

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: sineadmoynihnan7@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

JOYFUL GIFT

Vol. 3, number 292

2nd of January 2022

2nd Sunday of Christmas, Year C

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



CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH MADEIRA:

Good morning! A blessed New Year to you all !

Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. Father Bernardino Andrade is our appointed Sunday priest. He was born and brought up in Madeira but has worked as a Priest in both Moçambique and, for many years, in California.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Sirach/Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2, 8-12; Psalm 147; Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18; John 1:1-18)



Written in Jerusalem about 180 BC, **Sirach** contains many carefully worded maxims, and has been much used by the Church to present moral teaching. This chapter personifies Wisdom as a distinct being who comes from God, so foreshadowing the Gospel of John. Here Wisdom is seen as God's gift to Israel, where she is to dwell. **The Psalm** urges us to praise the Lord because of all his good deeds to us, giving us life, food, children, and laws to live by. After a short greeting Paul reminds his hearers of God's plan, that mankind was designed from the beginning to be with him in eternal glory through Jesus Christ. After giving thanks for our redemption through Christ's blood, Paul prays that God "may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him", so that you may know what hope we may have in God's power which he worked in raising Christ from the dead. Our baptism is only the first instalment of the renewal of all creation under Christ. **John's** prologue to his gospel appears to be a hymn praising God's activity in creating the world and sending the "logos" or "Word", who dwells among us and shows God's glory. The three interruptions describe the role of John the Baptist, who testified to the light. Those who accept the light, Christ, are given power to become children of God.

PSALM RESPONSE: The Word was made flesh and lived among us.

www.bible-groups.info

* 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



TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

Entry - "Amazing Grace..." - n. 32

Gloria - "Gloria In Excelsis Deo..." - n. 36

Offertory - "A new commandment..." - n. 2

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

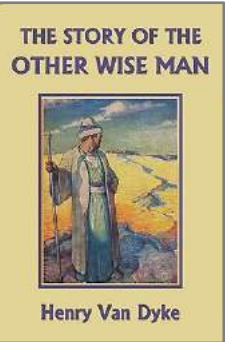
Communion - "O bread of heaven..." - n. 392

Final - "O Lord..." - n. 416

Happy
NEW YEAR
From the fullness of His
grace we have all received
one blessing after another.
JN 1:16



(bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)



ARTABAN, « The Other Wise Man »

There's a story called "The Other Wise Man", by Henry van Dyke.

It's about a fourth person who is supposed to accompany the other three wise men on their journey to search for the newborn King. The name of the person is Artaban.

As Artaban prepares for the journey, he takes with him a bag of precious stones to give to the baby King. On his way to join the other three wise men, Artaban stops to help a poor person. The delay is just enough to make him miss his rendezvous with the others. Artaban never does catch up with them. He constantly runs into people who need help. And he always stops to help them. Eventually, Artaban gives away all his precious stones.

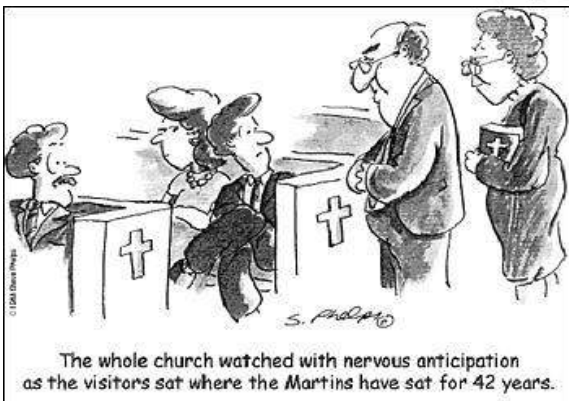
As the story ends, Artaban is old and poor. He has never realized his dream to meet the King of Kings. But the story doesn't end here. One day Artaban is in Jerusalem. Authorities are about to execute a criminal. When Artaban sees the criminal, his heart skips a beat. Something tells him that this is the King of Kings for whom he has been searching all his life. Artaban is heartbroken when he sees he can do nothing to help the King.

Then something remarkable happens. Artaban hears the King's voice say to him: "Don't be broken-hearted, Artaban. You've been helping me all your life. When I was hungry, you gave me food. When I was thirsty, you gave me drink. When I was naked, you clothed me. When I was a stranger, you took me in." (Mark Link in Sunday Homilies).

Sunday Mass is not a religious entertainment. Sunday Mass is a «power house» where Jesus inspires us, directs us and strengthens us to go to the world and transform it into one family, where all the people help all the people. This is the Kingdom of God which is the primary goal of Jesus coming on Christmas Day.

God loves you and so do I. Fr. Bernardino Andrade

Happy New Year 2022



“DIA DE REIS” (King’s Day) – A tradition in Madeira



Every year on January 6th in Madeira, we celebrate “Dia de Reis” (in English: “King’s Day”). According to tradition, it’s to celebrate the day when the newborn baby Jesus, the Saviour, the Messiah, receives the visit of the 3 Wise Men from the East. On the night before “King’s Day”, Madeiran families usually gather together with friends and neighbours, and then go out and sing traditional songs door to door. Sadly, since the Covid pandemic, that doesn’t happen anymore.

“Bolo Rei” (English: “King Cake”) is a traditional Portuguese cake that is usually eaten around Christmas, from December 25th until Epiphany, on the 6th January. The cake itself is round with a large hole in the centre, resembling a crown covered with crystallized and dried fruit. It is baked from a soft, white dough, and in some of these cakes there is the characteristic dried “fava” (broad) bean or small Wise Man figurine. Tradition dictates that whoever finds the fava bean or the Wise Man figurine, must pay for next year’s cake!



A “fava” (broad) bean, and a figurine hidden in the Bolo Rei cake

WHY YOU SHOULDN'T FEAR THE FUTURE



St Francis de Sales (1567-1622)

DO NOT LOOK FORWARD TO THE CHANGES AND CHANCES OF THIS LIFE IN FEAR; RATHER, LOOK TO THEM WITH FULL HOPE, THAT, AS THEY ARISE, GOD, WHOSE YOU ARE, WILL DELIVER YOU OUT OF THEM HE IS YOUR KEEPER. HE HAS KEPT YOU HITHERTO.

DO YOU BUT HOLD FAST TO HIS DEAR HAND AND HE WILL LEAD YOU SAFELY THROUGH ALL THINGS; AND, WHEN YOU CANNOT STAND, HE WILL BEAR YOU IN HIS ARMS.

DO NOT LOOK FORWARD TO WHAT MAY HAPPEN TOMORROW.

OUR FATHER WILL EITHER SHIELD YOU FROM SUFFERING, OR HE WILL GIVE YOU STRENGTH TO BEAR IT

Doctor of the Church

Anastpaul/18

5 TIMES TO MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS
WHEN PASSING BY A CHURCH ... to honor the BLESSED SACRAMENT present inside
WHEN PASSING BY A CEMETERY (or when someone has passed away) ... as a prayer for the release of the Holy Souls
WHEN YOU HEAR A SIREN ... to heal those in danger of DYING
WHEN YOU HEAR THE SIREN OF FIRETRUCKS ... to stop the conflagration
WHEN YOU SEE AN ACCIDENT ... as protection for those in PERIL
YOU MAY ALSO ADD AN OUR FATHER OR A HAIL MARY