

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 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: sineadmoynihan7@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

17th of January 2021

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, 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.
www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/
penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com



Good morning! We hope you all had a safe and blessed Christmas and New Year. This newsletter is our first one for this year! ☺



Today's special Mass intention is for [Mr. Gerd Bauer](#) who went through a very serious surgery a few days ago in Funchal. I confess that I tried to take a picture of him without a smile but it was not possible. His faith in God and, according to him, in the very skilled doctors that work in that Hospital, radiates in a permanent smile and a very positive attitude. Mr. Bauer, has been a very good supporter of the *People Helping People Association*.

We keep you in our prayers and we want to thank you for your enormous generosity by helping the poor. God loves you and so do we!

Fr. Bernardino

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

(1 Sam 3:3-10, 19; Ps 39(40); 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20; John 1:35-41)

In the first **Book of Samuel**, Hannah, the devout but barren wife of Elkanah, prayed for a child in the temple at Shiloh. She promised if she has a son she will give him to the Lord as a Nazirite. Her prayers were answered, and Hannah gave Samuel up into Eli's care in the temple. Luke's story of the birth of John the Baptist recalls the miraculous birth of Samuel, and Hannah's song of thanks is echoed by Mary's Magnificat. In our first reading Eli realises it is Samuel who is to succeed him as prophet to bring the word of the Lord to the people.

The Psalm expresses gratitude to the Lord for saving us, recognising that obedience is better than ritual sacrifice – as later seen in the supreme example of Jesus' obedience. Paul devotes several parts of his letter to the **Corinthians** to sexual immorality, which some Corinthians did not see as sins, but Paul sees as sinning against your own body.

In **John's Gospel** the Baptist prophetically points Jesus out to his own disciples as the "Lamb of God", so they follow him instead. Like the rest of Jesus' disciples, they come to Jesus through the testimony of others, responding to the invitation to "Come and see".

PSALM RESPONSE: Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

* 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

FROM MY HEART TO YOUR HEART



by Fr. Bernardino Andrade
(bernardinodrade@gmail.com)

A SERMON WITHOUT WORDS

A Franciscan monk was feeling fascinated by the preaching of St. Francis of Assisi, founder of the Franciscan Order. One day this monk took courage and asked St. Francis to please teach him how to preach. Francis kindly answered positively. As it is obvious, the monk was expecting Francis to sit down with him and teach him the techniques on how to prepare a good sermon. Instead, Francis invited him for a long walk.



As soon as they left the Convent for the walk, they paused beneath a tree and Francis stooped to return a young bird to its nest. They went on, and stopped in a field crowded with reapers, and Francis bent his back to help load the hay onto a cart. From there they went to the town square where Francis lifted a bucket of water from the well for an old woman and carried it home for her. All day long he and St. Francis walked through the streets and by ways, alleys and suburbs, and they rubbed shoulders with hundreds of people. Each time they stopped, the young friar was sure that St. Francis was going to stop and preach. But no words of great truth or wise discourse issued from the Saint's mouth.

Finally they went into the church, but Francis only knelt silently to pray. At the end of the day, the two headed back home. Not once had St. Francis addressed a crowd, nor had he talked to anyone about the Gospel. The young monk was greatly disappointed, and said to St. Francis:

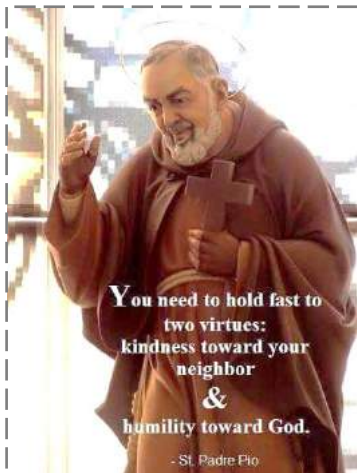
-«I thought we were going to town to preach»?

St. Francis responded:

. -«My son! We just did. we were preaching while we were walking and in everything we did. We were seen by many. And our behavior was closed watched. It's no use to walk anywhere to preach unless we preach everywhere as we walk»!

«Preach the Gospel at all times. Use words only if necessary.»

Fr. Bernardino Andrade
January 17th, 2021



SPECIAL APPEAL – Warm clothes for Winter

John Maria (not his true name) has attended our English Mass a few times. He lives in extreme poverty and lives constantly in fear of becoming homeless. He has been threatened a few times with this, and he does not know which time will be the last.

In this moment, among his basic needs, one of the things that he most needs is one or more blankets, a pair of pyjamas or a jersey (size L). If by any chance someone can spare any of these items to help him please bring them to the Chapel, or get in touch with Manny or Fr. Bernardino as soon as possible. The weather is still very cold especially for those who have nothing to defend themselves. May God bless and reward you.

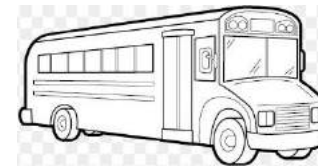
With all my gratitude
Fr. Bernardino
(Tel. 91-61-92-783)



SMILE YOU ARE IN CHURCH – Some humour for your Sunday

Here is some humour to brighten up your day...

How difficult it is to make people laugh. It is easier to make people cry: an onion is enough. (César Marchi)



1.
A man went to the Hospital.
The Doctor asked him: - "Did you take anything before coming?"
- "Yes Doctor. I took the bus".

2.
A lady was very upset with her son who had had too much to drink.
She asked him: "What do you get from drinking like that?"
- He answered: "Nothing Mom. I drink for free".





3.
Two men who were overweight, were sharing their experiences. One said: "Every night after dinner, and before going to bed, I take a walk of one thousand steps. What about you?"
The other man answered him: "Fortunately my bed is closer to the kitchen".
