

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 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: sineadmoynihnan7@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

Vol. 3, number 220

26th of July 2020

17th 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/

Email: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com



CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH, IN MADEIRA:

Good morning! We hope you are all well, and keeping safe in these uncertain times. May this coming week be a blessed one!



TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Brought to you by: Chris Oliver. www.bible-groups.info)
(1 Kgs 3:5,7-12; Ps. 118(119); Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52)

After David's death his son, Solomon, became king. Until Solomon built the Temple, sacrificing to God in high places was acceptable. It was during one such sacrifice that God appeared in a dream asking Solomon what he most wanted. In humility Solomon asked for a discerning judgement, rightly earning God's praise. **The Psalm** praises God's law as the supreme rule for life because it is designed to help us become who we are meant to be. Paul continues describing life in the Spirit to the Romans. Christians should try to reproduce in themselves images of Christ by progressively sharing in his risen life. God prepares those called to do his work and cooperates with them. Each individual is called for some task in God's plan for salvation. Those who love him will share in his glory. This includes not only Christians and others of goodwill, but also the Jews, "the ones he chose specially long ago". **Matthew's Gospel** compares the Kingdom of Heaven to the greatest treasure found either accidentally or after a search, and then compares the Kingdom to a dragnet: the good fish will be kept and those of no use will be thrown in the furnace. There is a surprise ending: not all old treasures should be thrown away, some should be kept – like Israel's Scriptures, our Old Testament

PSALM RESPONSE: Lord, how I love your 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

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

Larysa Makarova (from the Ukraine) & Rui Gomes (Madeira)

Entry Hymn: "Give thanks to the risen Lord" - n. 27

Offertory Hymn: "One bread, one body" - n. 449

Communion Hymn: "O living water, refresh my soul" - n. 415

Final Hymn: "Go, the Mass is ended" - n. 175





TAKE MY WATCH AND DO NOT BE AFRAID

Guy is a 17-year-old young man. This covid 19 affected his studies like it did to everybody else. He has been investing the best of his time studying for his tests, which are going to have a decisive impact on his access to university and probably to his career.

Yesterday (July 21, 2020) Guy took his last test. Before leaving for school he was not able to hide his anxiety, his fears, and how nervous he was. Of course mothers are experts in detecting those kinds of feelings especially

when they sense discomfort and pain. Because his mother wanted to support him, she volunteered to give him a lift to school. But Guy preferred to walk. He thought that the physical exercise would function like a therapy in that moment of anxiety. When he said he wanted to walk to school, his mother decided to walk with him. I am not sure if they talked or if the walk was done in silence. What I know was that the presence of his mother filled him with self-confidence. She was not a «normal» lady. She was his mother. The hardest moment was when they had to say good-bye and separate. Cecilia confided to me that she had never heard about the «Sacrament of the Presence». John Paul II created this expression about the need we have of the presence of one another. She had never heard about this expression but she felt the reality of this expression. Being present is being a sacrament to one another.

In that moment, Cecilia created her own Sacrament that became a presence to her son. **She took her watch from her wrist, offered it to her son and said:** «Take it, my son. This is a piece of me. Put it in your pocket. When you feel more anxious or maybe a little lost, just insert your hand in your pocket, touch it and remember that you are touching me and I am touching you. I am there with all my energy and my prayers to help you.»

After Guy had finished his test, he was the one who sent me a text message saying that everything had been all right.

The best things that I have learned about God have been learned through my spiritual journey: the Bible, retreats, prayer, Holy Mass, working with the poor and seeing Jesus in each one of them... but my biggest catechists about God have been mothers. And very often when the Bible wants to emphasize the care and tenderness of God towards us, it compares with the care and tenderness of a mother.

«As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you» (Is. 66:13)

«For it was You who formed my inward parts; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made» (Ps. 139:13-14)



I highly recommend that as Guy carried his mother's watch in his pocket, that we always carry a material symbol in our pockets or around our necks as a symbol, like a cross, a medal, a rosary, which will be a reminder of the presence of God in our lives. But there is no doubt that the best reminder of the presence of God in our lives is to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) and receiving Holy Communion, which will be transformed into service to others.

Very often during the day God tells us: «Take my hand. Do not be afraid. I am walking with you». (Is. 43).

Fr. Bernardino Andrade,

26-07-2020



Thank you once again to everyone who has sent in a donation towards helping the poor who are especially struggling right now during the covid19 pandemic. Father Bernardino has continued to add your names to the list which he has put on the little altar where he says Mass every day at home. The list is also placed on the altar during the English Mass here at the Chapel on Sunday mornings. Below is the updated list with the names of those who donated recently (during the months of June and July). Thank you very 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.
- 13 June – Germaine F.
- 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.
- 06 July – Anthony & Jaquine D.
- 06 July – Anthony S.
- 09 July – Maria Francisca F.
- 09 July – Ann T. & Alastair R.
- 11 July – Germaine F.
- 14 July – Graham & Ann B.
- 15 July – Neil & Dena S.
- 15 July – Michael Andrew B.
- 15 July – John & Anne A.
- 20 July – Helmut U. & Sieglinde K.
- 20 July – Joyce P.
- 20 July – Michael B.
- 20 July – Patricia K.
- 23 July – Chrissie M.
- 23 July – Jane and Peter C.

(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

