

## 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 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: sineadmoynihn7@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

27<sup>th</sup> of September 2020

26<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/)

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



### CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH, IN MADEIRA:

**Good morning!** Today we are blessed to have Fr. Bernardino Andrade celebrating mass. The special intention of this morning's Holy Mass will be for the soul of **Maria Alzira Dias Sebastião** who passed away one year ago, on September 26<sup>th</sup>.



### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

*Ezek 18:25-28; Ps. 24(25); Phil 2:1-11; Matt 21:28-32*

(Brought to you by: Chris Oliver.)

[www.bible-groups.info](http://www.bible-groups.info)



The priest **Ezekiel** appears to have been among the first Israelites taken to Babylon in captivity in 598 BC. He had strongly urged Israel's leaders to be faithful to God and his covenant, instead of resisting their enemies. But in vain: Israel's further rebellion led to the final destruction of Jerusalem in 586. Ezekiel insists that children are not punished for the sins of their fathers. Each generation and each person must accept responsibility for their own behaviour. Why choose sin and death: "I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God, so turn, and live". The **psalm** is a personal prayer for guidance and pardon, while meditating on God's goodness to the just. Paul urges the Gentile Christians in Philippi to strive for unity, putting their own interests behind those of the Christian community. The hymn glorifies the way the already existing Christ obediently humbled himself to become man so that "every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord" – the basic definition of a Christian. In **Matthew's gospel** Jesus has entered Jerusalem and cleansed the Temple. Now, challenged by the Jewish leaders, Jesus asks which is better – to refuse a command and then do it, or to say 'yes' but disobey? Israel frequently broke their Covenant with God, so sinners will enter God's kingdom before the Jews.

### PSALM RESPONSE: Remember your mercy, Lord.

*\* 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)*

### TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

**Keyboard:** Larysa Makarova (The Ukraine)

**Accordion:** Rui Gomes (Madeira)

n. 93 - "Colours of day dawn into the mind..."

n. 235 - "Our God reigns"

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

n. 508 - "Sing to the mountains, sing to the sea..."

n. 561 - "Walk in the Light"



(bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)



«Fr. Tony Kadavil, from the USA has a special ministry. He prepares the best material to help priests all over the world to prepare their Sunday and weekday's homilies. Here is a story sent by him last week».

**TWO BROTHERS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT**

**There is an old rabbinic parable about a farmer that had two sons.** As soon as they were old enough to walk he took them to the fields, and taught them everything he knew about growing crops and raising animals.

When he got too old to work, the two boys took over the chores of the farm and when the father died, they had found their working together so meaningful that they decided to keep their partnership. So each brother contributed what he could and during every harvest season, they would divide equally what they had corporately produced.

Across the years the elder brother never married, he stayed an old bachelor. The younger brother did marry and had eight wonderful children. Some years later when they were having a wonderful harvest, the old bachelor brother thought to himself one night, «My brother has ten mouths to feed, I only have one. He really needs more of his harvest than I do, but I know he is much too fair to renegotiate. I know what I will do. In the dead of the night when he is already asleep, I will take some of what I have put in my barn and I will slip it over into his barn to help him feed his children.» At the very time he was thinking down that line, the younger brother was thinking to himself, «God has given me these wonderful children. My brother has not been so fortunate. He really needs more of this harvest for his old age than I do, but I know him. He's much too fair. He'll never renegotiate. I know what I will do. In the dead of the night when he's asleep, I will take some of what I have put in my barn and slip it over into his barn.»

And so, one night when the moon was full, those two brothers came face to face, each in a mission of generosity.

The old Rabi said that there wasn't a cloud in the sky, yet a gentle rain began to fall. You know what it was? God weeping for joy because two of his children had gotten the point.

Two of his children had come to realize that generosity is the deepest characteristic of the holy and, because we are made in God's image, our being generous is the secret to our joy as well. Life is not fair, thank God! It's not fair because is rooted in grace. (John Claypool, Life isn't fair, Thank God)

Fr. Bernardino Andrade  
2020-09-27

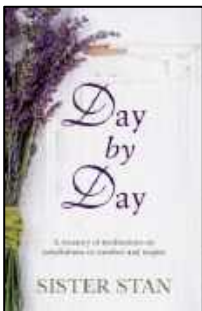


**From the Book "DAY BY DAY" – by Sister Stan.**

Reflection nr. 286

The cycle of life that gives way to newness does not happen without struggle. You are not usually asked *Are you ready to change?* Change just happens. Sometimes the process evolves so slowly that you hardly notice any movement: you simply wake up and find that you have come to another place. At other times, change happens in an instant, when you encounter the death of a loved one, the offer of a job, some pleasant surprise or perhaps a disappointment that you hadn't expected. The rhythm of the seasons teaches you that continuity lies within the process of change and in the uprooting and replanting of your life. Hope not so much that things will turn out as you predict, as that you will be well amidst the changes you cannot predict.

