

## 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 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.



### >> 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



### >> 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

## JOYFUL GIFT

7th of May 2023

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Year A

10h00 Sunday Mass

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](http://www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel)

**Instagram:** [www.instagram.com/capela\\_penha\\_franca/](http://www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/)

**Email:** [penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com)



### CATHOLIC MASS - ENGLISH SERVICE

**Good morning!** Welcome! This English Service Mass is a tradition that dates back to 1966, when Fr Rafael Andrade, having just returned from his first visit to England, complied with the Bishop's request to start an English celebration in Madeira. Fr. Rafael presided this mass for over 30 years, when he had to stop in 1999 due to overlapping duties. For eight years there was no Mass in English in Madeira, until it began again on the first Sunday of Lent in 2007, celebrated by Fr. Bernardino Andrade.

### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Acts 6:1-7; Psalm 32(33); 1 Peter 2:4-9; John 14:1-12)

The Hellenists were Christian Greek-speaking Jews. A common way of resolving community arguments is schism: you go your way, we'll go ours. Significantly the early Christians managed to maintain fellowship by allowing each group to manage its own affairs. As Stephen's speech later shows, the Hellenists bitterly opposed the Jewish Temple authorities, who drove them out of Jerusalem, starting the spread of Christianity. The Apostles were not expelled, and continued their work, with many Jews including priests being converted. **The Psalm** praises the Lord's omnipotent power and kindness. Relying on His promises we can be confident he will rescue us. **Peter's letter** continues encouraging persecuted Christians by reminding them that we are "a royal priesthood, ... a people set apart to sing God's praises". Every preface concludes with the words: "every land, every people exults in your praise". At Mass we – exercising our common priesthood that comes from our baptism – offer all we have done during the week, our presence together in community, and our material gifts, as a sacrifice to confirm our allegiance to Christ, just as God's sacrifice of his Son showed his love for us. **In John's Gospel**, after washing the disciples' feet and foretelling his death, Jesus emphasises his intimate relationship with the Father, saying "to have seen me is to have seen the Father".

**PSALM RESPONSE:** May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

[www.bible-groups.info](http://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](mailto:chris@chris-oliver.net)

### TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC

- Entry** - "The love I have for you, my Lord..." - n. 555
- Offertory** - "Hail, Redeemer, King divine!..." - n. 205
- Peace** - "Shalom, my friend, shalom..." - n. 495
- Communion** - "Glory and praise to our God..." - n. 166
- Thanksgiving** - "Give thanks with a grateful heart..." - n. 164
- Final** - "Praise to the Holiest in the height..." - n. 467



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](mailto: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.

Email: bernardinodandrade@gmail.com



1.

**IF YOU WANT TO BE FREE, FOLLOW ME**

**During the Second World War, in Malaya, a prisoner happened to escape from the prisoner's camp.** He was assisted by a native fellow who led him through a thick forest and from there to freedom and back home. The native fellow



walked ahead, and the man followed him from behind. With great difficulty they were finding their way through thorns and bushes, and ups and downs, and twists and turns, and the man got very tired. He asked the native fellow: «Are you sure this is the way? » The native fellow looked at him, and in broken English he said: «There is no way. I am the way. If you want to be free and go home, then you have to just follow me».

**In the same way, in the Gospel Reading of today, Jesus says to us:** «I am the Way, and the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me». That means: «If you want to be free, follow me».

When I was a child, I was taught that «outside the Catholic Church, there is no salvation».

**Growing up in my spiritual journey I discovered and was taught that the Church is an instrument to establish the Kingdom of God and that in the Kingdom of God there are many rooms.** «There are many dwelling places in my Father's house». That's why one of the symbols we have here at this English Mass of these many dwelling places is when we pray the *Our Father*. All non-Catholics are invited to surround the altar and pray the Lord's Prayer together. There are many dwelling places. The way to the Father is Jesus. The Church is just an instrument.



**2. COME..... GO...**

**Many years ago,** I had the privilege of visiting Pennsylvania in the USA. Michael, a former American Adventist living in California with his family, had been baptized a Catholic and had invited me to be his Godfather. He was married with a Portuguese Catholic lady. For work reasons, he moved to Pennsylvania with their two children whom I had baptized.

**One day we were travelling through the beautiful forests of Pennsylvania when we spotted a Church.** We stopped and went to visit it. The doors were open. At the entrance of the church there was a large doormat. Looking at the doormat we could read in large letters: **“WELCOME TO PRAY”**. We entered, admired the church and prayed. When we exited, we could read written on the same door mat:

**“GO TO SERVE”**.

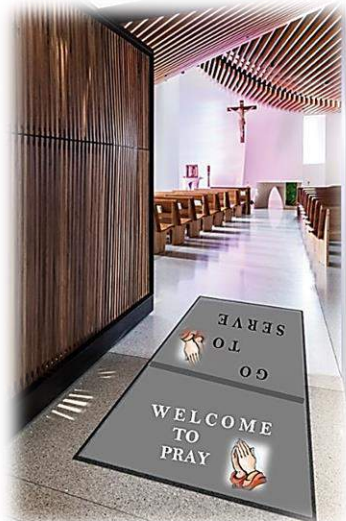
After reading and meditating on today's second reading we can understand that in this door mat we have the entire program of a Christian life.

We attend Mass to pray and build community. Then at the end of Mass, the Presider of the Mass celebration sends us to be salt and light to the world telling us the word **GO**. He sends us with a special mission which is to transform prayer into service.

Love and Peace,

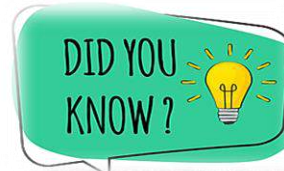
Fr. Bernardino Andrade

07/05/2023



**32 YEARS AGO –**

**Pope John Paul II visited our Island**



**On May 12, 1991 (32 years ago), Pope John Paul II visited Madeira Island for the first and only time.** Along the route between the Airport and Funchal, tens of thousands of people formed a long line in order to see and greet the Holy Father in a manifestation of joy never seen before on this island.



He was only here for a few hours, where he celebrated Mass at the Barreiros soccer stadium, and then stopped at the Sé Cathedral in the centre of Funchal on his way back to the airport.



**THE APPARITION OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA – May 13<sup>th</sup>**

This coming Saturday, on the 13th of May 1917, the **Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to three little shepherd children in the village of Fatima, Portugal.** The children were tending their sheep in a field called the *Cova da Iria* when they suddenly saw a bright flash of light. A beautiful lady, dressed in white and gold, appeared on a cloud over a small oak tree. A golden cord hung around her neck. Her hands were joined in prayer and she held a pearl rosary. The Lady told the children that she was Mary, the Mother of Jesus and that she had been sent by God with a message for every man, woman and child in our century. A church was built at the spot where Our Lady of Fatima appeared to the children, which to this day receives thousands of visitors from all over the world.



Please sign our **Visitor's Book** in the Social Hall... (across the garden.) Leave us your comments, or suggestions, and let us know where you're from! ☺

Today is Mother's Day in Madeira!

