

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

28th of August 2022

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

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



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Website and Blog:

<http://rcmassmadeira.org> / www.facebook.com/penhafranchachapel.

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

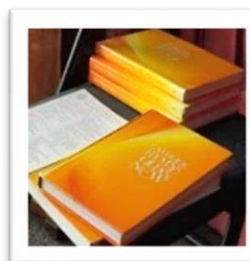
(*Sirach* 3:17-20, 28-29; *Psalms* 67(68):4-11; *Hebrews* 12:18-19, 22-24; *Luke* 14:1, 7-14)

Part of Wisdom literature, the Book of **Sirach**, or Ecclesiasticus, was written by Ben Sira about 200 BC. Based on deep experience, it is full of traditional Jewish and worldly wisdom and morals. After describing our duties towards God and our parents, today's reading emphasises the need for humility in face of God's greatness and the wisdom that comes from listening carefully. The omitted verses advise us not to seek what is beyond our power nor tasks beyond what has been assigned to us. This triumphal **Psalms** celebrating God's goodness was sung as David danced leading the Ark of the Covenant into Jerusalem. Our final reading from **Hebrews** describes the exciting delights of the heavenly city we have now entered, after our baptism. Instead of fearsome Sinai, Zion – the new "Temple Mount" where God resides – is full of angels in tumultuous joyful festival, with believers and saints made perfect being welcomed by Jesus and our God. What a welcome! But God is still judge: as we have been given the privilege of Jesus as covenant-mediator, we have the responsibility of offering thanksgiving to God. In **Luke's gospel** we hear about Jesus having dinner with a Pharisee. Two parables illustrate the themes from the first reading of humility and not giving ourselves airs.

PSALM RESPONSE: In your goodness, O God, you prepared a home for the poor.

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 - "Shine, Jesus Shine..." - n. 344

Offertory - "Lord accept the gifts we offer..." - n. 332

Communion - "Richer than gold..." - n. 353

Thanksgiving - "Meditation" played by Sofia Maria Correia.

Final - "Colours of day..." - n. 93

(bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)

1. A PROVOCATIVE AND HUMBLE JESUS OF NAZARETH

I am not surprised that some of the «professionals of religion», in Jesus' time, tried to spread the news that Jesus was crazy and a law breaker.

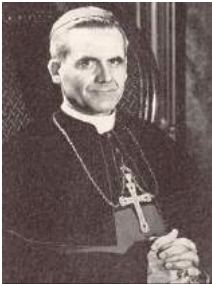
In today's Gospel (Luke 14: 1,7-14) Jesus shows that «maybe» they were right.

Jesus was having a meal in the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. And Jesus said a few things that could not be «normal». Just a few

things but very provocative: «When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours for fear they will repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No. When you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again. » To illustrate this Gospel here are two stories by Fr. Tony Kadavil.



2. A PROVOCATIVE AND HUMBLE CARDINAL LEGER



Rev. Paul-Emil Leger

Most Rev. Paul-Emil Leger served as Archbishop of Montreal from 1950 to 1968 and was elevated to the Cardinalate in 1953 by Pope Pius XII. He was one of the most powerful men in Canada and within the Catholic Church. He was a man of deep conviction and humility. Then on April 20, 1968 he resigned his office and, leaving his red vestments, crosier, miter and pallium in his Montreal office, disappeared. Years later, he was found living among the lepers and disabled outcasts of a small African village. When a Canadian journalist found him and asked him «WHY», here is what Cardinal Ledger had to say:

«It will be the great scandal of the history of our century that 600 million people are eating well and living luxuriously and three billion people starve, and every year millions of children are dying of hunger. I am too old to change all that. The only thing I can do which makes sense is to be present.

I must simply be in the midst of them. So, just tell people in Canada that you met an old priest who is happy to be old and still a priest and among those who suffer. I am happy to be here and to take them into my heart».



3. A PROVOCATIVE AND HUMBLE HINDU GANDHI



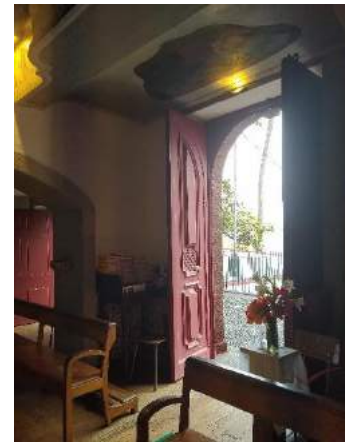
Mahatma Gandhi

One man who took Jesus seriously was Mahatma Gandhi.

Gandhi acknowledged that he had been much influenced by the Gospels and touched by the life of Christ. As he once remarked:

«I might have become a Christian had it not been for Christians! » Gandhi did not lead the masses by standing like a monarch above them but by identifying with them and sharing in their circumstances. He identified himself with the half-naked rural masses by rejecting his attorney's pants and coat and dressing himself with a loincloth and cotton shawl. While the other high caste Indian politicians where not willing to associate themselves with the untouchables, Gandhi chose to live, eat and march with the untouchables, and he gave them a new dignity and a new name. He honoured them by calling them «harijans», «the People of God»

Love and Peace,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade,



At the foot of the statue of our Lady of Penha de França (at the front of the the Chapel) you can see a sleeping man and an alligator to represent this legend. You will find this on all statues of Our Lady of Penha de França.

At the entrance door of the Chapel, if you look upwards, just above your head you will see a **painting of a sleeping man, with an alligator waiting to attack him.**

This has to do with a legend, which tradition has it that a pilgrim, on the road to the shrine of Our Lady of Penha de França in Lisbon, stopped by the way and fell into a deep sleep of exhaustion. Whilst he slept, a fearsome reptile was about to devour him, when Our Lady, surrounded by an aura of light, appeared upon the hilltop and awakened the pilgrim, warning him of the danger.

The beast was slain, and the hide carried to the church in Lisbon. Without the head, it measured 14 hands, and was covered in thick greenish black scales. Stuffed with straw, it was on view in the church there until 1739, when it had to be removed owing to its dilapidated condition.



MASS AT BICA DA CANA



TODAY at 4:00 PM there will be Mass in Bica da Cana (at the Little Corner of the Good Shepherd). It is a Mass dedicated to the Migrants, Refugees and Tourists. A Venezuelan choir will sing. All are welcome to attend.



MAY THE LORD BE WITH YOU ALWAYS AND, WHEREVER YOU ARE, MAY YOU BE WITH HIM ALWAYS. AMEN.

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI

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