

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

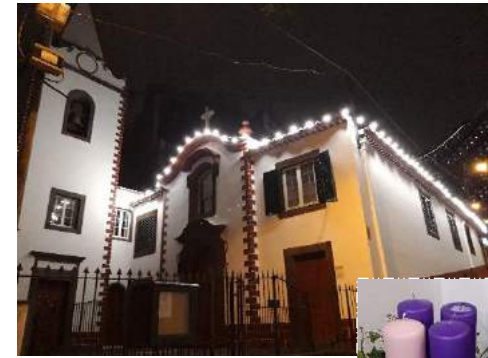
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13th of December 2020

3rd Sunday of Advent, Year B

Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França,
Rua Penha de França 3, Funchal, Madeira

Website and Blog: <http://rcmassmadeira.org/>
[www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel.](https://www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel/)
www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/
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Good morning! Today is the third Sunday of Advent, or "**Gaudete Sunday**". Today we light the **pink or rose candle** (the 3rd candle) in the Advent wreath. Pink or rose represents **joy or rejoicing** and reveals a shift in the season of Advent away from repentance and toward celebration. That's also the reason why priests wear pink vestments today!

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS (Brought to you by: Chris Oliver.) www.bible-groups.info
Isa. 61:1-2a; 10-11; Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54; 1 Thess 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

In words used by Jesus to announce that the Messianic era has come, **Isaiah** confidently rejoices that Zion will be restored after the return from exile. It will be the focal point for all peoples, where God will dwell in his renewed creation at the end of time. Everyone will behave with justice. It will be total salvation for God's people - but sinners will receive their just punishment. The response to **Luke's** Magnificat repeats Isaiah: "My whole being shall exult in my God". Paul ends his letter to the **Thessalonians** by emphasising the wholeness of each person's salvation. Simple rules of behaviour enable the new Christian way of living to become automatic: show respect and patience to all. Rejoice and give thanks always, for God is faithful, and will make you "perfect and holy". Last week Mark briefly described the Baptist's announcement of Christ's coming. Today **John** gives us more detail, immediately after the gospel's prologue. The Baptist's answers to his questioners become shorter and shorter, until they ask an open question, to which he replies more fully. John's is the only gospel which sees Jesus as existing before creation. The Baptist testifies that Jesus' identity has been confirmed by God. Baptism appears to be well-known, though Jesus' disciples only started baptising after he had risen.

PSALM RESPONSE: My soul rejoices in my God.

* The Scripture notes are sent to us every week by Chris Oliver from the UK. If you'd also like to have these sent to you by email or included in your parish newsletter, please contact Chris at: chris@chris-oliver.net

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

Keyboard: Larysa Makarova.

Voice: Sharon Brearley

Entry - "O come, O come, Emmanuel..." - n.397

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

Offertory - "Come, Lord Jesus, come..." - n. 104

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

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

Communion - "Here in this place new light is streaming..." - n.220

Final - "We are marching in the light of God..." - n. 602



FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART

by Fr. Bernardino Andrade

(bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)



SMILE! YOU ARE IN CHURCH.... "15 THINGS I OWE MY MOTHER"

(I found this on the last page of a newspaper):

1. My mother taught me **TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE...**
« If you are going to kill each other. Do it outside. I just finished cleaning.»
2. My mother taught me **RELIGION:**
« You had better pray that will come out of the carpet. »
3. My mother taught me about **TIME TRAVEL...** « If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!»
4. My mother taught me **LOGIC...**
« If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you are not going shopping with me. »
5. My mother taught me **IRONY...** « Keep crying and I'll give you something to cry about. »
6. My mother taught me about **CONTORTIONISM...**
« Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck! »
7. My mother taught me about **STAMINA...** « You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone. »



8. My mother taught me about **WEATHER...** « This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it. »



9. My mother taught me about **HYPOCRISY...** « If I told you once, I've told you a million times. Don't exaggerate! »

10. My mother taught me about **ENVY...**
« There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do. »



11. My mother taught me about **ANTICIPATION...** « Just wait until we get home. »

12. My mother taught me about **MEDICAL SCIENCE...** « If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they are going to get stuck that way. »

13. My mother taught me **HUMOUR...** « If you fall from that bedroom window and break your legs, don't come running to me. »

14. My mother taught me **WISDOM...** « When you get to be my age, you'll understand. »

And finally:

15. My mother taught me about **JUSTICE...**
« One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out like you! »

God loves you and so do I,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade



13-12-2020

IT'S CHRISTMAS IN MADEIRA – Despite the pandemic

Despite the coronavirus pandemic, you can still experience the beautiful season of Christmas in Madeira... colourful decorations, flowers, and festive lights line the streets in the city centre. Many thanks to *Margarida Fernandes* for sharing these pictures which were taken in Funchal this week:



SECOND COMING – Now or Future? Part One

Brought to you by: Chris Oliver... (Email: chris@chris-oliver.net)

During the centuries before Jesus, many Jews came to believe more and more that a Messiah, a new Moses, would come to lead them through the desert on a new Exodus. These Jews saw that the last exile to Babylon had not worked: the Israelites still tended to relapse into injustice and idolatry. Even Jeremiah had despaired, recognising that the covenant with Moses was broken. But, he said, God promised to make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and God "will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people" (Jer 31:33). Later, through Ezekiel, God promised: "I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh" (Ezek 36:26), putting his spirit within us and restoring Israel. Daniel saw "with the clouds of heaven there came one like a Son of Man", "to him was given dominion that all peoples .. should serve him" (Dan 7: 13-14). So we should not be surprised that after Jesus' Ascension, the early Church believed that "This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way" (Acts 1:11).

The Book of Revelation later saw "a new heaven and a new earth" and "the holy city of Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband", the Church (Rev 21:1-2). And there are many references by Paul and others in the New Testament to Jesus' second coming "soon".

Paul had to reprove the Corinthians for stopping ordinary activities of work and getting married because they were waiting for the second coming. Some Christian communities have promised the second coming on a certain date: so far it hasn't happened, but one day they might be right!



..... Part two: to be continued next week Sunday