

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: 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

Vol. 3, number 225

30th of August 2020

22nd 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/

E-mail: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com



CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH, IN MADEIRA:

One of the unique things about this Chapel is the fact that we have people from many different countries visiting here while on holiday in Madeira, and also others who eventually make Madeira their home. This morning we are blessed to have 3 people all born in different countries leading our hymns! You'll see their photo down below. Even our priest, Father Bernardino, has lived and preached in 3 different countries during his ministry: Mozambique, USA & Madeira!

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(*Jer* 20:7-9; *Ps.* 62(63); *Rom* 12:1-2; *Mt* 16:21-27)

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



Jeremiah, probably before 600 BC, and so before the exile, criticised Israel for worshipping other gods. So Pashtur, the chief priest, beat Jeremiah and put him in the stocks. Next day, when he was released, Jeremiah told Pashtur that he would go to Babylon, where he and all his friends would die. Jeremiah then

continued with this lament that God had misled him, because he had to suffer so much on the Lord's behalf, and had begun to wonder – or doubt – whether his call from God was real. Homesick for the sanctuary, the **Psalms** holds fast to the Lord in spirit, confident the Lord will defeat our enemies. After marvelling last week at the impossibility of understanding God's plans, Paul goes on to encourage the **Romans** to "let your behaviour change". Like Jeremiah, they must "not be conformed to this world", but be "transformed by the renewal of your mind", discovering and doing the will of God. In **Matthew's gospel**, Jesus starts to instruct the disciples how he is to suffer, in accordance with God's will. Peter objects, but Jesus turns on Peter with similar words he used to Satan after his Baptism. Poor Peter, given the power to bind and loose, but now told he is not on God's side, but is thinking like the world!

PSALM RESPONSE: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

* 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

Keyboard: Larysa Makarova (The Ukraine)

Accordion: Rui Gomes (Madeira)

Voice: Margarita Pestana (Venezuela)

Entry Hymn: "This is the day" - n. 574

Offertory Hymn: "Take our bread, we ask you" - n. 528

Communion Hymn: "This is my body, broken for you" - n. 572

Thanksgiving: "Vá, pensiero"

Final Hymn: "Lord, the light of your love is shining" - n. 344



Margarita

Larysa

Rui



THE GOOD SHEPHERD IN «BICA DA CANA» - One Story In Five Pieces

1. «Bica da Cana» is a place located in the largest plateau of Madeira Island called *Paul da Serra*. During my childhood, *Paul da Serra* was always associated with hard work and suffering and sometimes even with tragic deaths. It had almost all the characteristics of a desert even if part of the year it was green with a special kind



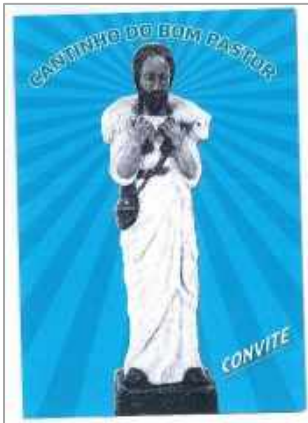
of fern called «*feiteira*». Especially during the month of August, the farmers used to spend days, nights and weeks in Paul da Serra, cutting «*feiteira*», letting it dry and, carrying it home pulled by cows. Usually these small farmers ate very frugally and the access to the water was very limited. It happened to me, to my father, my brothers and my neighbours. This was the farmer's kind of life during Summer time.



2. Some people used to cross *Paul da Serra* by foot to go to the northern part of the island (*Porto Moniz*) to buy potatoes, carrying them on their backs. Sometimes it was foggy and they would get lost and some tragic deaths happened in *Paul da Serra*.

3. Around 1955, when I was still a seminarian, I decided to add some fun to that wonderful part of the island that had been a symbol of suffering and work only. I invited a group of five people (including me) and we made our first trip to *Bica da Cana*. Since then, once a year, the «Trip to *Bica da Cana*» became more and more popular and «mandatory». When I used to come for my Summer holidays, the way many people greeted me was with this question: «When is our trip to *Bica da Cana*?». Each year the crowds kept growing. After my Priestly Ordination in Africa I came to Madeira to say my first Mass. One of them was in *Bica da Cana*. Attending that Mass there were lots of people seated and standing on the hills. Besides these popular trips, when I was a student, together with other students we used to walk through *Paul da Serra* carrying our tents and camping for days and weeks.

