

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)



"You should wash each other's feet"
(John 13:14).

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:

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, nr. 324

21st of August 2022

21st 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/>

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 was here in the Chapel of Penha de França, that the first mass in English was celebrated in 1966, by Fr. Agostinho Rafael, and continues to take place every Sunday at 10 am. Our appointed Sunday priest is now Father Bernardino Andrade. This is the only Catholic Mass celebrated entirely in English on the whole Island of Madeira.

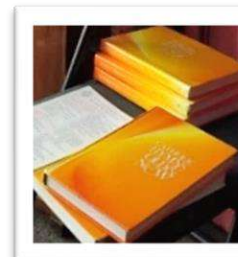


TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(*Isaiah 66:18-21; Psalm 116(117); Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13; Luke 13:22-30*)

After lamenting the disasters God has sent on the Israelites because of their sins, third **Isaiah** sees hope in God's renewal of his covenant promise and in the "new heavens and the new earth" which God is creating. Jerusalem will prosper and all nations will be invited to God's holy mountain in Jerusalem. God's glory will be seen by all, and all nations will worship him. This shortest of all the **Psalms** calls on all mankind to praise the Lord for his kindness to us and for his faithfulness to his promises. **Hebrews** quotes from the Book of Proverbs that a son should expect to be disciplined by his Father. So we should not be discouraged when God disciplines us: rather we should rejoice that God shows in this way that we are his beloved sons. We must persevere, enduring our sufferings, turning away from sin and accepting the works God calls us to do. Chapter 13 of **Luke's gospel** emphasises the need to repent, to change our mind-set about God. After Jesus healed a crippled woman on the Sabbath, the synagogue ruler was outraged to be told his understanding of the Sabbath was hypocrisy. But we also have great difficulty in accepting God's ways. Today's reading insists that entering the kingdom is difficult.

PSALM RESPONSE: Go out to the whole world and proclaim the good news.



TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

Entry - "O Lord all the world belongs to you ..." - n. 416

Offertory - "In bread we bring you Lord..." - n. 258

Communion - "Longing for light..." - n. 329

Thanksgiving - Silence for Reflection

Final - "The Spirit lives to set us free..." - n. 561



(bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)

THE TERRORISM OF INTOLERANCE

This happened last week. The traffic was not too bad... it was just a little slow. I was sure that it would be just for a few moments and nobody would become impatient with this almost normal situation, because the rest of the road was pretty normal.

A lady driving in front of me had to stop to drop off one of her passengers at the bus stop. As it is obvious, when she stopped (even for a few moments) the entire traffic stopped. It was just for a few moments. It affected the traffic just for a few moments. I thought that everything was very normal.

When this happened, maybe eight cars behind mine... a man started insulting her and yelling obscene words with all the strength of his lungs and took some time «singing the same dirty and intolerant song». The cars in front started going again, and he kept on screaming. It seems that he wanted to insult and «blame» the entire city for that «terrible» incident. It took just a few moments for the traffic to return to normality but he still kept on yelling. I went a different direction so I don't know for how long he felt so miserable and tried to make other people feel so miserable. Thank God nobody reacted.

Then, after going on my way I started praying for him but mainly for his family.

How can a woman be a happy wife of such a miserable and intolerant man? How can little children grow up under the authority of such a miserable and intolerant father? How can a neighbour be a good and happy neighbour of such an intolerant neighbour?

Intolerance is a form of terrorism. Maybe not everybody can be blamed of such a low scene of terrorism but I believe that it's very easy for any of us to have moments that disturb and affect our relationships at home, with our families, with our friends and with all of those who don't agree with us. I have been one of them and I have to confess that I am not proud of that.

«Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there's need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you» (Ephesians 4: 29-32).

Love and Peace,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade, 21-08-2022



Source: <https://cnstopstories.com/2016/04/07/for-catholic-astronauts-flying-to-space-doesnt-mean-giving-up-the-faith/>



Astronaut Mike Hopkins

For Catholic astronauts, flying to space doesn't mean giving up the faith. On the International Space Station (a habitable artificial satellite, in low Earth orbit) there's a place called the Cupola, where astronauts like to hang out. It's a small module with seven large bay windows that give crew members a panoramic view of Earth.

On his first mission into space in September 2013, astronaut Mike Hopkins was eager to find the Cupola...it was there that he found himself praying and at times taking Communion. Under a special arrangement with the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and with the help of Father James H. Kuczynski, his parish Priest, **he took with him to space a pyx** (a small round container used to carry the consecrated host (Eucharist) to the sick or those unable to come to a church to receive Holy Communion) with six consecrated hosts broken into four pieces. It was enough so that



Pyx (a container for the consecrated host)

he could take Communion once a week for the 24 weeks he was aboard the ISS. *« It was extremely important to me, »* said Hopkins. **On long-term missions to the International Space Station, schedules give astronauts blocks of private time daily, allowing them to pray, read the Bible or other inspirational works, write in a journal or reflect on God.** Hopkins used some of his time to keep up with the Sunday readings and his pastor's weekly homily, both of which he received via email from the support person for his family assigned by NASA who was a member of his parish. *« My crewmates knew I had the Eucharist with me, »* Hopkins said. *« In fact, I coordinated with my Russian commander. He knew everything going on. They were all aware of that, but I never tried to make a large deal about it and publicize it and they didn't either. They respected my faith and my desire to follow that faith even when I was in orbit. »*

HOW CAN WE HELP? – A desperate appeal

This week I received an email from the person who deals with the poor that are taken care of by the "People Helping People" association. They call him when they are desperate, and when he can't help them, they call me. This is a short section from the email that he sent me. If anyone can help, please let me know. *Fr. Bernardino Andrade*



Hello Father!

We have several emergencies and some other non-emergencies this week, so I thought I would email and ask if some of your congregation could maybe help directly with these issues: dealing with medication, food and house rent. These are the ones that I'm extra worried about, because I can't see a way that we could help them in a short term.

(1) We have Mrs E, who is sick. She owes the **pharmacy** about **300€** of medication that they allowed her to take (but to pay later). Of course, now they won't give her more medication that she desperately needs until her current debt is paid. **(2) We** are trying to help 4 of our families pay their **rents** this month. The total we need to help them is **640€**. Of course we have other pending issues, but those i think we can try and solve in the next few weeks. These are the ones that I'm extra worried about, because I can't see a way we could help them. If you can find any volunteers to help with these issues, they can go themselves meet the families, or go directly to where the money is needed (Pharmacy, rent, etc) or give it to us with their instruction on where they want their money to be spent, and we will handle it. Any help will be appreciated. Thank you as always, *Alexandre*

16/08/2022