

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 23:23)

>> 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.



>> 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: sineadmoynihant7@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

1st of November 2020

All Saints, 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! Today is All Saints Day! We are blessed every week to have Fr. Bernardino celebrating mass (in English) every Sunday at 10h00. It's the only Catholic mass entirely in English on the whole island. Mass is also celebrated here at the Chapel in Portuguese... on Saturdays at 18h30 and Sundays at 11h30.



TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

www.bible-groups.info

Rev. 7:2-4, 9-14; Ps. 23(24):1-6; 1 John. 3:1-3; Matt 5:1-12
(Brought to you by: Chris Oliver.)

Films about "apocalypses" can lead us to misunderstand the book of Revelation. "Apocalypse" really means "revealing". Cosmic battles are raging all about us: evil seems to triumph in our world, yet this revelation of Christ gives us confidence (hope) that He will save us. The previous chapter ended by describing the coming terrible day of judgement (Dies irae). But in this chapter, there is a pause while the elect – the chosen ones – are sealed with God's mark to show they will be protected. Not only many from Israel but numberless people from all nations. Our liturgies on earth have an effect in heaven. The chapter ends with the hope faith gives those who repent: "The Lamb ... will lead them to springs of life-giving water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes". This liturgical Psalm gives the moral requirements for assisting at divine worship, while confirming the hope the just may have in God. The reading from **John's first letter** emphasises that we are already God's children, but we must try to prepare for the greater joy still to come. In **Matthew's Gospel** the beatitudes bring the Commandments up to date: positive actions, not just avoiding doing wrong, are necessary for us to be counted among the elect.

PSALM RESPONSE: Such are the men who seek your face, O 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

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

Keyboard: Larysa Makarova. **Voice:** Margarita Pestana, Josefina Farinha

Entry - "O Lord, all the world belongs to you..." - n.416

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

Offertory - "Come on and celebrate" - n. 108

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

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

Communion - "And he will raise you up..." - n. 647

Thanksgiving - "Encontrei Deus" (I found God)

Final - "Follow me, follow me..." - n. 144





AN OLD TYPEWRITER, A GARAGE AND UNCLE ABRAHAM

Abraham was a child when he emigrated, with his parents, from Mexico to America. It was very common to see babies coming illegally, crossing the frontiers, taking all the risks of their parents until they arrived to the «promised land».

At that time there was a big movement led by Cesar Chavez to defend the rights of the Farmworkers. I participated in many of their demonstrations

following the philosophy of «Active Nonviolence». People could be hurt but they could not hurt anybody. «Active Nonviolence» was the philosophy of Martin Luther King, Mahatma Gandhi, Bishop Helder Camera and so many activists in Latin America.

Mr. Abraham was very involved with the poor and the oppressed. I visited his «office» many times. His office was a garage, a table and an old typewriter.

One of his greatest accomplishments was to promote complexes of houses for the low income families. He also had a state license to perform civil weddings in his garage.

One of his most faithful helpers was a good Indian friend from the Mountains of Mexico. Abraham and Joel made an excellent team.

One day I got a telephone call from the Hospital. When I arrived, his family was in the waiting room. I anointed Uncle Abraham, prayed for a few moments and returned to the waiting room to be with his family. A few moments later a Doctor entered to the waiting room and gave the news nobody wanted to hear. Mr. Abraham had just died.

The Funeral was the biggest Funeral I have ever conducted in my entire life. All the city was there to pray and to say good bye to Uncle Abraham.

After his burial, I was still in the cemetery, when this man came to me with a piece of paper where a plan was already designed to build a statue to honor Uncle Abraham.

I confess that I was happy to see that plan. When I met Joel I was very excited to tell him: «Joel! Do you want to know something very special? There is a group that already has a plan to build a statue in the middle of the city dedicated to Uncle Abraham.» Well! I thought that he was going to feel excited and even maybe jump with joy in support of that project. But it didn't happen the way I expected. He became a little somber and a little sad. That's when I asked. «What's wrong Joel?» That's when he confided to me:

«Well! What Uncle Abraham most needed and desired in this moment was not a statue. What he most needed and most desired in this moment was somebody to continue his work».

Today, the 1st of November, the Church celebrates All Saints Day. In Portugal, especially in Madeira people are good in celebrating the feast of the Saints. The month of June is even known in Portugal as «Month of the popular Saints» (they are St. Anthony, St. John and St. Peter). There are lots of festivities around these three Saints. But in my heart I always think about Uncle Abraham and Joel. I feel like telling the world: What these Saints most need is not fireworks, popular dances and parades, beautiful and monumental decorations. What the Saints most need and want is somebody to continue their work.

Love and Peace,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade

01/11/2020



Last Sunday, the **People Helping People** charity received a wonderful donation from Sinead and Tadhg Moynihan. They held the Moynihan's Open Golf day, and were able to generously donate €365,00 towards helping needy families in the community.

Thank you so much!

Thanks to their ongoing support and generosity, as well as many of you who read the newsletter and have been contributing towards "**People Helping People**", it's been possible to make a difference in the lives of many families.

Donations received during the month of October:

02/10 – Bruno H.
02/10 – Antonieta R.S.S.
05/10 – Anonymous (via paypal)
06/10 – Pat & Barry J.
06/10 – Conceicao R.F.
06/10 – Alan O'B.
06/10 – Manuel Adolfo B.M.
06/10 – Carlos M.
06/10 – Michael Andrew B.
06/10 – Ron & Julie G
06/10 – Sheila C.
06/10 – Dena & Christine S.

06/10 – John & Marie W.
06/10 – Teresa Delta P.S.A.
07/10 – Rita B.C.
08/10 – Cecilia C.
08/10 – Luis N. R.
13/10 – Falcao P.
20/10 – Chrissie and Tom M.
20/10 – Sharon B.
26/10 – Ann & Graham B.
27/10 – José Henrique A.
30/10 – Ivo Sergio P.



This week was especially hard for one of the mothers being helped by PHP. She is a housekeeper, and this week she was devastated to learn that she is now "unemployed". The owner of the home where she worked has had to let her go as he lost his job due to coronavirus, and his wife is on lay-off. They can't afford to pay her anymore. To make matters worse, her son has been admitted to hospital with a serious lung infection, and she can't afford to buy the medication he needs. If you would like to help us help her, please have a look on the last page of this newsletter for more details on how to donate. Every donation received, no matter how small, will make a difference. Father Bernardino still continues to place the names of everyone who has donated on the altar every Sunday morning.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRIVE – During the month of November...

As many of you are now aware, we are collecting items which we can use to make up as Christmas Hampers for the families who we support with our People Helping People Charity.

During the month of October we asked people to donate toiletry items. We have had a good response to this, and would like to



thank all those people who have so far contributed to the drive. In November we are asking people to donate **non perishable food items** such as tinned goods (e.g. fish and fruit), condensed milk, coffee, tea, jams, etc.

Please bring along your donations to the 10am Mass at the chapel. Thank you for your support!

PS. anyone who wishes to carry on bringing toiletries, these are also very welcome.

