

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: sineadmoynihian7@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.

JOYFUL GIFT

18th of April 2021

3rd Sunday of Easter, 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



THE ONLY CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH MADEIRA:

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França, which was founded by Antonio Dantas almost 400 years ago, in the year 1622.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 2: 1-5; Luke 24: 35-48)

After Peter healed the man lame from birth, who had been begging at the Beautiful gate, the man joyfully walked with the Apostles in the Temple. At the portico of Solomon, Peter addresses the crowds, emphasizing that the man had been cured by the power of the God the Jews believed in, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. God's kingdom is already becoming visible. Perhaps reflecting later antagonism between some Jews and Christians, Peter adds that it was "you", "men of Israel" who insisted on killing Jesus, declared innocent by Pilate. But, Peter says, they "acted in ignorance" so that God's plan would be fulfilled. **The Psalm** begs God's aid and admonishes incredulous observers to put their trust in God. Paul appointed presbyters to lead his young churches. Thirty years later, John's community appears to have almost no structure. But there are problems: "many antichrists have come", and some members have left the community, perhaps misled by the small amount of moral teaching in **John's Gospel**. Paul's hierarchical model survived, but tension between structure and charism continues. How strange the resurrected Jesus appears! The two disciples had recognised Jesus after he had left them in the inn on the way to Emmaus, but now they are frightened, thinking him a ghost.

PSALM RESPONSE: Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

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

* 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

Entry - "I will sing a song unto the Lord..." - n. 251

Penitential - "Lord, have mercy on us..." - n. 659

Offertory - "I cannot tell..." - n. 239

Sanctus - "O Holy Lord..." - n. 710

Peace - "Shalom, my friend, shalom..." - n. 495

Agnus Dei - "Lamb of God..." - n. 738

Communion - "Be thou my vision..." - n. 60

Final - "Thine be the glory..." - n. 570





LEAVE ME IN «PEACE» VERSUS «SHALOM»

I knew that Alfred had something against me. He stopped talking to me and greeting me. And the irony of our culture is that when we most need to talk to clarify misunderstandings what happens is that some people stop talking with one another.

This friend of mine was still very sad when he told me that his father and his uncle (his father's brother) didn't talk with one another for twenty-three years until his uncle died. And then he added: «What a waste!... How many birthdays, Christmas parties and many many other parties and events happened during those twenty-three years from which they had excluded themselves, along with their children and grandchildren!... «Do you know that Helen doesn't talk with her mother-in-law»? When I hear this, I know that there is something wrong between them. Something that needed to be clarified with a simple conversation but pride deprives them from such a joyful experience. There is a Portuguese Association to help the homeless with the name of «Conversa Amiga» that means «Friendly Talk». The slogan is «Quando conversamos somos mais humanos» that means «When we talk we are more human».

I knew that Alfred had something against me. When I told him: «Alfred I sense that there is something wrong between us but I don't know what. Can we talk?». I felt very sad when he just told me: «Leave me in peace». And I left him in «peace». But was he really in «peace»? I wasn't. I was, and I am, hurting.

During the many apparitions of Jesus after His Resurrection when He appeared to his friends, even when the doors were closed, instead of our «good morning, or good afternoon or hello» He always greeted them with the word «Peace». But did the word «Peace» in the mouth of Jesus have the same meaning of the word «Peace» in the mouth of my friend Alfred when he said «Leave me in peace»? Of course not. The word Peace translated to Aramaic in the language of Jesus is «Shalom». And this word Shalom leaves no room for confusions. Shalom means «I desire for you prosperity in your life, good health, harmony, good relationships with your family, friends and neighbours. I want for you all success, including financial success. I want for you everything that is good. I desire for you the best you can have and need».

That's the reason why during this pandemic, when during Mass I invite people to greet one another with the sign of Shalom (because nobody should touch each other) I can see them with joined hands like in a contemplative prayer, bowing their heads, in the direction of one another and always with a smile and telling one another «SHALOM».

What a wonderful moment. What a profound preparation to receive or make the Sacred Communion. I have to confess that this moment always touches me deeply and makes me a better person.

For all my friends and all my enemies here is my SHALOM!

Fr. Bernardino Andrade
18/04/2021



By Fr. Bernardino Andrade



This coming Sunday, April 25, the fourth Sunday of Easter, is when the Church celebrates the **Feast of the Good Shepherd**.

I don't know if I had any accomplishment in Madeira Island but if I did, I have to confess that the biggest one was the building of the LITTLE CORNER OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD or in Portuguese, called «CANTINHO DO BOM PASTOR, located in Bica da Cana.

Next Sunday I will celebrate Mass there at 2:30 PM. All are welcome.

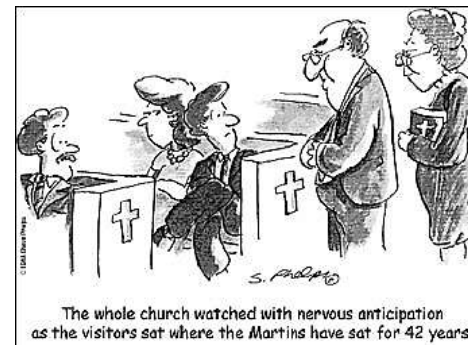
CRIES OF THE POOR

By Fr. Bernardino Andrade

God said to Moses: «I have heard the cries of the poor» (Ex. 3). We constantly hear these cries. A lady, who must be around 80 years old, a former teacher and a former politician told us in a meeting that in all her life she has never heard such horror stories as she has heard since she started attending the meetings of *People Helping People*.

Here is one of them:

Diane (not her true name) has a very dramatic story. She must be around 40 years old. Diane was found in a garbage bin when she was a very small baby. Diane has never known who her mother is. Many incidents have happened in her life. One day, (I heard this from her mouth), she went to the bathroom of a supermarket in Funchal, took all her clothes off and started walking in one of the busiest streets of the city, completely undressed, carrying just an open umbrella. Somebody called the ambulance and she was taken to a mental institution where she has been a few times since then. She is also physically very sick. Her abdomen is bigger than the belly of a pregnant woman. Her legs are bending and her body is becoming deformed. I don't know how she can stand and walk. However she tries to work in a very poor job that is distributing leaflets to the tourists. Diane called one of the members of *People Helping People* just a few days ago, asking if we could help her to buy some pieces of underwear. She can't afford to buy any. Carla already made an appointment with her to go shopping this coming Monday.



The whole church watched with nervous anticipation as the visitors sat where the Martins have sat for 42 years.

SUNDAY HUMOUR



"The correct response is 'I do' — not 'it's worth a try.'"