

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

JOYFUL GIFT

6th of February 2022

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

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..](https://www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel/)
www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/
penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com

THE CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH IN MADEIRA

Good morning! 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, USA. This morning we are again joined by Deacon Michael, visiting Madeira from the UK.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(*Isaiah 6:1-2a,3-8; Psalm 137(138); 1 Cor 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11*)



Isaiah's calling vision in 742 BC is much quoted in the book of Revelation. He sees God enthroned, with Seraphs who had two wings covering their faces, two covering their body, and with two they flew. They praised God for his total otherness, and their "Holy, Holy, Holy" is repeated before the central part of every Mass. Isaiah expects to die after seeing God's face. But he is symbolically purified by a burning ember on his lips, and so is fit to deliver God's message of doom to those who mistreat the poor. Only a remnant will survive. Paul reminds the **Corinthians** of their roots and especially the gospel he taught them. He uses an existing creedal formula that he himself "had been taught", namely "that Christ **died**", "he was **buried**; he was **raised**; he **appeared**". Paul goes on to argue that, in rising, Christ has conquered death, and therefore all the dead will also rise. Life after death is bodily, not just spiritual, as the Corinthians appeared to believe. After Jesus was rejected in Nazareth he went down to Capernaum, where he taught and healed many people, including Simon's mother-in-law. Today Luke describes Simon Peter recognising Jesus as "Lord", his title after the Resurrection. Peter and his partners accept Jesus' call, and follow him, leaving absolutely everything.

PSALM RESPONSE: Before the angels I will bless you, O Lord.

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 - "All people that on earth do dwell..." - n. 20

Alleluia - 679

Offertory - "Blest are you..." - n. 69

Amen - n. 726

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

Communion - "Alleluia, sing to Jesus..." - n. 29

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

Final - "God is love: his the care..." - n. 185



OUR CHOIR



(bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)



UNIVERSAL FRATERNITY FOR ALL NATIONS

I was 26 years old when I, dressed in my long black cossack, left my family standing at the harbour of Funchal and embarked in a boat called «Funchal» that started navigating in the direction of Lisbon. When I stopped seeing my father and my mother and the rest of my family that had been left at the harbour, I knelt and cried for a while. In the Capital of Portugal, I was supposed to take the plane and fly to a new world called Mozambique. The flight, with a few stops, took three days to arrive at its destination.



The Diocese was called *Quelimane*. After spending a short time in my Bishop's residence, it took me a few days to arrive at my Mission in the interior region of the Diocese. There was no electricity and every Sunday the superior of the Mission traveled in his jeep to carry water in containers to be used during the week.

I had never seen a Muslim before. I was very happy to see Muslims for the first time when the Bishop visited the Missions to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation, and they used to join the Catholic Community to attend Mass.

Five months later, the Bishop called me to come to the city to teach religion in the High school. I was surprised to see in the same classroom: Catholic, Muslim and Hindu students. They were friends, they socialized and once in a while I took off my shoes to visit and pray in their mosques. Unfortunately, I never had a chance to visit a Hindu temple.

One day three of us travelled in a Volkswagen to the south of Mozambique. It was a trip of a few days. It happened that two of us were Catholic, and we asked the Muslim if he would mind that we prayed the Rosary. He said that there was not a problem. At a certain point I apologized if we were boring him or disrespecting his presence as a non-Catholic. He showed me something like a rosary and said that he was also praying.



Another little story happened when I was camping with my students. At that time, I was not a priest yet. Of course, I couldn't say Mass. But we prayed the Rosary every day. I told the Muslims they could get together and pray their prayers. They said they couldn't unless they had a clean blanket. No problem. I gathered a group of them, left the camping place and went to the village and borrowed clean blankets. After we went back with clean blankets, we would make two groups every afternoon to pray to the same God. We Catholics prayed the Rosary, and they prayed their prayers. But we felt very happy and united because the Allah of the Muslims was the God of the Catholics. Actually, their prayers took longer than our Rosary.



It was long after these beautiful stories that I started hearing about terrorism and war of religions. I am not sure if everything came later or if it was lack of information on my part. One day a Muslim taxi driver told me in Boston that there were no religious wars. All the wars were caused not by religion but by power, money and land. Frankly I believed in him.

On February 4th, 2019, Pope Francis and the Imam Ahmad al-Tayeb signed a document in favor of the World Peace and common togetherness.

On February 4th, 2022 we commemorate the 2nd DAY OF THE UNIVERSAL FRATERNITY FOR ALL NATIONS.

Love and Peace,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade
06/02/2022

Sources: Crux (www.cruxnow.com) and America Magazine (https://www.americamagazine.org/)

On Friday it was the 2nd international Day of Human Fraternity. This Day is observed on the anniversary of the signing of a Document on Human Fraternity by Pope Francis and the Grand Imam of Egypt's prestigious Al-Azhar mosque and university, Ahmed al-Tayeb in Abu Dhabi on Feb. 4, 2019, during the pope's visit to the United Arab Emirates.



Pope Francis and Sheikh Ahmed Al-Tayeb sign the declaration of fraternity in Abu Dhabi in 2019

The document stresses religious freedom as a basic human right, condemns fundamentalist terrorism, and urges world leaders to join forces in working for peace. American President, Joe Biden, was gifted a copy of the document by Pope Francis during their meeting in October last year. This Friday, President Biden issued a signed statement from the White House encouraging people to come together in a spirit of fraternity to overcome the great challenges facing humanity. The Catholic president said: "Together, we have a real opportunity to build a better world that upholds universal human rights, lifts every human being, and advances peace and security for all..." **"In my life, faith has always been a beacon of hope** and a calling to purpose even during the darkest of days. Sacred teachings across faith traditions command that we love one another, serve and protect the most vulnerable, and uphold the dignity of every person, which is what the International Day of Human Fraternity is all about."

THE CARNIVAL SEASON – A Madeiran Tradition before Lent

In Madeira, the **Carnival season** is celebrated just before the beginning of Lent. Some **traditional gastronomic delicacies** which are meant to be eaten on Shrove Tuesday (which falls on March the 1st this year), are "**Sonhos**" (a fried dough, literally translated as "dreams" because they are fluffy and are eaten with black sugar-cane honey) and "**Malassadas**" (literally translated as "under-cooked") are egg-sized balls of yeast dough that are more compact and are also deep-fried in oil and coated with granulated sugar.



"Sonhos" with honey



"Malassadas" with sugar

If you are in Madeira on holiday at the moment, you will see these on sale right now in all the bakeries, supermarkets and corner cafés. It is part of the Madeiran tradition and you should try some before you go back home! ☺

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 will be donating all proceeds to the poor taken care of by the *People Helping People* charity.



If you love reading, and would like to have a copy, Jane will be standing outside the Chapel after Mass. She will do any signing, dedications etc up at Moynihans Irish Pub (not to hold up the next mass starting at 11h30). Go get yourself a signed copy! Happy reading! ☺