# **PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)**



People Helping People is a small project founded in the Chapel of Penha de Franca 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).

(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



#### >> 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: sineadmoynihan7@icloud.com

>> **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

#### 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.

# **JOYFUL GIFT**

# 17th of July 2022

## 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França, Rua Penha de França 3, Funchal, Madeira

#### Website and Blog:

http://rcmassmadeira.org/ fwww.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel.. [6]www.instagram.com/capela\_penha\_franca/ penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com

#### CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH

Good morning! This week we are once again blessed with the presence of Father John Maloney, who is in Madeira on holiday. Father John is from the UK, and will be celebrating Mass for us this morning at the request of, Father Bernardino, Thank you, Fr. John!



# **TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS**

(Genesis 18:1-10; Psalm 14(15):2-5; Colossians 1:24-28; Luke 10:38-42)

Abraham, settled by the oaks of Mamre, near Hebron, south of Jerusalem, gives proper hospitality to his three special visitors. He addresses only one of them as Lord, who promises a son to the couple in their old age. God's covenant promise to Abraham of countless descendants can now begin to come true. The Psalm lists the social virtues necessary to be at one with the Lord, especially justice and charity. Paul had explained to the Colossians that with Christ's death God's covenant plan is now back on track. Paul sees his afflictions as helping spread the knowledge of redemption and sees that God gives us the dignity of joining our sufferings to Christ's. The Jews believed that God would reveal his secret plans for creation: Paul says these have now been revealed - the mystery is Jesus the Christ, the man who is the revelation of God, now raised to the new life also promised to us. In Luke's description of Jesus' visit to Martha and Mary, their brother Lazarus is not mentioned. Like Sarah, Martha is busy preparing the meal. With so much to do she is naturally - but not obsessively distracted, and asks for Mary's help. But Jesus reminds her that listening to the words of their prophetic quest is more important than domestic perfection.

#### **PSALM RESPONSE:** The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

### **TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC**

Entry - "This is the day..." - n. 574 Offertory - "Blest are you..." - n. 69 Amen – n. 727 Communion - "Take my life and let it be ... " - n. 527 Thanksgiving - "O Lord hear my prayer..." - 418 **Final** – "Go the mass is ended..." – **n. 175** 



Free Newsletter

# HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE 5 FINGER PRAYER ?

(bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)



### A PRICELESS PLASTIC ROSARY

Last week I was walking with a colleague of mine in the downtown of Funchal. We both need and deserve physical exercise. After stopping for a few moments to contemplate the ocean I was distracted by a young homeless man doing something that brought my curiosity. He would look very close to the pavement and then would bend down and pick up something that after being analyzed was thrown back to the pavement again. It didn't take too much time to

discover that he was searching for lost coins.

It's always disturbing for me to see a human being whom we Christians call Jesus, depending on lost coins to survive. I left my friend and approached the man. **Politely I asked him if he wanted a cup of coffee.** Of course he said yes. I dropped all my coins in his hands and we started a nice conversation.

His name was Pedro and he was suffering from epilepsy. The night before he had suffered an epileptic crisis. He lost his senses and instead of calling the ambulance somebody stole whatever he had.

Before, I used to think that the homeless people formed a «community» of friends. Maybe there are a few friends who help one another but what I suspect is that they consider themselves adversaries of each other and they compete for the «best» garbage cans and the best donors who treat them with compassion.

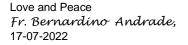
After spending some time sharing a few ideas and learning from one another I decided to say good bye. When I was ready to leave, Pedro took from his pocket a small plastic rosary and said: «this is for you». «But»...I stuttered «Maybe you would like to have it. Maybe you would need it». - I said.

But his answer was «I have another one». I never told him that I was a Catholic or that I was a Priest. I am wondering what made Pedro think that I was going to appreciate that rosary.

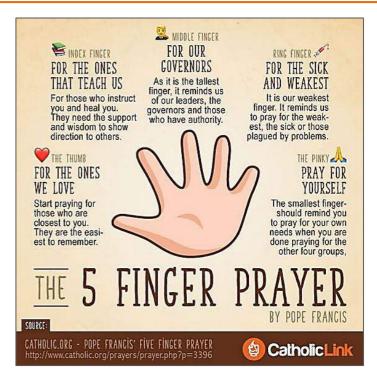
Now I have with me a «cheap» plastic rosary that for me is a priceless gift from a homeless brother.



My priceless gift from a homeless brother







# **THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK**

