

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)



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).

"You should wash each other's feet"
(John 13:14).

>> 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: 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

18th of October 2020

29th 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 celebrate mass in English every Sunday here at the Chapel. Mass in Portuguese is also celebrated (Saturdays at 18h30 and Sundays at 11h00).



TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isa 45:1, 4-6; Ps. 95:1. 3-5. 7-10 r.7; 1 Thess. 1:1-5; Matt 22:15-21

(Brought to you by: Chris Oliver.)

www.bible-groups.info



Isaiah insists that every event, good or bad, is part of God's plan, including the conquest and exile of Israel by Babylon. And so does the freedom given them about 530 BC by Cyrus, King of Persia, whom God calls his 'anointed' or 'messiah', because he did God's work. Thus all men, including Gentiles, though they do not know him, will know that there is only one God, the Lord. **The Psalm** therefore calls on all men – and all creation – to worship and praise the one and just God. For the last Sundays of Ordinary Time we read from **Paul's first letter to the church in Thessalonika**, which he founded about AD 50. Paul later sent Silvanus and Timothy back to support the new community. Written from Corinth, this letter is the earliest Christian writing we have. Centuries before the idea of the Trinity was formally defined, Paul distinguishes clearly between "God our Father", "our Lord Jesus Christ", and "the Holy Spirit". Over the next three weeks we hear the final three discussions in **Matthew's Gospel** between Jesus and the Jewish leaders. They ironically address Jesus as "Teacher", but he silences them: he does have full authority to interpret the Jewish Scriptures.

PSALM RESPONSE: Give the Lord glory and power.

* 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

Voice: Josefina Farinha (Madeira),
Sharon Brearley (UK)

Keyboard: Larysa Makarova (The Ukraine)

Entry - "Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? ..." - n. 247

Penitential - "Lord, have mercy" - n. 663

Offertory - "Holy, holy, holy, holy." - n. 224

Sanctus - "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord..." - n. 704

Agnus Dei - "Lamb of God" - n. 737

Communion - "Christ be beside me..." - n. 82

Final - "Ave, ave, ave Maria!" - n. 256





A TAXI DRIVER AT 2:30 AM

In his book, *Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace*, Kent Nerburn writes about his experience driving a cab for living. He remembers one night in particular when he received a call at 2:30 AM to go to a small brick fourplex. Thinking he was going to pick up some late-night partiers or someone who had just had a fight with his or her spouse, he was surprised when a small woman in her eighties answered the door.

She wore a print dress and an old-fashioned pillbox hat. By her side was a small nylon suitcase. The apartment was empty, except for a few pieces of furniture covered with sheets and a cardboard box filled with photos and glassware. The driver picked up her bag and helped her to the cab. She gave him the address and then asked, "Could you drive through downtown?". "It's not the shortest way", he answered. "Oh, I don't mind", she said. "I'm in no hurry. I'm on my way to a hospice. I don't have any family left. The doctor says I don't have very long."

The driver reached over and shut off the meter. "What route would you like me to go to?"

For the next two hours, they drove through the city. She pointed out the building where she worked as an elevator operator, the house where she and her late husband lived as newlyweds, the furniture store that was once a ball room where she had gone dancing as a girl. Sometimes she'd ask to slow down in front of a particular building or corner; there she just sat staring into the darkness, saying nothing. As the dawn broke over the horizon, she said, "I'm tired. Let's go now." They drove to the small house that served as the hospice. Two attendants came and helped her out of the cab and took her bag. She asked the driver how much she owed for the fare. "Nothing", he said. "But you have to make a living," she insisted. "There are more passengers," he replied.



Almost without thinking, he bent over and gave her a hug. She held him tightly. "You gave an old woman a little moment of joy," she said. "Thank you". Then, in the dim morning light, he watched as she walked into the hospice.

