

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).



"You should wash each other's feet"
(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: la.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: la.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

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

23rd of October 2022

30th 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/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel..

Instagram: www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/

Email: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com



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CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH IN MADEIRA

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. This 10am Mass is the only Catholic Mass celebrated entirely in English on the whole Island of Madeira. We are blessed to have **Fr. Bernardino Andrade** celebrating Mass for us today.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(*Sirach/Eccle'us 35:12-14,16-19; Psalm 32(33); 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18; Luke 18:9-14*)

Sirach was a Jerusalem sage writing about 180 BC. His wise maxims are much used by the Church. God does not approve "the gifts of the godless, nor for their many sacrifices does he forgive their sins". God is just, "he hears the cry of the oppressed". God's justice will be seen, he will wreak "vengeance upon the proud". **The Psalm** urges us to praise the Lord, especially for his rescue of us. We should therefore keep his commandments. Paul tells **Timothy** to expect a time to come "when people will not tolerate sound doctrine" "and will stop listening to the truth". In every age Christians have experienced this happening. Paul is facing death alone. But God has not deserted him, enabling him to speak out at his trial, sending the gospel message to yet more Gentiles, even at this late hour. In **Luke's gospel** Jesus continues his teachings on prayer. After last week's parable about the persistent widow comes this strong condemnation of insincere prayer. We should not imagine that the Pharisee was bad: he is a good man, conscientiously observing his religion. Yet Jesus says the tax collector went home justified "rather than" the Pharisee. Not "more than"! Why? Because the tax collector was humble enough to admit his need of God and of his mercy.

PSALM RESPONSE: This poor man called; the Lord heard him.

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 - "Abba Father..." - n. 5

Offertory - "Take my life..." - n. 527

Communion - "We come to share our story..." - n. 607

Thanksgiving - Silence for Reflection

Final - "O Lord all the world..." - n. 416





NON-CATHOLIC SAINTS

According to a very interesting belief, when we get to Heaven we will meet three groups of Saints:

(1) We will meet **people whom we expect to see** in Heaven. I have met many people in my life, including members of my family, like my father and my mother who I have no doubt that they will be in Heaven. They are the

greatest Saints and the greatest inspirations of my life and my spirituality.

(2) We will meet another group of **people whom we didn't expect to see** in Heaven. This situation will make stronger the belief that the mercy of God is really unconditional.

(3) There will be another group of **people who will be surprised to see us** in Heaven!



The parable of the Pharisee and the Tax collector narrated in today's Gospel (30th Sunday C)

may be a tremendous surprise for the majority of the "good Christians".

The Pharisees were the professionals of religion. They always did *more* than they were expected to do. They always prayed *more* than they were expected to pray. The "Tax Collectors", for good reasons, were the most repugnant and hated class among their citizens. The big difference in this story is that the Pharisee was full of himself. He prayed to "inform" God of how "good" he was. To be even more admired by other people. The Tax Collector "beat his breast and said: "God, be merciful to me a sinner".

Pride and Humility made all the difference.

2 . A NON-CATHOLIC SAINT CALLED MAHATMA GANDHI

Among the many non-Catholic Saints whom I venerate and have inspired my life, is Mahatma Gandhi. I would like to share one of his stories told by Fr. Tony Kadavil in one of his publications.

"Before the great spiritual leader Mahatma Gandhi led India in its struggle for independence, he practiced law in South Africa. He became keenly aware of the injustice there, and he managed to persuade the Indian community to offer passive resistance to the government's policy of discrimination. One incident which impressed itself on his mind was when he was obliged to step into the gutter so that a group of white passers-by would not be contaminated. Reflecting on the experience afterwards he wrote: "It has always been a mystery to me how men feel themselves honored by the humiliation of their fellow beings." Gandhi made the remark not in anger but in surprise. When he returned to his native India, he abandoned the practice of the law to practice *Satyagraha* – the non-violent force born of truth and love. Gandhi saw truth as having a power of its own and, although he was imprisoned four times for resisting British colonial rule, he never doubted the rightness of his cause. - In the language of the first reading, Gandhi believed in a God who was no respecter of the privileged to the detriment of the poor. His persistence in his cause for justice is a powerful illustration of the truth we heard proclaimed: "The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds, until it arrives, he is inconsolable, nor will he desist until the Most High takes notice of him." (Denis McBride in *Seasons of the Word*; quoted by Fr. Botelho). (<https://frtonyshomilies.com/>).



Love & Peace,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade



Did you know that in Madeira there is a giant Rosary composed of large stones and large chains? The chains in this Rosary are from the ships that were torpedoed in the port of Funchal during the First World War!



During the First World War, Funchal was targeted by two bombs launched from German submarines. The people of Funchal rushed in haste to the church of *Our Lady of Monte* to ask for peace and, in a ceremony carried out in the Fountain Square, on 27 July 1917, a promise was made by the parish priest of Monte, Father José Marques Jardim, that if God, by intercession of Our Lady, would grant peace and an end to the war, he would

undertake to build a memorial in gratitude and as a plea for peace.



This so desired peace was granted in the following year. The first stone was cast on 1 November 1923, and the monument was inaugurated on 14 August 1927. The Monument, in neo-Roman style bears an image of the Virgin Mary, five and a half meters in height,



standing on a pedestal on four Roman columns. At its base there is a bas-relief in bronze, of the apparition of the Virgin to the little shepherds.

The base of the monument is wrapped in a rosary composed of chains from the ships that were torpedoed in the port of Funchal during the World War, and stones from the river of Santo Antonio. All of these materials were transported in a procession of pilgrims, by some 300 men, most of whom were the workers of the Monte route, on 1st November 1927.



A close-up of the giant stones and chains that make up the Rosary around the monument

You can find this giant Rosary at the *Santuário da Nossa Senhora Da Paz* (Sanctuary of Our Lady of Peace) in *Terreiro da Luta*, about a 20-minute drive from Funchal, just past the parish of *Monte*.

