

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

4th of September 2022

23rd 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

(*Wisdom 9:13-18; Psalm 89(90):3-17; Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Luke 14:25-33*)

The **Book of Wisdom** was written in 1st century BC. Greek and other pagan religions gave inadequate answers to life's questions, especially why the wicked prosper and the just suffer. How does a just God mete out justice? Wisdom's solution, distilled from all Jewish Scriptures, is that the just continue to live with God after their deaths: a developing Jewish belief in resurrection, though not of the body. Man's knowledge and powers of reasoning are inadequate compared with God's Wisdom. So we ask God to give us Wisdom for our guide. **The Psalm** contrasts God's eternity with our short lives, confident that God cares for us and that some good will come from our trials. In this moving letter Paul asks **Philemon** to accept back the slave Onesimus and forgive him. But Paul is pleading for something more: Onesimus means "profit", and Paul wants Philemon to see the "profit" of forgiving Onesimus out of Christian love, and not because Paul could "force this act of kindness". In this way Philemon can gain wisdom and spiritual benefit. **In Luke's gospel**, after a parable about "I'm too busy" excuses, Jesus insists we must "hate" our parents: not emotionally but in our actions. We must weigh our options carefully and willingly carry the Cross.

PSALM RESPONSE: O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

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

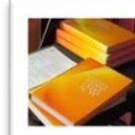
Entry - "O Lord, all the world belongs to you..." - n. 416

Offertory - "Give thanks..." - n. 164

Communion - "I cannot tell..." - n. 239

Thanksgiving - Silence for Reflection

Final - "I give my hands to do your work..." - n. 241



(bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)

1. ARE YOU SAVED?

Many years ago, I had the privilege of being invited to attend a weekend ecumenical workshop directed by Fr. John Hampsch. It was a workshop entitled «Healing of Memories». After spending twelve years teaching Psychology in one of the American Universities, Fr. John Hampsch was dedicating most of his life to the ministry of healing. Among many books, he wrote one with the name of «Healing the Family Tree». The workshop was

ecumenical. I was surrounded by Catholics, and many other Christian denominations. One day during lunch, a man who was on the other side of the table, right in front of me, addressed me with an unexpected question. «**Are you saved?**»? My immediate answer was: «**Oh no! God has still lots of work to do to save a sinner like me**». For some of the Christian groups, salvation is a quick event. It happens in one moment and stays forever. It's like powdered milk. You have the powder. The only thing you need to do is to add water and instantaneously you have milk. Or maybe it's like getting a credit card that you carry with you and salvation is guaranteed. For us Catholics and many other denominations, salvation is a journey. There's no doubt that Jesus is our Lord and Saviour. But the tragedy is that we have the power and the freedom to sabotage all the work of God in us. That's why salvation is walking together side by side with Jesus. Salvation is a journey that involves our daily attention and our daily effort to be a true follower of Jesus.

"A wounded healer is someone who can listen to a person in pain without having to speak about his or her own wounds."



2. AM I NOT CONVERTED?

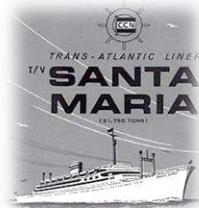
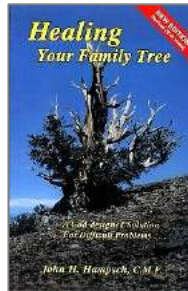
I had a good friend who was a Pastor of a Baptist Church. He had just read one of the books written by Fr. Henry Nouwen, a Dutch Catholic priest. The name of the book was «The Wounded Healer». Henry Nouwen was one of the writers who had more influence in the spirituality of the twentieth century. One day he was sharing with me his experience of reading Henry Nouwen. He was fascinated with the book «the «Wounded Healer». The only thing he was confused with was that Henry Nouwen talked about «daily conversion». For him, Conversion was something that happens once, forever. Then I told him the story of my trip in the boat «Santa Maria».

