

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

5th of September 2021

23rd 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. This morning's Mass Intention is for the soul of José Luis Vieira Cardoso, who passed away suddenly this week. May his Soul rest in peace. ☩

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(*Isaiah 35: 4-7; Psalm 145(146):7-10; James 2: 1-5; Mark 8: 27-35*)

First **Isaiah** preached in Jerusalem before the exile in 587 BC. In God's presence in the Temple, Isaiah became aware that the great sin is pride: we think we can "do it my way". The nation's disasters were their own fault. They must trust in God, especially in face of the constant threats from Assyria. After dire descriptions of the calamities to come, Isaiah paints this encouraging eschatological picture of the kingdom in the end time. The **Psalm** praises and thanks God for his generosity and kindness, especially to those who put their trust in him. **James** continues his theme that faith must be shown in what we do. His mentioning "synagogue" reminds us how Jewish was the Christian community this "brother of the Lord" was writing for. He insists that faith in Jesus is not compatible with treating people differently depending how we see them. We are in no position to judge the worth of others. In **Mark's Gospel** we see God's kingdom breaking into creation, as Jesus heals first the Syro-phenician woman's daughter and then a deaf-mute. Isaiah's prophecy is being fulfilled. Naturally the disciples cannot help spreading this good news far and wide. But Jesus cautions them not to do so yet, because his work will not be understood until after the Crucifixion.

PSALM RESPONSE: My soul, give praise to 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

– brought to you by the school Choir of EB1/PE de Carvalhal e Carreira

Entry - "Deus está aqui" - (God is here)

Offertory - "Ao Teu Altar Nós Levamos" - (To Your Altar We Bring)

Communion - "Como O Pai Me Amou" - (As The Father Has Loved Me)

Thanksgiving - "Deus De Amor" - (God Of Love)

Final - "Tu, Que Nas Margens Do Lago" - (You, Who at the Shore of the Lake..)





AT THE OTHER END OF A FALLEN TREE

In one primitive culture, all the adolescents had to pass through a special ceremony which today we would call “a test”, in order to become adults. In this particular culture, the ceremony was apparently simple but in reality, was terrifying. This was what happened to one particular boy. He was an adolescent and through that ceremony he was going to become an adult.

His father accompanied him to a mountain. They walked together at the end of the day when night was falling. Arriving at this special place, his father explained to him the ceremony that he was going to go through.

«My son, first I am going to blindfold you. Then you are going to sit down at the end of this fallen tree. You will spend all night with your blindfold on, and you can only take it off when you start perceiving the beginning of the sunrise. Then you can take your blindfold and go home. When you take your blindfold off, you will know that you are a man. You are not a child anymore. Are you ready?» The son had no choice but to say: «Yes father».

«Good bye son». «Good bye father».

Then, seated at the end of that fallen tree the boy started what was going to be the most terrifying night of his life. The darkness was thick. He knew that there were wild animals walking around. He knew that there were snakes that



could kill him in seconds. There were night birds making strange noises, but the most terrifying aspect was that he could not, under no circumstances, take his blindfold off before the sunrise. That night felt like an eternity. He felt so lonely. Finally, when he felt the first signs of light, he knew that it was time to take his blindfold off and go home.

Yes, it was time. He was already a man. He had passed, what we would call today, “the test”. He felt relieved and a little dizzy, and started looking around. Finally, after having survived the most terrifying night of his life, he had the happiest moment of his life. When looking around, he saw that on the other end of the fallen tree sat his father, looking back at him with a big smile. His father had spent the whole night at his side, seated on the other end of the fallen tree. His father had not left him alone, not even for one moment.

God is that father who is always seated on the same fallen tree, even if we are blindfolded and feel that around us everything is dark and scary. God is there even when we blame Him for our tests and our darkness that sometimes happens in our lives.

In the Bible, God says three hundred and sixty-five times: «Do not be afraid. I am with you». God never abandons us even when we have to pass through very frightening tests.

«Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord» (Ps. 27)

Love and Peace,

Fr. Bernardino Andrade,

<Today we have the privilege of welcoming a Portuguese choir from a region of Madeira, called «Freguesia dos Canhas». They are all students of a primary School under the direction of their teacher, Professor Jaime Andrade. We want to welcome them not just to enjoy their singing and praise God in the Portuguese language, but also as a symbol to celebrate our unity and our differences. We Christians don't see our differences as a problem but as a blessing and that is what we want to celebrate today with the help of this Portuguese choir.



The group from “**Tuna do 1º Ciclo do Ensino Básico Recorrente**” -EB1/PE de Carvalhal e Carreira(Canhas)

Thank you, Professor Jaime Andrade and your precious students.

** Today's Final Hymn will be sung around the Altar by our visiting Choir. Here are the words in Portuguese and in English of the hymn that they will be singing:



TU, QUE NAS MARGENS DO LAGO

1 - Tu, que nas margens do lago
Não escolhes / nem sábios nem ricos,
Queres somente / que eu Te siga.

Senhor, tu fixaste os meus olhos
E quiseste / meu nome chamar;
E eu deixei / o meu barco na praia
E contigo, encontrei outro mar.

2 – Tu, sabes bem o que eu tenho
No meu barco / não há ouro nem
prata;
Somente as redes / e o meu trabalho.

3 – Tu, necessitas de mim
P'ra render / os que estão cansados,
E do meu amor, sinal de esp'rança.

4 – Tu, pescador de outros lagos
Ânsia eterna / dos homens que
esperam;
Meu bom amigo, muito obrigado!!



YOU, WHO ON THE SHORE OF THE LAKE

1 - You, who on the shore of the lake
Do not choose / neither wise nor rich,
You only want / that I follow You.

Lord, you have fixed my eyes
And you wanted / my name to call;
And I left / my boat on the beach
And with you, I found another sea.

2 – You know well what I have
In my boat / there is neither gold nor
silver;
Only the nets / and my work.

3 – You need me
To take over from / those who are tired,
And from my love, (give) a sign of hope.

4 – You, fisherman of other lakes
Eternal longing / of men who are
waiting,
My good friend, thank you very much!!



SCHEDULE FOR OUR SUNDAY READERS AT MASS

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

