

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

Food items are also appreciated and can be left in the basket at the Chapel door on Sunday mornings. 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 or requested from: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com

JOYFUL GIFT

29th of August 2021

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

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

Welcome

Website and Blog: <http://rcmassmadeira.org/>
www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel..
www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/
penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com

CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH MADEIRA:

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Deut 4: 1-2, 6-8; Psalm 14(15): 2-5; James 1: 1-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23)

After the testamentary speech from Joshua last week, this week we have the beginning of Moses' last testament, following God's refusal to allow Moses to cross the Jordan and enter the Promised Land. In **Deuteronomy** Moses sums up the Law, but with some relaxations from the strict Law given by God on Sinai. As God's representative, Moses allowed divorce and hating enemies. But God's justice cannot change, and Jesus will later reverse these changes, made "because of their hardness of heart". Observing God's Law "will demonstrate to the peoples" their wisdom and understanding.

The Psalm summarises the moral qualities required to be "at one" with the Lord, especially the social virtues of justice and charity. **James** also insists "do what the word tells you", especially helping the vulnerable and avoiding contamination by the world. We must be "quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger". More practical advice from James in the coming weeks. Jesus gives the same message: his disciples should do what the Pharisees say, but not what they do. As Peter is to learn later before preaching to Cornelius, "nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean". It is what we do that can make us unclean, not lack of washing. This teaching is underlined immediately by the faith of the Syro-Phoenician woman.

PSALM RESPONSE: The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

* 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 www.bible-groups.info



TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

Entry - "Praise, my soul, the King of heaven!..." - 464

Alleluia - "Sing hallelujah to the Lord...." - 502

Offertory - "Take our bread, we ask you..." - 528

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

Communion - "Eat this bread, drink this cup..." - 128

Thanksgiving - "Jesus of Nazareth" sung in Tamil

Final - "I will be with you wherever you go..." - 249





JESUS, A LAW BREAKER

One day I was saying a weekday Mass with a small group of people in my Parish Church when I asked them: «Is there in the world anything more important than the law of God»? The answer was what I expected: «No!». They were shocked when I said: «Yes! There's something in the world more important than the law of God. More important than the law of God is the God of the law».

In this time of Covid 19 when all scientists and authorities insist on the importance of constantly washing hands, many people would find strange that Jesus criticizes the Pharisees who, on their part, criticize Jesus' disciples for eating without washing their hands. There is no doubt that Jesus was not against hygiene. Jesus was against the cruel laws that had been imposed by the Pharisees and Jewish authorities, oppressing people. **Jesus was not just against those laws but He broke them constantly. Jesus didn't love religion. Jesus didn't love laws. Jesus loved people.**

There was a law that put lepers apart from the community. By law they should be isolated from other people. A leper was an unclean person. If he had to pass through a street he had to ring a bell and cry out loud «unclean, unclean» and everybody should run away. If any person touched him he would become unclean. One day a leper begged Jesus to heal him. I know that it would have been so easy for Jesus to heal him with a mere thought or a word. But according to the Gospel of Mark 1:40 «Jesus was filled with pity and reached out and touched him» and the leper was healed. Yes. The leper was healed but Jesus became unclean like the leper. For Jesus, the «God of the law» was more important than what the Pharisees considered the «law of God».



This Pharisaism is still among us today.

“People Helping People” accompanied a single mother during her time of pregnancy. One day we took her to a state institution asking for help. The lady responsible for helping her was upset because according to her she had recommended abortion and the girl had refused. The baby was born. Another state institution helped this baby especially with nappies and milk. One day this mother went to my office and said: «I am coming from that institution. They just told me that they wouldn't give my baby any more milk or nappies because he is already one year old. I thought it was a misunderstanding and went there to be sure. The answer was that she was right. Then I asked: «Isn't there another alternative?» The answer was a cold «no». Laws are laws. The rest is insignificant. This is Pharisaism.

The President of People Helping People invited me to visit a family in the country side who were in terrible need. It was a rainy and windy afternoon of November. After a long search we finally found the house. What we saw was a scene not to forget. The mother was just looking at the ceiling not understanding what was going on. The Son, a handsome 30-year-old man, after an aggressive cancer, was seated at the table but he was not involved in the conversation. He had already forgotten how to write his name. The only person who was functioning well was a young daughter who was a mother of two beautiful girls who had recently been abandoned by her husband. Lying on the table were medical prescriptions for their mental problems. This was November. The prescriptions had been written in August. But there was no money to buy the medications. This was Sunday night. On Monday we went to a state institution looking for help. There was no help because this family didn't qualify. After some discussion the lady there told us: «Laws are made to be obeyed». My last answer was: «The soldiers of Hitler used to say the same thing».



