and offer her some more help? I hope she comes back to Penha de França Chapel to find us again. Maybe God will provide and together we will be able to alleviate her suffering.

Fr. Bernardino Andrade  
July 12, 2020



Once again, "People Helping People" would like to thank everyone who over the last few weeks have been helping those in need (either by sending in a donation, or bringing bags with groceries to the Chapel, or even sending clothing and other items by post). Thank you very much! Every little bit has made a difference!

Father Bernardino has made a list with all of the names of those who have donated, which he puts every day on the little altar where he says Mass and a list is also put on the altar during

the English Mass here at the Chapel on Sunday mornings. However, in spite of the donations received, the need has grown, and it's becoming so difficult to continue helping the poor. If you would like to help PHP, even in a small way, please take a look at the last page of this newsletter. There you will find a few options on how you can help. "Thank You" so much!

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

Donations received in June:

- 01 June – Joyce P.
- 01 June – Anthony S.
- 02 June – Michael Andrew B
- 03 June – Alan OB.
- 03 June – Manuel Adolfo B.M.
- 03 June – Barry J.
- 03 June – John & Marie W.
- 08 June – Ron & Julie G.
- 08 June – fFlow Mr. Michael
- 09 June – Anthony & Jaquine D.
- 10 June – Dr. Ron A.
- 12 June – Michael Andrew B.
- 12 June – Gerard G.
- 15 June – Maria Francisca F.
- 23 June – Jayne Marie H.
- 29 June – Michael Andrew B.
- 30 June – Maria Francisca F.
- 30 June – Helmut U. & Sieglinde K.



Donations received in July:

- 01 July – Lurdes S
- 01 July – Maria Arlinda S
- 03 July – Alan OB
- 03 July – Manuel Adolfo B.M.
- 03 July – Michael Andrew B.
- 03 July – Marie W.



(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).

\*\*\* THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK \*\*\*

