#### Free Newsletter

# 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).

#### >> 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:**

Associacao 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 Ouiteria 46A.

9020-119, Funchal Madeira, Portugal.



# >> 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

### >> <u>DONATIONS FROM</u> 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**

Vol. 3, nr. 32

# 7th of August 2022

# 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

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

Website and Blog:

f http://rcmassmadeira.org/

www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel..

www.instagram.com/capela\_penha\_franca/ penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com



#### CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. The Chapel was founded 400 years ago (in 1622) by Antonio Dantas, who wanted to provide the garrison of soldiers close by in the port of Funchal, a space for prayer. It has also been the home of some bishops, including D. Manuel Agostinho Barreto who made this chapel his residence, ending up being, for many, the first hermitage of the diocese (he led a life of penance and prayer). Sister Mary Jane Wilson, founder of the Congregation of the Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Victories (Nossa Senhora das Vitórias) also passed through here. And it was also here in the Chapel of Penha de França, that the first mass in English was celebrated in 1966, by Fr. Agostinho Rafael which continues to happen every Sunday at 10 am. Father Bernardino Andrade is now our appointed Sunday priest for this 10am mass in English. It is the only Catholic Mass celebrated entirely 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

(Wisdom 18:6-9: Psalm 32(33):1-22: Hebrews 11:1-2. 8-19: Luke 12:32-48)

The **Wisdom of Solomon** was the last book of the Old Testament to be written. It was written in Greek, not Hebrew, so not in the Septuagint nor therefore in the Protestant Bible. The final chapters meditate on the Exodus, contrasting the woes visited on the Egyptians at the first Passover with the gifts given by God to the Israelites. **The Psalm** celebrates God's faithfulness, power and wisdom, justifying our confidence in him. The 2<sup>nd</sup> readings in August from **Hebrews** describe faith, which gives assurance to our hopes. Abraham is the prime example of a man of faith: he obeyed God's command to go to a new land; he believed God's promise that he and Sarah would have a child in their old age; and he passed the supreme test of faith when God asked him to sacrifice his only son, Isaac. God's last minute reprieve for Isaac is seen as a return from the dead. In **Luke's Gospel**, following the parable we heard last week about the rich man building a bigger barn, Jesus assures us that we will be given all the resources we need to meet the Lord's demands. He then urges us to have faith and to be prepared.

**PSALM RESPONSE**: Happy are the people the Lord has chosen as his own.



#### TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

**Entry** - "*Mary Most Holy* ... " - **n. 364** 

Offertory - "Father I place into your hands..." - n. 134

.....,

Amen – n. 726

Communion - "Amazing Grace..." - n. 32

Thanksgiving - Silence for Reflection

Final - "O Lord my God..." - n. 419

(bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)

#### WHAT THE EIGHT-YEAR-OLD JASON TAUGHT ME ABOUT CONFESSION

Jason was a baby when I baptized him.

His father was an American and was raised in the Adventist Church. His mother was Portuguese and a very active Catholic. This family became my family in a country where I had no family. Jason had a sister called Rosa, named after her grandmother. They used to call me «uncle Bernardino». Jason's father later on became a Catholic.

When I was at their house, they always asked me to tuck them in at night. I would go to their room, pray with them, and then make the sign of the cross on their foreheads. They loved it, Jason told me that every time I made the sign of the cross on his forehead he felt like as if I was «massaging his brains». Rosa told me that every time I made the sign of the cross on her forehead she felt «special».

#### I used to take my day off on Wednesdays with an elderly Portuguese Priest.

This was on a Wednesday and it was our day off. On my way to my friend's house, I stopped by Jason's house. His mother was very very nervous. What had happened? Jason and Rosa had a cousin who was visiting them. But instead of playing together, Rosa had stayed in her room with her cousin, and did not allow Jason to play with them. He felt rejected and lonely. He was a very sweet boy but was also very temperamental. They got upset with each other and Jason went to kitchen, grabbed a knife and was ready to fight with his sister. Of course, now I understood why his mother was nervous. After talking for a few moments, she begged me if I could take him to spend the day with us. If he stayed home, she knew that there was not going to be peace all day. Of course I said ves.

I had inserted in my car a tape recorder where I could record our voices. Driving through those mountains I decided to play a game with Jason. I would be like a news man interviewing a VIP. He was supposed to be the VIP.



I asked many questions and finally I asked him: «I understand that you had a conflict with your sister this morning, right »? He took the microphone from my hand and gave me a very short answer: «That's personal». I decided not to talk about that anymore.

We all spent the day together, had lunch, and appreciated the scenery of this city called Santa Cruz and went around always appreciating the ocean and the mountains.

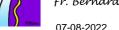
Finally we got home, rested for a while and had dinner together. Then the children invited me to tuck them in. as usual.

After praying with Rosa and tucking her in, it was Jason's turn. I went to his room, prayed with him, made the usual sign of the cross, turned the lights off and left. When I was closing the door he called me: «Uncle Bernardino...». I turned back and said «yes». That's when he, very sadly, told me: «That thing of the knife was very stupid». Then I said: «Is it bothering you?» and he answered: «A lot». Then, very kindly he told me: «Rosa must be suffering very much for what I did. Please go to her room and talk with her and comfort her». I spent some more time talking with him and also comforting him, and suggesting what he should do in circumstances like that. «Never under no circumstances take a knife to solve any conflict, especially with your sister».

Before that day, I didn't support the idea of taking children to Confession like we do with adults. But on that day Jason changed my mind. Since then, I started believing that Confession to a priest,

through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, should be encouraged in any age. Forgiveness, reconciliation, forgiveness and healing should be available to every person at any age.

Love and Peace. Fr. Bernardíno Andrade,





# ASSUMPTION DAY MASS – August 15th – 10:00 AM

Next Monday, August 15th, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Assumption of Marv.

It is a Holy Day of obligation like on a Sunday. Mass will be celebrated here at the Chapel at 10:00 AM, by Fr. Bernardino Andrade, and Deacon Craig Aburn (visiting from the UK).

All are welcome! ☺

# OUR LADY OF MONTE FESTIVAL - 14th and 15th of August

For the first time since the start of the coronavirus pandemic, and with the lifting of restrictions, we can once again celebrate the Feast of Nossa Senhora do Monte (Our Lady of the Mountain). This feast will take place on the 14th and



15<sup>th</sup> of August in the parish of Monte. It is the biggest religious festival on the island and attracts thousands devotees. At the

Monte church you will also find the tomb of Blessed Karl of Austria, the last emperor of Austria, who went into exile in Madeira in 1921. In the atrium of the church you can also find the statue of the Emperor. The year 2022 marks the 100th anniversary of his death.

# SPECIAL PILGRIMAGE TO MADEIRA - From the USA

The year 2022 marks the 100th anniversary of the death of Blessed Karl of Austria who died on 1 April 1922 at the young age of 34.



Bishop Athanasius Schneider

In celebration of the centenary year, a special pilgrimage to the island of Madeira with Bishop Athanasius Schneider, auxiliary bishop of Astana, Kazakhstan and promoter of Blessed Karl is taking place.

The group of 30 pilgrims is visiting the island this week, from 5<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> of August, all the way from the USA. They will visit some places of tourist and religious interests



Blessed Karl of Austria

regarding the history of Blessed Karl and his life here in Madeira.

For more information on the Pilgrimage visit:

www.emperorcharles.org/news/2022/2/14/pilgrimage-to-madeira-with-bishop-schneider