

## 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](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 223

16<sup>th</sup> of August 2020

20<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/penhafranchapel](https://www.facebook.com/penhafranchapel)



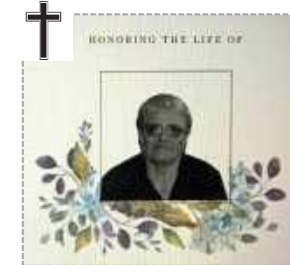
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**E-mail:** [penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com)



### CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH, IN MADEIRA:



Good morning! We are blessed to have **Deacon Craig Aburn (from the UK)** celebrating Mass here at the Chapel with Father Bernardino this morning. Welcome Deacon Craig and family! ☺

The special intention of this morning's mass will be for the soul of Maria Adelaide Ferreira dos Ramos, loving mother of Marcelino dos Ramos, who is a regular visitor to our Chapel, from South Africa. May her soul Rest In Peace.



### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(*Isa* 56:1, 6-7; *Ps*. 66(67); *Rom* 11:13-15; 29-32; *Mt* 15:21-28)

**Third Isaiah** was written after 515 BC, when the Jews had returned from exile in Babylon and had rebuilt the Temple. But there is idolatry and injustice. Isaiah looks forward to a time when all peoples will be able to worship in the Temple, both foreigners and individuals with imperfect bodies. All that matters is justice and keeping the covenant. Paul kept hoping his people would accept Jesus as the Christ. In his letter to the Jewish Christians in **Rome** he insists that God has not rejected his people: the Gentiles are a branch grafted onto the tree of Israel. In today's reading he sees the Gentile mission as trying to make Jews envious and so also come to accept God's mercy, as he has. But the Gentile branch can be broken off if they lose their faith. **In Matthew's Gospel**, Jesus has criticised the Jewish leaders for insisting on external purity while disobeying God's commandments. Nothing entering one's mouth defiles, only what comes out. In Phoenicia, the only scene outside Israel in this gospel, Jesus heals the Canaanite child. But first he utters the memorable insult that "it is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs".

**PSALM RESPONSE:** **Let the Peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.**

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

\* 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)



**THE BRIDGE BUILDER**

**Roger and Tony were two brothers.** They grew up together and since childhood they have always enjoyed a wonderful relationship: played together, shared their toys with one another, and helped one another with the household chores. Their parents were really proud of those two sons. When they finished school they found their jobs and moved to different cities. Finally they got married and built their own families. However, they never lost contact with one another, but they missed the physical presence of one another in their ordinary life.

**One day Roger's neighbour put his house for sale.** He immediately called his brother Tony and gave him what he thought would be good news for their families. Tony consulted with his wife, both analyzed the risk of changing jobs and schools and it didn't take too long before making a decision. Yes! The decision was made. Tony decided to put his house for sale and to be the next door neighbour of his brother. Everything was going very well. Both shared the same front yard and took care of each other's lawn and garden. The two joined front yards became a common field for their children to play together. Things were going very well and both families felt very happy about being next door neighbours.



**But one day something happened. It was something very small.** Situations like this always start with small things. I learned a long time ago that the difference between a good and a bad relationship is the level of communication. These small things happen, are ignored, but the feelings stay there. With this «small thing» their relationship was not the same anymore. They started being cold to one another. Their children were advised not to play with their cousins and to watch more TV instead. This was before cell phones. Finally they stopped talking with each other and as it is obvious it affected the entire family.



**One day, Tony, (the youngest) decided to do something very ugly.** He hired a caterpillar excavator machine and opened a trench between the two houses. What had been a beautiful garden and a playfield for cousins was transformed into an ugly trench. Revenge was growing along with pain for both families. **One day Roger was at home when somebody rang the bell of his house.** When he opened the door a man introduced himself saying: «Sorry for bothering you. I am a carpenter and I do small jobs. I am wandering if you have something I can do for you. People say that I am a good carpenter and I don't charge too much. And this is my way of making a living». Roger thought for a while and then had a devilish smile. «Yes. I have a job for you». And then he told the story of his relationship with his brother and how it ended in a trench. «Come and I will show you something. Do you see that wood? I would like you to come tomorrow morning and build a fence high enough. I don't want to see that man anymore and I don't want him and his family to see me and my family anymore».

**The following morning, Roger went to work and left everything ready for the carpenter to build the fence. Roger spent the day «enjoying» the feeling of revenge.** But when he got home he was shocked by a stunning surprise. Instead of a fence he found a beautiful and artistic bridge uniting the two sides of the trench. The children were already playing and crossing the bridge. Tony was already on his side waiting for him and ran to him with a big hug, apologizing for what he had done. «I am sorry Roger. After opening that stupid trench, you have built a bridge». The two families reunited again, ordered pizza, beer and Coca-Cola for dinner, and Roger, after talking with his wife, approached the carpenter and invited him to stay overnight. But the carpenter answered: «Unfortunately I have to leave because I still have many bridges to build».



**As you can imagine,** the needs and the suffering of the poor have increased, and especially during this “virus” time our English Mass has had no tourists, who in the past have always been wonderful supporters of our poor families. **But thanks to the generosity of many of you** who have received the newsletter by email, and read Fr. Bernardino's dramatic appeal for help and donated (and continue to donate), it has been possible for People Helping People to keep on helping the needy families with food, medication, gas, and helping them to pay electricity and water bills. Food hampers, and clothing have also been brought to the Chapel, or sent by post, which has been greatly appreciated.

**Sometimes PHP will receive a specific request, like one recently from a man** who is living in a friend's small garage as he has nowhere else to go. He has no fridge to keep his milk, butter, or food fresh, and as space is limited, is asking if anyone has a small 2<sup>nd</sup>-hand **bar fridge** that they no longer use and would be willing to donate to him. If you can help, please let us know.



The List of names of all the donors ... placed on Father Bernardino's small altar at home

**Donations received during the month of August:**

- 03 August – David & Joanna B.
- 03 August – Ron & Julie G.
- 03 August – Manuel Adolfo B.M
- 03 August – Alan O'B..
- 03 August – Lurdes S.
- 03 August – John & Marie W.
- 04 August – Anthony John D.



- 04 August – Barbara & Mike M
- 04 August – Jayne Marie H.
- 05 August – Sharon B.
- 07 August – Anthony S.
- 10 August – Maria Arlinda S.
- 13 August – Ron & Julie G.
- 14 August – Anne & Graham B.

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 listed, please let us know by sending an email so that we can check what has happened to:

penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com

**THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK:**