4. Many years passed. When I celebrated the 50th anniversary of my ordination, the Most Reverend Bishop of Funchal, António Carrilho, offered me and other priests who were celebrating their jubilees, the statue of the Good shepherd. I kept that statue in my living room for some time. But I realized that the statue of the Good Shepherd is too symbolic to be confined to a private house. It is hard to believe that in Madeira there are thousands of statues of Saints, of Mary, and saints in churches and in private homes and I have never seen a statue of the Good Shepherd. I



consider the story of the Good Shepherd narrated by Luke, chapter 15, the heart of the message of Jesus. It is a story of a Shepherd who had 100 sheep. When night was falling he counted all of them and one was missing. He was very sad with the absence of that one. This shepherd left ninety-nine sheep in the sheepfold and went looking for the lost one. When he found it, I am sure it was bleeding and trembling with cold and smelling like feces and urine. But he was so happy that he found it. He put it on His shoulders and came home.

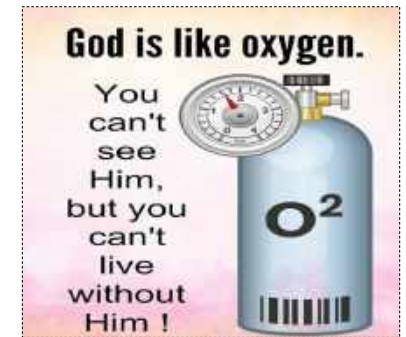
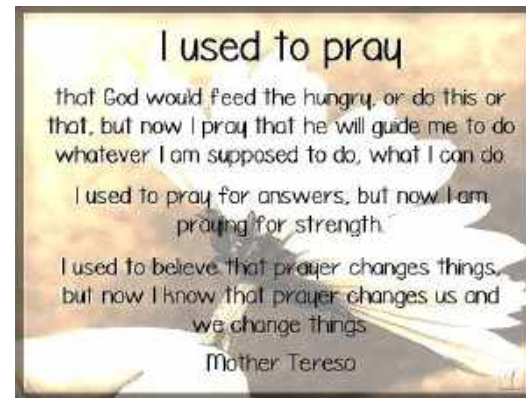
5. BLESSING AND INAUGURATION:

On Saturday, September 12, at 11:00 AM.

The Bishop of Funchal, D. Nuno Brás, will go to *Bica da Cana*, along with the civil authorities to bless and inaugurate the «CANTINHO DO BOM PASTOR». ALL ARE INVITED.

Fr. Bernardino Andrade.

August 30th, 2020



FRIENDS AND FEET WASHERS – People Helping People - Update

Our English Mass has restarted and tourists are slowly returning to the island. However, especially during the last few weeks, local families have been struggling even more, and *People Helping People* has been taking some strain in trying to help them. Many more people are desperately turning to *People Helping People* requesting help for basic things like food, gas, and medication.

Two or three weeks ago, Fr. Bernardino was in a Pharmacy talking with the pharmacist and he mentioned the poor who go to the pharmacy to buy medication, but when they show the prescription and they are told the price they go home without any medication because they cannot afford to pay for it. When Fr. Bernardino said this, the pharmacist told him: “Now they don't even dare to come”.

Every day, there is an increase of pleas for help being sent to *People Helping People*.

One single mum with 2 children (14, and 21 years old) is desperate as she doesn't have the 330 euros she needs to pay her landlord this month; her gas has almost finished (which they need for hot water in order to bath, and also to cook food), and she can't afford to buy the medication her son needs (he has recently been diagnosed with a heart condition).

Unfortunately “*People Helping People*” doesn't have the funds to be able to help her right now. It is a sad and desperate situation.

Thank you to everyone who has donated towards *People Helping People* this month. Father Bernardino continues to place your names on the altar every Sunday morning at Mass.

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 P.
- 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.
- 19 August – Michael Andrew B.
- 24 August – Chrissie M.
- 25 August – Jim & Morag M.
- 27 August – Michael Andrew 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