

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

Vol. 3, number 307

24th of April 2022

2nd Sunday of Easter

(Divine Mercy Sunday) 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 IN MADEIRA

Good morning, and welcome! Father Bernardino Andrade is our appointed Sunday priest for this 10am mass in English. This the **only Catholic Mass in English** on the whole Island of Madeira. Father Bernardino was born in Madeira but lived and preached for many years in America, and also in Mozambique.



TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Acts 5:12-16; Ps 117(118); Rev 1:9-19; John 20:19-31)

All the first readings of Eastertide are from the **Acts** of the Apostles describing the early years of the Church. The second readings are from the Book of **Revelation**, John's vision of the new life in heaven promised to all believers and in which we share at Mass. The readings from **John's Gospel** describe Jesus' resurrection appearances and claims of his unity with the Father. Today the risen Jesus identifies himself as the one crucified, before this Gospel's first ending. In **Acts**, Peter and John were arrested, then released. Then the growing Christian community lived in peace. Peter only once acted as judge of Israel, killing Ananias and Sapphira for lying to the Holy Spirit. In today's reading the other disciples stand apart from the Apostles, apparently in awe after this display of Peter's power. More verses from the **Psalms** used for the Easter Masses, rejoicing at the coming of the king. John is exiled to the island of Patmos, south-west of Ephesus, for spreading the gospel. In this first chapter of **Revelation** a figure appears to John in his vision, identifying himself both as the risen "Son of Man", which Jesus called himself while on earth, and as "the First and the Last" – ie God. John is commanded to write down what is now to be revealed to him.

PSALM RESPONSE: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

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 - "I sing a song to you Lord..." - n. 246

Offertory - "Crown him with many crowns..." - n. 119

Amen - n. 726

Communion - "Because He Lives..."

Thanksgiving - "Ubi Caritas et amor..." - n. 587

Final - "Love divine, all loves excelling..." - n. 352



Divine Mercy Sunday



Today the Church celebrates the Second Sunday of Easter. Easter is not a day but a season that Starts on Easter Sunday and ends on Pentecost Sunday. In the year 2000, Pope St. John Paul II established the second Sunday of Easter as the **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**. To illustrate these two events of Resurrection and Mercy we want to share with you these stories from Father Tony Kadavil.

1. HE IS RISEN INDEED



Many years ago, Nikolai Ivanovich Bukharin was one of the most powerful men on earth. A Russian Communist leader, he took part in the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917. He was the editor of the Soviet newspaper *Pravda* and was a full member of the Politburo. His works on economics and political science are still read today. There is a story told about a journey he took from Moscow to Kiev in 1930 to address a huge assembly of Communists. The subject was atheism. Addressing the crowd, he attacked Christianity, hurling insults and arguments against it. When he had finished, he looked out at the audience. "Are there any questions?" he demanded. Deafening silence filled the auditorium, but then one man approached the platform and mounted the lectern. After surveying the crowd, he shouted the ancient greeting of the Russian Orthodox Church: "CHRIST IS RISEN!" The crowd stood up and shouted in a thundering voice: "HE IS RISEN INDEED!" -- Amazed and dejected, Bukharin left the stage in silence. Perhaps he had learned the lesson that Faith in Christ's Resurrection was deeply rooted in his Russian Orthodox Communist followers!

2. MERCY DURING TRAGEDY

The news is filled with illustrations of mercy - or the need for mercy - in our world. One of the most moving stories came to us on October 6, 2006, when an armed man entered an Amish schoolhouse in Nickel Mines, Pennsylvania. He chased out the little boys and lined up the 10 little girls in front of the blackboard. He shot all of them and then killed himself. Five of the girls died. After the medics and police left, the families of the fallen came and carried their slain children home. They removed their bloody clothes and washed the bodies. They sat for a time and mourned their beloved children. After a while they walked to the home of the man who killed their children. They told his widow they forgave her husband for what he had done, and they consoled her for the loss of her spouse. They buried their anger before they buried their children. -- Amish Christians teach us that forgiveness is central. They believe in a real sense that God's forgiveness of themselves depends on their extending forgiveness to other people. That's what the mercy of God is all about. That mercy is why we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. (Rev. Alfred McBride, O.Praem: *Catholic Update* – March 2008).



3. THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON CHOSE MERCY

The emperor Napoleon was moved by a mother's plea for pardon for her soldier son. However, the Emperor said that since it was the man's second major offense, justice demanded death. "I do not ask for justice," implored the mother, "I plead for mercy." "But," said the emperor, "he does not deserve mercy." "Sir," cried the mother, "it would not be mercy if he deserved it, and mercy is all I ask for." The compassion and clarity of the mother's logic prompted Napoleon to respond, "Well, then, I will have mercy." -- The Second Sunday of the Easter season invites us to reflect on God's infinite love and mercy for His people, as detailed in the Bible and as lived and taught by Jesus, and to practice the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.



Fr. Bernardino Andrade
 24-04-2022

St. Faustina of Poland is the well-known apostle of Divine Mercy. She was born in 1905, and belonged to the Order of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy; she was a Polish Roman Catholic nun and mystic. **Throughout her life, Faustina reported having visions of Jesus** and conversations with him, of which she wrote in her diary. On the night of Sunday, 22 February 1931, Jesus appeared to her as the "King of Divine Mercy" wearing a white garment with red and pale rays emanating from his heart. In her diary she wrote that Jesus told her:



«Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: "Jesus, I trust in You" [in Polish: "Jezu, ufam Tobie"]. I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel, and then throughout the world.

I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish.» - Jesus also told her that he wanted the Divine Mercy image to be «solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter; that Sunday is to be the Feast of Mercy.» - Not knowing how to paint, Faustina approached some other nuns at the convent for help, but received no assistance. Only three years later, after her assignment to Vilnius, the first artistic rendering of the image was performed under her direction. The painting now hangs in Vilnius, Lithuania.



The coloured rays streaming out from the heart of Jesus have symbolic meaning... red for the Blood of Jesus, which is the life of souls, and white for the Baptismal water which justifies souls. The brightest point in the picture is the heart. The light on the forehead signifies the presence of the Father. - The whole image is symbolic of the mercy, forgiveness and love of God.

