

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 Gente 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

6th of September 2020

23rd 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:

Good morning! We are blessed to have Fr. Bernardino Andrade celebrating mass for us here today at the Chapel. And we are happy that we are starting to see familiar faces at Mass on Sundays again! Tourists are slowly beginning to return to the island, and it's lovely that we are able to welcome back some of our regular "visitors" to the Chapel again. ☺

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(*Ezek 33:7-9; Ps. 94(95):1-2. 6-9 r.7-8; Rom 13:8-10; Matt 18:15-20*)

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



Ezekiel says religious leaders have authority, but also daunting responsibility. Failing to instruct the people correctly will lead to the same fate as the sinners they have failed to guide wisely. After the fall of Jerusalem in 587 BC, Ezekiel promises hope for a future return to Jerusalem – but only if the people accept individual responsibility for sins and purify themselves of false gods. **The Psalm** invites us to praise and worship the Lord daily, for he is our king and shepherd. We must not lose faith in God, as did the Israelites in their desert journey. Paul's advice to the **Romans** on Christian living continues: obey secular authorities, whose authority comes from God, and pay the taxes and respect that is their due. Above all "love your neighbour as yourself". The first reading, with the last verse of the Gospel reading, help us to understand the Gospel. "Where two or three meet in Jesus' name", Jesus will be in their midst – and by implication he will be guiding their decision-making, so their decisions will be in tune with God's will. The Church's awesome authority to include or exclude individuals on God's behalf is not to be exercised carelessly, but only after due deliberation by the whole Christian community.

PSALM RESPONSE: O that today you would listen to his voice! "Harden not your hearts".

* 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 / Violin: Larysa Makarova (from The Ukraine)

Entry Hymn: "O Lord, my God! When I in awesome wonder" - n. 419

Offertory Hymn: "In bread we bring you, Lord." - n. 258

Communion Hymn: "Amazing Grace! How sweet the sound" - n. 32

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





FROM A MELTING POT TO A MOSAIC

When in 1974 I arrived in the USA it was very popular the concept that «America is a melting pot». I used to hear that in songs, in churches, in schools, in restaurants, in the streets and so on. «You come to America you are supposed to talk, to live, to sing, and even to pray like Americans». Many immigrants changed their names in order to be, and to look more like Americans. It was like making a fruit juice. I put in the same juice-maker strawberries together with mangos, plums and whatever kind of fruit I want and I get just one kind of juice. I admit that it is good but I don't even care to know what it is as long as it is for my benefit. This is the «melting pot» mentality. I still remember the joy I felt in 1976 when America celebrated 200 years of independence. To celebrate that event the Bishops of the USA wrote a very welcoming letter. And in that letter they tried to change the mentality of a «melting pot» to a «mosaic». America is a «mosaic». It is a mosaic with different colors, different kinds of food, different ways of praying and dancing, different languages and different cultures. **We started realizing that differences are not a problem but a blessing.** Before leaving my Parish I was saying seven Masses every weekend. It was three in English, three in Spanish and one in Portuguese. My former Diocese of Oakland designed its new logos: «DIOCESE OF OAKLAND: ONE TREE WITH MANY BRANCHES». This has been always my vision: to build unity in diversity.

ONE OF MY PLANS

One of my plans is to contact the office of Tourism and Immigration in Funchal and try to find out how many cultures, languages, races, religions and countries are represented in this considered small Island of Madeira. **Just a few days ago I had the privilege of having a «cup of coffee»** with a member of the Muslim Community and two days later another privilege of having a «cup of coffee» with a member of the Gypsy Community. And we are planning more «cups of coffee». **How many things we have in common, however how distant we are from one another.** When I shared the experience with a friend of mine he said: «I have never seen a Muslim in my entire life».

THE GOOD SHEPHERD IN BICA DA CANA

This coming Saturday, September 12, our Bishop of Funchal is going to the hills of Madeira, to a place called «Bica da Cana» (Paul da Serra) to bless and inaugurate the statue of the Good Shepherd. To all priests who celebrated their 25th or 50th anniversaries of ordination our Bishop used to offer the statue of the Good Shepherd. It was my privilege to offer this same statue to a public place where people could be inspired by one of the most moving stories of the Gospel, usually known by the name of the «Lost Sheep» (Luke 15). The civil authorities will be present. We decided to give to this humble and simple construction the name of «Cantinho do Bom Pastor» that means the «Corner of the Good Shepherd».

In this simple celebration of Mass and Blessing I am trying to involve Protestants, Muslims, Gypsies and Catholics of course. I wish we could get more. ALL ARE INVITED. Precautions to avoid corona virus contamination are going to be taken.

Fr. Bernardino Andrade
September 6th, 2020

My homeless brother, holding the statue of the Good Shepherd →



My Muslim brother, Oshan



My Gypsy brother, Fernando



2015

“CANTINHO DO BOM PASTOR” – Inauguration on September 12th

In last week's newsletter, Fr. Bernardino wrote about the statue of the Good Shepherd which he received as a gift from the Bishop of Funchal when he celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination. Father Bernardino kept that statue in his living room for some time, but then he realized that the statue of the Good Shepherd is too symbolic to be confined to a private house. So he decided to offer his statue to be placed in a public place in the countryside where people could see and be inspired by Jesus, the Good Shepherd. The inauguration will take place this coming Saturday, and anyone is welcome to attend the Mass, and blessing by the Bishop.

Place: Bica da Cana (Paul da Serra)
Date: Saturday, September 12th, 2020
Time: 11h00



THANK YOU – People Helping People – Friends & Feet Washers Update

Last week Sunday during Mass, Fr. Bernardino spoke about some of the difficult situations that many of the poor are facing these days. Many are unable to buy medication that they desperately need as it can be expensive, and they don't even have enough money to buy food. Thanks to the generosity of a lady attending Mass who heard Father Bernardino's appeal, and donated 100 euros, *People Helping People* was able to help a lady get the medication she desperately needed for her daughter. A special thanks also to those of you who have donated by bank transfer, or brought food hampers to the Chapel, and also clothing, which is always gratefully received. Thank you for helping "*People Helping People*" make a difference! Below is the updated list of donations received since last month. Thank you to every one of you who has donated... 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 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.
- 19 August – Michael Andrew B.
- 24 August – Chrissie M.
- 25 August – Jim & Morag M.
- 27 August – Michael Andrew B.
- 30 August – Mike & Veronica B.

Donations received during the month of September:

- 02 September – Denis & Mary D.
- 02 September – Francis C.
- 02 September – Anthony S.
- 03 September – Manuel Adolfo B.M.

- 03 September – John & Marie W.
- 03 September – Sheila C.
- 03 September – Alan O'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