-With thanks to Anne O'Brien for sharing this with us.



Thank you to every one of you who have been helping by sending in donations after reading Father Bernardino's appeals. **People Helping People** was started 10 years ago, trying to make a difference in the lives of the less fortunate, and the needs continue to grow, even after all these years. There are sick people who do not heal because they cannot buy their medication. Hungry people who have nothing to eat or to give to their children. Other people who are in arrears that they cannot get out of...

Every donation received, no matter how small, has been a blessing, and is helping to make a difference. **Thank you!** Father Bernardino continues to place your names on the altar every Sunday morning during Mass at the Chapel.

**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.
- 08 September – Alastair R. & Ann T.
- 14 September – Maria de Fatima G. C.
- 14 September – Ann & Graham B.
- 17 September – Germaine F.
- 20 September – Sriya S.
- 21 September – Chrissie Ann M.
- 21 September – Gerard G.
- 21 September – Maria Lurdes S.



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's happened, to: [penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com)

**GOOD NEWS – And Special Request**

**Every now and again a ray of hope and sunshine appears in the lives of the families being helped by People Helping People.** This week, one of our struggling families (a mum with 2 children) received some wonderful news. She has been living in a small 1 bedroom apartment, and desperately struggling to put food on the table, pay her rent, and expenses. She was told that her request for social housing was granted.... and that she is receiving a new 2 bedroom apartment! For this mum, it is as if a miracle has happened in her life. She is so excited and is so grateful... but she will be needing a little bit of our help. The new apartment is unfurnished, and has no stove/oven, no fridge, washing machine, etc. **If you, or anyone you know, would like to help with any second-hand home appliances, or furniture, which are still in good condition, and that you would be willing to donate, please let us know.** Thank you.



**THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD**



# THE CHAPEL OF PENHA DE FRANÇA – Moved to an Indian Restaurant?

by Fr. Bernardino Andrade



I knew that Zac, Justyna and Lourdes were organizing a fund raiser dinner to raise funds for the poor. I planned to be there to support *People Helping People* in this critical time. When this pandemic started, I read in a magazine that the Corona virus-19 was going to be a genocide among the poor. Nobody died yet in Madeira Island but the consequences of this virus has been tragically felt among the poorest of the poor and we feel more helpless than they do.

- Thursday was the day! Three friends and I decided to join the group, have a nice meal and contribute to the cause. I confess that I was a little concerned because all our previous fund raiser dinners have taken place at the Moynihan's Restaurant. Sinead and her husband Tadhg have always been the heart and the soul of all our fund raisers. All of a sudden I saw the event being advertised for this Indian Restaurant. I was wondering why and also concerned about any misunderstanding that there might have been among them. I decided to send an email to Sinead wondering about this situation. Her answer was so positive, and that the next dinner was going to be at Moynihan's. She complimented the Indian restaurant and she added something else... Because she had a previous commitment she was upset she could not be there with us! What a relief for me! This is Sinead and Tadhg.

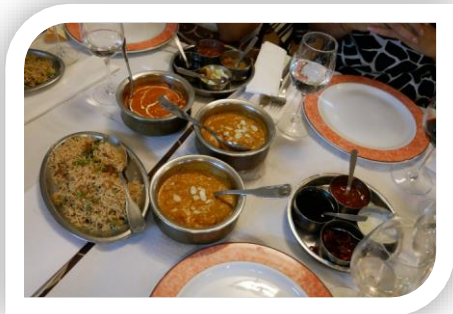
When I arrived at the Indian Restaurant... Oops... Instead of entering the Restaurant I thought for a few seconds that I was entering the Chapel Penha de França. All those faces were from the Penha de França Community. What a good time! Thank you for being there and **thank you** especially to the organizing team Lourdes Paiva, Justyna Baran & Zac Sousa.



Love & Peace,  
Fr. Bernardino Andrade

## THURSDAY'S FUNDRAISING DINNER

Sabores Da India Restaurant



24/09/2020  
19h00



PHP Fundraiser Dinner  
Many thanks to Justyna Baran  
for taking these lovely photos!

