

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, 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

31st of October 2021

31st 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..
www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/
penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com

Welcome

Vol. 3, number 283



CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH MADEIRA:

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. Today's Mass Intention will be for Nelita da Silva, who was in hospital last week. We pray for her speedy recovery. This morning we have a special visitor to our Chapel, Reverend Neil Cockling, who attended Mass here last Sunday morning. Father Bernardino invited him to Mass again this morning:

Welcome Reverend Neil Cockling
Being born in Madeira Island, the first time I saw a Protestant person I was already an adult. And I have to confess that I was surprised when I discovered that a Protestant person looked like the rest of us. I never imagined that years later I would be praying with them, fighting with them for social justice, seeing them being arrested along with Catholic priests for protesting against nuclear bombs. And having retreats and monthly meetings with them.



Rev. Neil and his lovely family

Today is one of those days. We have among us Rev. Neil Cockling from the UK who is going to give us the privilege of sharing his homily in this Catholic Chapel. Thank you Rev. Neil and thanks to your family for visiting us and worshipping with us. - Fr. Bernardino



TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Deut 6: 2-6; Psalm 17(18):2-4,47,51; Hebrews 7: 23-28; Mark 12: 28-34)

www.bible-groups.info

Deuteronomy, the "second law", the last of the five books of the Pentateuch, was written long after the Israelites settled in Palestine. It summarises, expands and completes the record of the Law given by God to Moses. It was very familiar to Jesus, who quoted from it frequently. Today's reading ends with the "Schema": "Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord", the basic principle of the Mosaic Law, and familiar to all Jews. **The Psalm** is said to be by King David, giving thanks to the Lord for rescuing him after he had called for help in dire distress. David goes on to imagine God sending earthquakes and raining down lightning bolts and arrows to overwhelm his enemies. **The Letter to the Hebrews** continues from last week, explaining that Christ is a priest forever, replacing the priests of the tribe of Levi, each of whom dies and has to be replaced. For our sake Christ sacrificed himself once and for all. When Jesus is asked in today's **gospel** which is the first of all the commandments, the *Schema* is what he immediately thinks of. There is one God, and we must love him with an undivided heart.

PSALM RESPONSE: I love you, Lord, my strength.

* 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



A POIGNANT QUESTION

1.

I ordered a cup of coffee and a pastry at a place inside Madeira Shopping Centre (Funchal). I didn't tell the waitress that I am still recovering from a back surgery. But being kind as she is, Sofia (it's her real name) realized that my walking skills were not as good as they were supposed to be. She invited me to sit down at the table of my choice. Then she walked around the counter and brought to my table the coffee and the pastry I had ordered. That was not part of her job. Actually, her job was simply to sell whatever I had ordered, give me the ticket, receive the money and get ready for the next customer.

After enjoying my cup of coffee and my delicious low-fat calories (I wish) pastry I approached Sofia, asked her name, and even behind her mask I could see her smile when I told her that «Sofia», in Greek, means «Wisdom». Then I asked her if what she did for me was part of her job. She explained that the waitress job was at the counter only but she had been very happy to serve me at the table. At this point I told her what I have told many people in similar circumstances: «Sofia, I evaluate the character and the personality of a person by what he/she does to help others when he/she doesn't have to. Her answer was: **«If we don't do it, who is going to do it»?**



I went back to my table that had already been cleaned, and for a while a film of my life passed through my imagination and I asked myself: **«If I don't do it, who is going to do it»?** Who was going to stop his car and move that little stone that has been in the middle of the street for a while, disturbing all the drivers and maybe putting their lives in danger? If I don't stop to talk to a beggar and give him something without judging him and without giving him any advice, who will? If I don't help that poor person who is despised by every Association because she is an «abuser» and a «liar», who will? If I don't help and pray for my enemies, who will?

«If I don't, who will?» is for me a poignant question. If we all stop and pray over this poignant question maybe our lives will be different.

Love & Peace,

Fr. Bernardino Andrade

31/10/2021

WALKING TO HELP PEOPLE – Thank you!

Last Sunday, 24 October the Fundraising committee of People Helping People arranged an event called WALKING TO HELP PEOPLE. It was a sponsored walk, which took place between 11h30 and 13h30. There were sixteen walkers. The cloudy weather was perfect for walking around the paved path beside the expansive lawns of Santa Catarina Park. As people arrived, they received their participation sheets with two ticks and each time they passed the starting point they got one more tick. Participants ranged between 13 and almost 80 years of age! The air was filled with fun and determination. Home made jam was on sale and a member of the FR committee supplied free bottles of water for everyone.

Some people did 2 laps and our little champion, Afonso Silva aged 13, did **forty** laps. He will be receiving the Madeira Laurisilva Forest award for ENDURANCE. His dad, Alexandre Sousa, the Vice president of PHP was a runner up with thirty laps. Congratulations to both of them as well as to all the other participants and thank you for the warm-hearted support.

We have raised six hundred and thirty Euros with only one more walker to bring in the money from his sponsors. Thank you to everyone who made this event happen. Hopefully, we'll have even more walkers next year.



- Thelma Teixeira



As many of you are now aware, we are collecting items which we can use to make up as Christmas Hampers for the families who we support with our People Helping People Charity. **During the month of October** we asked people to donate toiletry items. We have had a good response to this, and would like to thank all those people who have so far contributed to the drive. **In November** we are asking people to donate **non perishable food items** such as tinned goods (e.g. fish and fruit), condensed milk, coffee, tea, jams, cereals, biscuits, spaghetti, olive oil, etc. Please bring along your donations to the 10am Mass at the chapel. Items can be left in the basket at the entrance to the Chapel. Thank you for your support!



BOOK SALE – After Mass



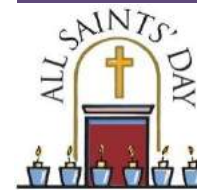
Jane Caldwell, an author living in England, has brought along some copies of her latest book to sell after Mass, and donating all proceeds to the poor.

If you love reading and would like to get a signed copy of her book, Jane will be up at Moynihans Irish Pub after Mass today. Go get yourself a signed copy! (Last week's book sale raised €50,00 for the needy). Thank you very much! 😊



ALL SAINTS DAY- November 1st

tomorrow morning - 10am



Tomorrow is All Saints Day. It is a Holy Day of obligation like on a Sunday, and is celebrated annually in the Catholic Church on the 1st of November.

Father Bernardino will be celebrating *All Saints Day* here at the Chapel with a Mass in English at 10:00 AM. All are welcome

TODAY'S MASS READERS:

Welcome: Veronica
1st Reading: Jane
2nd Reading: Zac
Bidding Prayers: Robin



Next Sunday:
Welcome: Zac
1st Reading: Matt
2nd Reading: Veronica
Bidding Prayers: Carlos

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

MASS AT "CANTINHO DO BOM PASTOR" – Today 2:30pm



This afternoon 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 special place is about a 45-minute drive from Funchal.

The mass will be at 2:30 PM.

All are welcome.

Fr. Bernardino