

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 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

4th of June 2023

Holy Trinity, 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

Instagram: www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/

Email: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com



CATHOLIC MASS - 10 AM ENGLISH SERVICE

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França, which was founded by Antonio Dantas in 1622. Father Bernardino Andrade is our priest who celebrates this *Catholic Mass in English* every Sunday morning here at the Chapel at 10h00. Masses in Portuguese are celebrated on Saturdays at 18h30 and Sundays at 11h30. The special intention for today's Mass is for the couples doing the Camino pilgrimage walk from Sarria to Santiago de Compostela (leaving on the 8th of June).

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – Holy Trinity, Year A

(Ex 34:4-6,8-9; Dan 3:52-56; 2 Cor 13:11-13; Jn 3:16-18)

Seeing the Israelites dancing round the golden calf, Moses was angry and had thrown down and broken the tablets on which the Lord had written his covenant. The agreement with God was literally broken! Now the Lord, a God of compassion, tells Moses to prepare two more tablets. After "passing before" Moses, the Lord declares that He is "a God merciful, ... forgiving iniquity". Moses asks the Lord to forgive his people, and the Lord re-affirms his covenant and again writes the Commandments on stone tablets. Today's **Psalm** comes from the hymn of thanks in the story of **Daniel**, set in the 6th century BC but probably written about 165 BC. Daniel's three companions refused to worship King Nebuchadnezzar's statue and so were thrown into a furnace so hot their guards were killed. But God protected the three men, who walked about inside the furnace with their clothes intact but their rope bindings burned off. After Paul's stern instructions to his beloved **Corinthians**, his second letter ends with this fond farewell, including the Trinitarian grace used widely by Christians. At the beginning of John's Gospel, after the wedding at Cana and the cleansing of the Temple, Jesus tells Nicodemus he must be "born again". Nicodemus cannot understand this, but Jesus insists that those who refuse to believe and trust in Jesus condemn themselves.

PSALM RESPONSE: To you glory and praise for evermore.

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



HYMN NUMBERS:

Entry Hymn: "Bind us together..." - n. 65

Offertory Hymn: "Take our bread..." - n. 528

Peace: "Shalom..." - n. 495

Communion Hymn: - n. 134

Thanksgiving: - by Sofia and Raquel

Final Hymn: "Go, the mass is ended..." - n. 175

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.



I CANNOT UNDERSTAND... I CANNOT EXPLAIN
1 + 1 + 1 = 1 (The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit = One God)

Being a Parish Priest for so many years it is obvious that I had the privilege of administering many Baptisms. I remember very well one weekend when I baptized twenty-two babies in different Masses. My Parish had many immigrants with a high percentage of Mexican families who usually had many children making our Sunday Masses very alive.



To plan a Baptism of a baby, normally they called to make an appointment, and then the parents came to my office to make the arrangements. In general, it was the father who, very proudly, carried the baby in his arms.

...After welcoming, congratulating them, and making them feel comfortable, as an ice breaker I used to always ask the father the same question: «*What do you feel when you have that little thing in your arms?*». Their answer was almost inevitably the same: «hum... hum... hum...» only sounds that would inevitably end the same way: «I cannot explain, father».

I knew the answer because I knew the reason. The reason they could not explain was because they could not understand. Their love and their passion for their babies was a mystery. They could not understand and they could not explain but they could deeply live and experience that mystery of love and intimacy between the father and the son (or daughter) they were carrying in their arms.



Today, all Christian Churches around the world celebrate the Mystery of the Holy Trinity.

One day a priest went into a second-grade classroom of the Parish school and asked: «*Who can tell me what the Blessed Trinity means?*»

A little girl lisped: «The Blethed Twinty meanth there are three personth in one God».

The priest, taken aback by the lisp, said; «*Would you say that again? I don't understand what you said*».

The little girl answered: «*Yu' not thupposed to thunderthand. 'tsa' mythtewy*».



I don't blame the little girl. I also learned when I was a child that the Holy Trinity is a mystery and that a mystery is a truth revealed by God that should be believed but we could not understand.

Actually, I have good news. A mystery can be understood but it can never be exhausted. God is always a surprise for us and we should always be open to that surprise. That's why it is so important to always be open to understand God, other people and the world. All of this is a mystery that the more we penetrate in it the more we find to understand.

The Holy Trinity, Father, Son and the Holy Spirit is a mystery that the more we penetrate in it the more we find to be revealed.

The Holy Trinity is about a relationship between the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Life is about relationships; the Church is about relationships.

Love and Peace,

Fr. Bernardino Andrade,

04/06/2023



TODAY IS TRINITY SUNDAY – What does this mean?

Trinity Sunday, is celebrated a week after Pentecost Sunday, and celebrates the Christian doctrine of the Holy Trinity, the three persons of God: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The human mind can never fully understand the mystery of the Trinity, but we can sum it up in the following formula: **God is three Persons in one Nature.** There is only one God, and the three Persons of God - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit - are all equally God, and They cannot be divided.



CORPUS CHRISTI – Celebrated in the Catholic Church – Thursday 8th June

This Thursday is a Holy Day of Obligation, when we celebrate “*Corpus Christi*” (which translates from the Latin to “*Body of Christ*”). The feast is liturgically celebrated on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday, and celebrates the tradition and belief in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. On this day, we are supposed to attend Mass like on a Sunday.

Father Bernardino will be celebrating Mass here at the Chapel of Penha de França at 10am this Thursday, June 8th.



Colégio Church

Also on Thursday, at the Colégio Church in Funchal, there will be a Mass at 6pm (in Portuguese) with a **procession** through the streets surrounding the church after Mass.

Flower carpets (*arrangements of flowers laid out on the street to resemble colourful carpets*) will be found along the streets where the procession takes place.

