

## 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](mailto:penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com) with the date, 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

17th of October 2021

29<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. We are blessed to have Fr. Bernardino presiding our Sunday Mass every week.

#### A little bit of history about our Chapel:

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

(*Isaiah 53: 10-11; Ps 32(33):4-5.18-20.22; Hebrews 4: 14-16; Mark 10: 35-45*)

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

The reading is from **Isaiah's** last "suffering servant" song, which we hear more fully on Good Friday. Israel is identified as God's innocent servant suffering to bring to completion God's plan for the salvation of all mankind. For Isaiah suffering need not be a punishment for sin. Suffering by the righteous could "redeem" the sins of others - but only if the sinners saw it as symbolising separation from their sins, like the scapegoat sent into the desert. Christians saw Jesus as the suffering servant who redeems mankind. **The Psalm** praises the Lord's power and kindness, confident that he will rescue us from our urgent waiting. Continuing from last week, our reading from the **Letter to the Hebrews** calls Jesus "the Son of God" and "the supreme high priest". Since he was tempted just like us, he is merciful and we must have confidence that he can bring us to God's "throne of grace". After Jesus' third prediction of his passion in **Mark's** Gospel, two Apostles ask if they can share in the kingdom's rewards? They do not understand the sort of kingdom Jesus is bringing in. The Apostles will share in Jesus' suffering, and in doing so they will show themselves to be servants to all.

**PSALM RESPONSE:** **May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our trust in you.**

\* 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)

Welcome

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«SYNODALITY» AND PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

«Synodality» is a movement that was opened (inaugurated) last Sunday by Pope Francis at the world level and is going to be opened today at Diocesan level by our Bishop Nuno and by all the Bishops of the world in their own Dioceses.

«SINODALITY IS ABOUT JOURNEYING TOGETHER».

By coincidence (or Providence), next Wednesday a group of Portuguese-speaking people who are the «Care-Takers of the Poor» and a group of English-speaking people who are the «Fundraisers» will meet at the Anglican Church to plan how to journey together to alleviate the suffering of the world.

The bilingual meeting that generated this «Synodality» took place last September 29th. Thelma Teixeira, the Coordinator of the Fundraising committee, wrote the following minutes that we want to share with you...

People Helping People



Minutes of the First English-speaking PHP meeting

Date: 29 September 2021

Venue: the hall of the Anglican Church in Funchal.

Starting time: 6.30p.m.

The meeting was opened with welcoming words by President Carla. A volunteer was called for, to take the minutes of the meeting. Thelma offered to do this. A prayer was said and then we all introduced ourselves. Present at the meeting: Father Bernardino Andrade (the founder of People Helping People in 2010), President Carla Rodrigues, Vice President Alexandre Silva, Zac Sousa, Lourdes Paiva, Deborah de Jesus, Robin Collins, Carlos Melim, Frederico and Thelma Teixeira.

Father Bernardino then said a few words about what impels us to offer the services needed in the Mystique of People Helping People Association. This was followed by Vice President Alexandre who explained the 3-part structure of PHP. The third part of the meeting was open for everyone to offer comments, ideas and suggestions. Lourdes mentioned the need for carers and people to deliver goods to the poor in different parts of the island. Freddie felt that we should be careful about doing the work of a qualified social worker with out being correctly educated to do so. Father then added, through several illustrations, that most medication is for mental problems. By this time, we were an hour into the meeting and Zac wanted to know, before he left, "what will we do?" Motivated by the fact that most of the medication goes to poor people who are also mental patients, Thelma suggested that those of us who do not speak enough Portuguese to have direct contact with the under-privileged people, could form a fundraising committee. This was unanimously agreed to and Lourdes said that we should meet once a month. The fundraising group would raise the funds and the Portuguese "hands-on" group would do the rest, such as communicating with the poor, buying, paying and distributing whatever is needed. Carla added that there is a lot of hostility towards the poor in government institutions. The following people agreed to be on the Fundraising committee: Lourdes, Carlos, Zac, Debbie, Robin, Freddie & Thelma. Father Bernardino appointed Thelma to be the co-ordinator. She suggested that we try a sponsored walk in Santa Catarina Park. The 24<sup>th</sup> of October was the date agreed upon. Debbie said that she would organise the Christmas hampers, starting in October with the collection of toiletry items; and with the collection of food in November. Robin also agreed to help with deliveries.

Lourdes offered to ask for help from companies and organisations, if she could get a letter of introduction and explanation about PHP. This was agreed to by Carlos, who gave an interesting report about his experience of poverty in northern Moçambique. Alexandre promised to give Lourdes the letter from the PHP Association. Lourdes mentioned that she and Zac would be organising a fundraising dinner, including some raffles, at Moynihans on 29 October. The meeting ended at 8.15p.m. with the Our Father prayed by all in a circle. No date was set for the following meeting.



WHAT IS SYNODALITY - A short explanation

Maybe you have seen or heard the word "synod" or "synodality", but are not sure what it means... so here is a very short explanation incase you've been curious to know, but too lazy to look it up...

**Synod** - A synod is a council of a church, usually convened to decide an issue of doctrine, administration or application. The word synod comes from the Greek: σύνοδος [ˈsinoðos] meaning "assembly" or "meeting" and is similar in meaning to the Latin word "Concilium" meaning "council". Originally, synods were meetings of bishops and the word is still used in that sense in Catholicism, Oriental Orthodoxy and Eastern Orthodoxy. "Synodality," which literally means "walking together," has become a key topic of Pope Francis' pontificate.

THE MIRACLE OF THE SUN – on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 1917



«The Miracle of the Sun» is a miraculous event which occurred on the 13th of October 1917 in the Cova da Iria fields near Fátima, Portugal. It was witnessed by as many as 100,000 people who had gathered to observe

what the three shepherd children: Lúcia, Jacinta, and Francisco, had predicted was going to happen at 12 noon. The children had said that Our Lady, who had appeared to them several times, had promised them that she would perform a great miracle "so that all may believe". The miracle of the sun was also seen by several witnesses up to twenty-five miles away from the apparition site. The Portugal news and other newspapers at that time reported the miraculous event.

Read more about this miracle here: [www.ewtn.com/fatima/sixth-apparition-of-our-lady.asp](http://www.ewtn.com/fatima/sixth-apparition-of-our-lady.asp)

OUR SCHEDULE FOR THE SUNDAY READERS AT MASS



October 17th - Year B		October 24th
1st Reading	Thelma	Tony
2nd Reading	Robin	Freddie
Bidding Prayers	Skip	SKip

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

“FÁTIMA” – Now showing at movie cinema in Madeira

A movie based on the true story of Our Lady’s apparition to three shepherd children in 1917 is now showing at the cinema in Madeira Shopping Centre. If you’d like to see the movie, they are showing the original English version at the following times:

- Sunday, October 17 – 18:40 and at 21:10
- Monday, October 18 – 18:40 and at 21:10
- Tuesday, October 19 – 18:40 and at 21:10
- Wednesday, October 20 – 18:40 and at 21:10

The Portuguese version is shown on the same days, at 16:10.