It was this kind of pharisaic law that made Jesus outraged against the Pharisees, who found so important the Jewish laws but ignoring completely the human needs. **Actually Jesus summarized all those complicated laws in ONE. Just one: LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU. (JO. 13: 34)**

Love & Peace

Fr. Bernardino Andrade ,

29/08/2021

GREETINGS FROM ENGLAND

Normally at this time of year, Deacon Craig Aburn and his family and Fr. Stephen Roberts would be on holiday in Madeira and joining the English Mass community for Sunday Mass here at the Chapel. They are all sorry not to be visiting Madeira this year and hope to see you all next year! God bless.



Deacon Craig with his lovely family

Deacon Craig and Fr. Stephen

<< Last Sunday at Mass, we had a surprise visitor at the Chapel: Deacon Tito Pereira (also from the UK)! Although he is here on holiday and came unprepared for the homily, Fr. Bernardino asked him to say a few words and he kindly agreed.

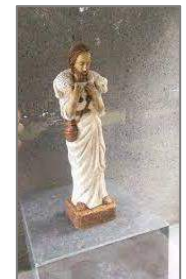


MASS AT “CANTINHO DO BOM PASTOR” – Today, August 29th – 2pm



Today there will be a traditional Mass at *Cantinho do Bom Pastor* (Little Corner of the Good Shepherd), in a place called Bica da Cana. This is about a 45 minute drive from Funchal. The mass will be at 2:30 PM. The mass is going to be dedicated to the Immigrants and Refugees. A choir from Venezuela is going to sing. All are welcome.

Fr. Bernardino



PHP DONATIONS UPDATE - AUGUST

- Anthony S.... Anthony John D.... Chrissie & Tom M....
- John & Marie W... Jose Henriques M.A....
- Manuel Adolfo B.M... Nick L.... Sharon B....
- Sheila C.... Walter Gerhard B...



Thank you for your generosity. May God continue to bless you all !

SCHEDULE FOR OUR SUNDAY READERS AT MASS

	Year B	1st Reading	2nd Reading	Bidding Prayers
August 29	22nd Sunday	Jason	Freddie	Natalie
September 5	23rd Sunday	Margarita	Robin	Lourdes
12	24th Sunday	Tony	Gabriela	Thelma
19	25th Sunday	Zac	Veronica	Debbie

TODAY'S THANKSGIVING HYMN – Sung in Tamil

This morning's Thanksgiving Hymn will be sung by a member of our choir, Jaison Jeevanandam... in his home language: Tamil.

Jaison is from India and has been part of our community at Penha de França Chapel since last year. These are the words to the hymn (in Tamil, and in English):



“Um Azhagaana kangal”

Translation:
YOUR BEAUTIFUL EYES

I thought I am dead, but I am still alive
because
You saw me with your beautiful eyes – 2x

No one knows me, but you (Jesus from
Nazareth) know me well and selected me
for your work – 2x (your beautiful)

I have been thrown out of the dining hall
several times,
but you (Jesus from Nazareth) said 'I need
you' and chose me – 2x (your beautiful)

I don't have anything to give, but your
mercy (Jesus from Nazareth) has graced
me and
kept me in great height (with more wealth
and knowledge) – 2x (your beautiful)

உம் அழகான கண்கள்

(Um Azhagaana kangal) - tamil song
Composed by Fr. Johnsam Joyson

உம் அழகான கண்கள் என்னை
கண்டதாலே
முடிந்த தென்று நினைத்த நான்
உயிர் வாழ்கின்றேன் – 2x
Um Azhagaana Kangal ennai
kandathaalae
Mudinthathentu ninaittha naan uyir
vaazhkindraen - 2x

யாரும் அறியாத என்னை
நன்றாய் அறிந்து
தேடி வந்த நல்ல நேசரே – 2x
Yaarum ariyaatha ennai
Nandraai arinthu thaedi vantha nalla
naesarae – 2x (Um Azhagaana)

தூக்கி எறிப்பட்ட என்னை
வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லி
சேர்த்துக் கொண்ட நல்ல நேசரே –
2x
Thooki eriyappatta ennai Vaendu
endru solli
Saerththu konda nalla naesarae – 2x
(Um Azhagaana)

ஒன்றுமில்லாத என்னை
உம் காருண்யத்தாலே
உயர்த்தி வைத்த நல்ல நேசரே – 2x
Ondrumillatha ennai um
Kaarunyaththaalae
Uyarththi vaiththa nalla naesarae – 2x
(Um Azhagaana)