3. MY TRIP IN THE BOAT «SANTA MARIA»

This boat was without any doubt the most popular Portuguese boat in the sixties. She was the boat that would very faithfully, every other Monday, anchor in the bay of Funchal, embarking and disembarking Madeiran men who, with lots of tears, were emigrating and travelling between Madeira, Venezuela and Curaçao. I witnessed and «tasted» many of those tears. **Madeiran emigration was one of the best things but also one of the cruelest things that happened in Madeira Island.** It was emigration that built many houses in Madeira but it was also the cause of many «widows» separated from their husbands (still alive), and many «orphans» with their fathers still alive. **One day I was lucky to travel between Lisbon and Funchal in the boat «Santa Maria».** The captain showed me and my three colleagues the boat and how it worked. The most important thing for me was the Pilot house and to see the giant wheel that guided the boat in that giant ocean. All the time I was there I never saw the pilot touching the wheel. Besides, once in a while the wheel made a strange noise. That made me ask the pilot: «*Is that strange noise indicating that there is something wrong?*» He smiled and explained that that noise was the automatic pilot doing its job. «*When we left Lisbon we directed the boat in the route to Funchal, through the automatic pilot. But during the trip there are unexpected winds and waves that divert the boat from the right route into other different directions.*



Fr. John Hampsch.



That's when the automatic pilot enters into action and corrects even the little things that interfere with the right direction, and the right port the pilot had in mind.» **Adapting to our spiritual language this would be our daily conversion. Jesus is the «Pilot» in our salvation journey.** It was on the day of our Baptism that the «automatic pilot» was set. However, we know how many «Winds» and «waves» of temptations try to divert our lives from the route of salvation. That's why «conversion» (like prayer, Confession, acts of charity to the poor and good deeds) must be part of our daily life because they are part of the wheel that conducts us to salvation.

Love & Peace, Fr. Bernardino Andrade 04/09/2022

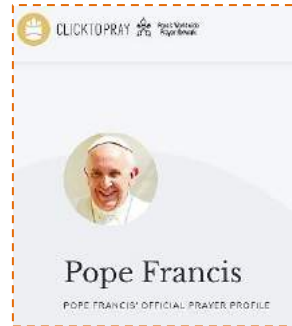
«CLICK TO PRAY» – The Pope's Worldwide Prayer network - on your phone

Have you heard about «Click to Pray»? It is the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network created for you and me.

In 2019, The Vatican launched a website and a phone App called «Click to Pray» to connect Catholics to a global network so that they could share prayer intentions via their smart phones. This was to be another way to pray with others. On the website, there is a Prayers Wall where you can leave your own prayer requests, pray for others' intentions, and also see how many people are praying for you.

A first version of Click To Pray was launched in 2014 in Portugal at the initiative of the Portuguese office of the Apostleship of Prayer. That version, which immediately created a community of 87,000 people in 138 countries, set the stage to globalize the Project. The site is now available in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, French, German and traditional Chinese so that people virtually everywhere can unite their prayers easily and quickly every day. **With this, Pope Francis seeks to promote the spirit of dialogue and interaction**, so that each user can join thousands of people praying for his and their own intentions.

For more information: www.clicktopray.org/community



A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOUR – Out of the mouths of children

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin 5, and Ryan 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson...

'If Jesus were sitting here, He would say,
'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.'
Kevin turned to his younger brother and said,
'Ryan, you be Jesus!'



3-year-old Reese :
'Our Father, Who does art in heaven, Harold is His name. Amen.'

A little boy was overheard praying: 'Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am.'

A child's prayer: "Lord, help the bad people to be good and the good people to be kind".

A wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to their six-year-old daughter and said, 'Would you like to say the blessing?' 'I wouldn't know what to say,' the girl replied. 'Just say what you hear Mommy say,' the wife answered. The daughter bowed her head and said, 'Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?'

A Sunday school teacher asked her children as they were on the way to church service, 'And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?' One bright little girl replied, 'Because people are sleeping.'