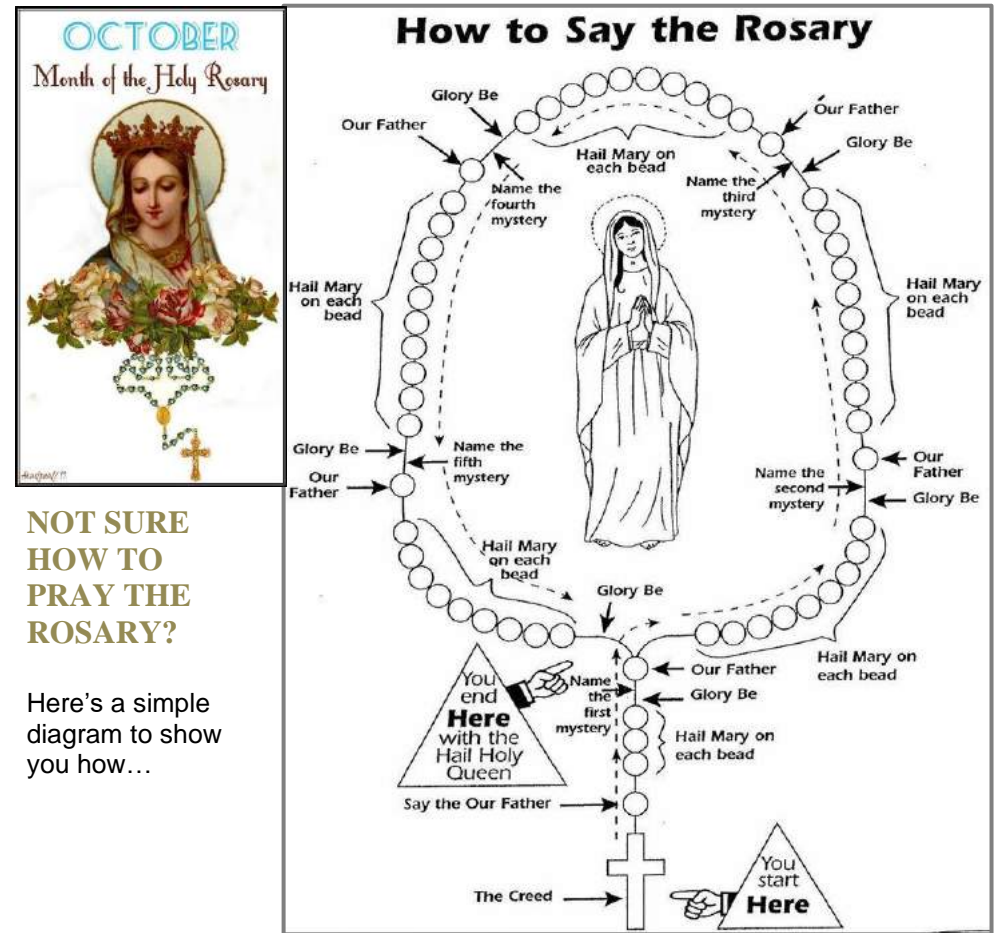
Kent Nerburn remembers: "We are so conditioned to think that our lives revolve around great moments. But great moments often catch us unaware. When that woman hugged me and said that I brought her a moment of joy, it was possible to believe that I had been placed on earth for the sole purpose of providing her with that last ride. I do not think that I have done anything in my life more important".

When asked whose "sin" is responsible for the young man's blindness, Jesus replies that the man's blindness might become a manifestation of "the works of God". The most ordinary and mundane aspects of our lives – our day to day struggles - can become moments when the "works of God" are made visible through us.

(From "Connections", March 6, 2005)

Love and Peace
Fr. Bernardino Andrade

2020-10-18



CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRIVE – October to December at the Chapel

Every Christmas, we are reminded in the midst of plenty that for many families in Madeira Christmas is a continuing time of scarcity and struggling to survive. By planning early this year, we are hoping to present each family under the care of the *People Helping People* charity, with a surprise hamper. To do this, each month we are asking people to contribute specific items.

In October we are asking people to bring along toiletry items such as soaps, lotions, body wash, shampoo, toothpaste, etc. which may be placed in the basket at the entrance of the chapel. Supermarkets often have specials where these items can be bought at a discount. By starting early, we hope that we will be able to provide each family with a hamper at Christmas especially suited to their needs.

