

## PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)



"You should wash each other's feet"  
(John 13:14).

*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).

### >> 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](mailto: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](http://www.rcmassmadeira.org)  
or requested from: [penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com)

## JOYFUL GIFT

3rd of October 2021

27<sup>th</sup> 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..](https://www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel..)  
[www.instagram.com/capela\\_penha\\_franca/](https://www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/)  
[penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com)

### CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH MADEIRA:

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. This 10 o'clock Mass is the only **Catholic Mass** celebrated entirely in **English** on the whole island of Madeira. There is also Mass in Portuguese here at the Chapel on Saturday evenings at 18:30pm, and on Sunday mornings at 11:30am, straight after our English service.

The Chapel, founded almost 400 years ago by Antonio Dantas, was originally built to minister to the soldiers of the small garrison at the Pontinha Redoubt (stronghold) in the bay of Funchal in 1622. The Chapel soon became so famous a shrine that people came to it on pilgrimage from all parts of the Island. In 1721 the chapel was restored and enlarged. When the Diocese of Funchal took possession of the chapel it was used as the Bishop's Summer Residence for many years. In the meantime, the Franciscans had been coming to Madeira to carry out apostolic duties, and in 1935, they founded the Franciscan Residence of Our Lady of Penha de França here, at the request of Bishop D. Antonio Ribeiro. In 2015 the Franciscans moved to the former convent of São Bernardino in the town of Câmara de Lobos, and the Chapel reverted back to the Diocese of Funchal. A few years ago, the nave roof of the Chapel was repaired and the ceiling restored through the generosity of the late Sir Ronald McIntosh as well as other frequent visitors to our English Mass.



### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Gen 2:18-24 ; Ps 127(128) ; Heb 2:9-11 ; Mk 10:2-16)

[www.bible-groups.info](http://www.bible-groups.info)

In this second version of creation, since God has created man as social being like himself, he now creates woman, to support and join with him. **The psalm** celebrates the blessings of children and family life. Readings from the Letter to the **Hebrews** will take us up to the end of Ordinary Time. The most Jewish of the New Testament books, it has a rich theology of Christ's priesthood. Jesus is greater than the angels as God, but lower than the angels as man. Christ's priestly sacrifice, as man and as God's Son, renews once and for ever the covenant God has made with man. As intermediaries, priests offer prayers and sacrifices to God on our behalf. Not seeking to change God's mind. Relationships are confirmed with celebratory meals and things of value sacrificed by making them unusable. A wedding feast confirms our witness and support for the vows made by the married couple. **In Mark's Gospel**, Jesus continues teaching during his journey to Jerusalem. He insists on the full meaning of the Law, which Mark updates, applying it also to a Gentile woman divorcing her husband. The union of a man and a woman in a marriage made by God cannot be unmade. Children help us to recognise our utter dependence on God.

### PSALM RESPONSE: May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.

\* 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](mailto:chris@chris-oliver.net)



(bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)



**TOWARDS AN EVER WIDER «WE»**

**1.- A HISTORIC MOMENT**

«God willing, after all this (referring to the pandemic), we will think no longer in terms of «THEM» and «THOSE» but only «US». (Pope Francis for the world Day of Migrants and Refugees, celebrated last Sunday, September 26)

It was with deep emotional feelings that last week, I could see this dream becoming real when I attended a meeting of the Association People Helping People, where Portuguese speaking people and English Speaking People got together to talk and plan how to help the poor. Both communities became «WE». All of them are members of the Community of Penha de França where this project was born 11 years ago. For all of us, September 29, is a historic moment.

These are the names of those who have been part of this historic moment and are willing to risk everything to follow Jesus «Who was sent to bring good news to the poor» (Luke 4): Carla Rodrigues, Thelma and Freddie Teixeira, Alexandre Silva, Zac Sousa, Lourdes Paiva, Deborah de Jesus, Robin Collins, Carlos Melim, Fr. Bernardino Andrade. Thank you and congratulations.



**2.-THELMA'S APPEAL**

Just to let you all know that we had a very good & informative PHP meeting, in English, last night. We have formed a Fundraising committee & hopefully we'll do more than talk about it. Even if you were not at the meeting last night, you're most welcome to join us. We'll meet once a month with an Agenda which will include a report back from the "Hands-on" Committee, thereby keeping us informed about the people with whom they are dealing.

We agreed at the meeting, to do a **sponsored walk** on 24 October. It will take place in Santa Catarina Park from after Mass till 13h30. Sponsor sheets will be available next Sunday. Everyone on the island of Madeira is welcome to join. For more information please contact Thelma at: eim3397@gmail.com



**3.- DEBORAH'S APPEAL**

Every Christmas, we are reminded in the midst of plenty that for many families in Madeira Christmas is a continuing time of scarcity and struggling to survive. By planning early this year, we are hoping to present each family under the care of the People Helping People charity, with a surprise hamper. To do this, each month we are asking people to contribute specific items.

**In October we are asking people to bring along toiletry items** such as soaps, lotions, body wash, shampoo, toothpaste, etc. which may be placed in the basket at the entrance of the chapel. Supermarkets often have specials where these items can be bought at a discount.

By starting early, we hope that we will be able to provide each family with a hamper at Christmas especially suited to their needs.



\* \* \* \* \*

Our Community at Penha de França and "People Helping People" are becoming less and less «THEY AND THEM» and more and more «WE AND US»

Love and Peace,  
Fr. Bernardino Andrade

The Flower Festival has been a part of the Madeiran tradition since 1979, but when the pandemic came to the island, all these festivities had to be suspended. In the past, the Flower Festival was an event that would bring thousands of visitors to our island.

Today is a special day, as the lifting of some restrictions has meant that the traditional Parade with flower-filled floats and dancing children has been allowed to take place. At 4pm today, the main streets of Funchal will be transformed with the flower parade which this year will feature 12 groups taking part, with a total of almost 1200 active participants!

If you are planning on going along to watch the parade today, please remember to wear your mask. Even though you will be in the open air, masks will be mandatory for this special event.

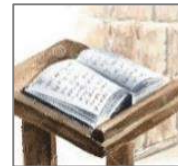


**BLESSING OF PETS** – Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi – Tomorrow 4<sup>th</sup> October



The "São Bernardino" Convent in the parish of Câmara de Lobos, will be celebrating the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi (Patron of Ecology) tomorrow, October 4<sup>th</sup>, with a Solemn Mass presided by the Bishop of Funchal, D.Nuno Brás, at 18:30pm. After the Mass, at around 19:30 pm, the blessing of the animals will take place in the courtyard. All are welcome to bring their pets for a special blessing.

**SCHEDULE FOR OUR SUNDAY READERS AT MASS**



October 3rd - Year B		October 10th
1st Reading	Jason	Lourdes
2nd Reading	Robin	Gabriela
Bidding Prayers	Zac	Vivien

If any visitor/tourist/holiday maker would like to read, please contact Thelma on WhatsApp: 965074322, or email: eim3397@gmail.com

**THOUGHT & HUMOUR FOR THE DAY**



A Sunday school teacher asked her children as they were on the way to church service, 'And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?' One bright little girl replied, 'Because people are sleeping.'

