

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

13th of March 2022

2nd Sunday of Lent, 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



Vol. 3, number 301



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. In today's newsletter, we share a column written by Fr. Giselo Andrade, from Funchal's weekly Diocesan newsletter, called "Pedras Vivas". He tells the true story of a young Russian soldier captured in Ukraine two weeks ago.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Gen 15:5-12,17-18; Psalm 26(27); Phil 3:17-4:1; Luke 9: 28-36)



While Abram was wandering round Canaan before 1500 BC, his kinsman, Lot was captured in Sodom. Abram and his allies freed him. To celebrate this victory, bread and wine were brought out and Abram was blessed by Melchizedek, Priest-King of Salem, traditionally identified with Jerusalem. Then the Lord promised Abram a land of his own, an heir, and numberless descendants. A firebrand signifying the Lord's presence, pass between the halves of the animals, a common way at that time of confirming a covenant. **The Psalm** asserts complete confidence that God will not abandon but will rescue us, while asking for guidance and protection. Paul wrote to the **Philippians** about 60 AD. A devout Jew and Pharisee, Paul has nevertheless concluded that righteousness does not come from the Law but through faith in God, as shown by Abraham. As citizens of heaven we owe allegiance to Christ, not Caesar. Since God will transfigure our bodies, we must not be ruled by bodily appetites but gradually transform ourselves into images of Christ. **Luke** describes Jesus' appearance being changed. Moses and Elijah, representing the Law and the Prophets, are talking with him about his "exodus", his coming passion and death. The disciples are confused, but then God tells them they must now listen to Jesus, the representatives of old Israel have departed.

PSALM RESPONSE: The Lord is my light and my help.

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 - "Christ, be our light..." - n. 329

Offertory - "Take my life and let it be..." - n. 527

Amen - n. 726

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

Communion - "I am the bread of life..." - n.237

Thanksgiving - Silence for reflection

Final - "The king of love my Shepherd is..." - n. 546





Translated from Fr. Giselo's article written in Portuguese, which was published in Funchal's Diocesan newsletter:



THE POWER OF LOVE

Every minute, new news about the Ukraine war comes to us through the media and social networks.

In the midst of this torrent of information that tells us of attacks and resistance, economic sanctions and diplomatic attempts, a video has gained prominence on the internet. It is a video recorded by a journalist who features a Russian soldier, very young, captured in the Ukraine.

He was starving. The population brought him tea and cake. Someone made a video call so the soldier could talk to his mother. Visibly moved, he sends a kiss to his mother while drinking the tea kindly offered.

Some experts have said that most of these Russian soldiers are teenagers, who leave for Ukraine without knowing what to do.

In this war, Ukrainian mothers are not the only ones to lose their children. By Thursday, about nine thousand Russian soldiers had died.

On 1 March, the Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church and Archbishop of Kiev, Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk addressed a message to his people: **"I encourage you to learn to love at this tragic time. Let us not be overwhelmed by hatred, let us not use your language and your words. According to popular wisdom, those who hate the enemy are already defeated by him. We will overcome with the power of love for our country, God and others."**

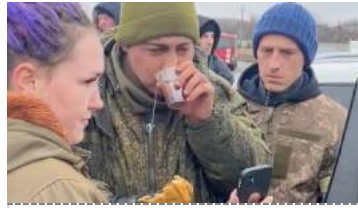
The Archbishop remembered the main victims of the war. **"We see schools, day care centers, cinemas, museums destroyed, and this morning a rocket hit the maternity section in a hospital. We ask: but why? It's about women and babies. Why have they become victims of this war?"**



In the message published by the Vatican news portal, Archbishop Sviatoslav calls for prayer: **"I also ask you to pray not only for peace in Ukraine, but also for our enemies, for their conversion, for the conversion of Russia. As the Virgin of Fatima asked us"** and added, **"love breeds heroes."**

Fr. Giselo Andrade

<https://www.jornaldamadeira.com/2022/03/05/a-forca-do-amor/>



The Russian soldier speaking with his mother

➤ The video of the Russian soldier can be seen on the internet, on Youtube. Here is the link to the video if you would like to have a look: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qre4Skq6K6I>



For the next few weeks during Lent here at the Chapel, you will see below the statue of Our Lady of Lourdes, and on both sides of the Tabernacle, the words "Quaresma"..... and "Lent".



"Quaresma" is the Portuguese word for "Lent".

It is a derivative of the Latin term *Quadragesima*, or "the forty days", which denotes the 40-day period of the Season of Lent.

Forty days is a traditional number of discipline, devotion, and preparation in the Bible. Jesus spent forty days in the desert praying and fasting (Matthew 4:2)

What are you doing for Lent?

10 IDEAS FOR A MORE MEANINGFUL LENTEN SEASON

<p>1. Give up sin Show your love for God by keeping his commandments. Turn away from sins.</p>	<p>2. Fast An empty stomach can lead to more attentive prayer. Give the money you saved on food to others in alms.</p>	<p>3. Pray Be in constant prayer. Pray for your family and friends, for those who suffer, and for the Church and the world.</p>	<p>4. Do good works Help those in need. Pray for them and be ready to serve them in their time of need.</p>
<p>5. Give alms Help the poor and support the good works of the Church. Give cheerfully to God who has given us everything we have.</p>		<p>6. Abstain Give up meat or other desirable foods during Lent, especially on Friday, the day of Christ's saving death on the cross.</p>	
<p>7. Do meditative reading Nourish your faith by spending time in quiet reading and reflection. Prayerful reading of God's word each day will open your heart to the Spirit, and let God's thoughts and ways influence yours.</p>	<p>8. Control desire for possessions Build up treasures in heaven rather than on earth. Cut down on material possessions, eliminate frills, lessen wants, share yourself – your time and your talents – with others.</p>	<p>9. Control desire for entertainment Too much entertainment and other distractions can lead to less or no time for the works of the Lord.</p>	<p>10. Carry out duties in life Serve God by living out your vocation in love each day. God is calling each of us to be a living sacrifice. Offer your daily life through Christ!</p>

Text from Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops' "Living Lent"

Archdiocese of Toronto

www.archtoronto.org