

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: 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.



>> 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: la.contreras@sbcglobal.net



JOYFUL GIFT

25th of June 2023

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time, 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/>

f www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel

ig www.instagram.com/capela_penha_francia/

✉ penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com

Welcome

Vol. 3, nr. 368



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..

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

(Jer 20: 10-13; Ps 68(69): 8-10.14.17.33-35; Romans 5: 12-15; Matthew 10: 26-33)

About 600 BC **Jeremiah** counselled King Zedekiah to be conciliatory towards Babylon, ruled by Nebuchadnezzar. Jeremiah expresses his internal doubts but concludes that the Lord is indeed on his side, and asks that he will see his persecutors punished. Against Jeremiah's advice, Zedekiah revolted, Jerusalem was destroyed and the people led into exile. **The Psalm** implores God to save him from unmerited suffering. The reference in an omitted verse to "vinegar to drink" and the expectation that "God will save Zion" led Christians to think of Messiah – Christ. In his **letter to the Romans**, Paul reflects on the redemptive mystery of Christ. Sin, the dreadful power that has gripped humanity from the beginning, causes both bodily and spiritual death. Like Adam, all people pursue their own desires in opposition to God's will. But God's free gift of grace makes life available to all. In **Matthew's gospel**, Jesus has described the trials the newly commissioned Apostles will face in their mission. They will be persecuted and even betrayed by members of their families. But they should "not worry about how they are to speak" in front of judges. They "will be given at that moment" what they are to say. Today's reading insists they can have complete confidence in God and must not be afraid.

PSALM RESPONSE: In your great love, answer me, O God.

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: "The Blessing" – by Raquel and Sofia

Offertory Hymn: "Fill my house..." - n. 141

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

Communion Hymn: - "I am the bread of Life..." - n. 237

Thanksgiving: - "Sweet heart of Jesus..." - n. 521

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

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.

A TAXI DRIVER AT 2:30 AM

In his book, "Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace", Kent Nerburn writes about his experience driving a cab for a living. He remembers one night in particular when he received a call at 2:30 AM to go to a small brick fourplex. Thinking he was going to pick up some late night partiers or someone who had just a fight with his or her spouse, he was surprised when a small woman in her eighties answered the door.



She wore a print dress and an old fashioned pillbox hat. By her side was a small nylon suitcase. The apartment was empty, except for a few pieces of furniture covered with sheets and a cardboard box filled with photos and glassware. The driver picked up her bag and helped her to the cab. She gave him the address and then asked, "Could you drive through downtown?" "It's not the shortest way", he answered. "Oh, I don't mind", she said. "I'm in no hurry. I'm on my way to a hospice. I don't have any family left. The doctor says I don't have very long."

The driver reached over and shut off the meter. "What route would you like me to go to?" For the next two hours, they drove through the city. She pointed out the building where she worked as an elevator operator, the house where she and her late husband lived as newlyweds, the furniture store that was once a ball room where she had gone dancing as a girl. Sometimes she'd ask to slow down in front of a particular building or corner; there she just sit staring into the darkness, saying nothing. As the dawn broke over the horizon, she said, "I'm tired. Let's go now."



They drove to the small house that served as the hospice. Two attendants came and helped her out of the cab and took her bag. She asked the driver how much she owed for the fare. "Nothing", he said. "But you have to make a living," she insisted.

"There are more passengers," he replied. Almost without thinking, he bent over and gave her a hug. She held him tightly. "You gave an old woman a little moment of joy," she said. "Thank you". Then, in the dim morning light, he watched as she walked into the hospice.

Kent Nerburn remembers: "We are so conditioned to think that our lives revolve around great moments. But great moments often catch us unaware. When that woman hugged me and said that I brought her a moment of joy, it was possible to believe that I had been placed on earth for the sole purpose of providing her with that last ride. I do not think that I have done anything in my life more important".

When asked whose "sin" is responsible for the young man's blindness, Jesus replies that the man's blindness might become a manifestation of "the works of God". The most ordinary and mundane aspects of our lives - our day to day struggles - can become moments when the "works of God" are made visible through us.

- From "Connections", March 6, 2005

Love and Peace
Fr. Bernardino

bernardinodandrade@gmail.com

A SPECIAL PILGRIMAGE

A few weeks ago, with a special Blessing at Mass, we sent a group of Pilgrims in Pilgrimage to the Sanctuary of Saint Tiago of Compostela (Santiago de Compostela) in Spain.

They walked for a few days, sometimes in good and sometimes in bad conditions, facing all kinds of weather and facing all kinds of dangers that are common to people who walk in open roads, with the normal traffic of open roads.

Our Pilgrims are back home and it is with a great deal of joy and excitement that we welcome them today in our Chapel.



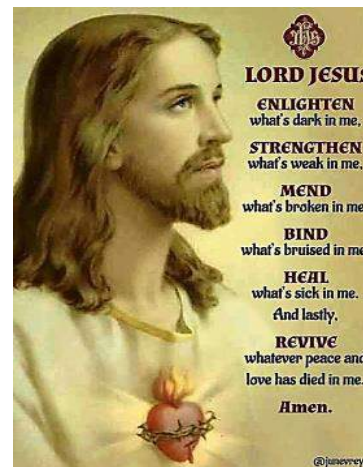
WELCOME HOME

- Fr. Bernardino Andrade

Santiago de Compostela is the capital of northwest Spain's Galicia region. It's known as the culmination of the **Camino de Santiago pilgrimage** route, and the alleged burial site of the Biblical apostle St. James. His remains reputedly lie within the Catedral de Santiago de Compostela, consecrated in 1211.

The Camino de Santiago pilgrimage walk, also known as the Way of St. James, is a renowned pilgrimage of medieval origin that sees pilgrims journey on foot through various routes until they reach the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Galicia in the northwest of Spain. The city of Santiago is named after St. James: Santiago de Compostela means St. James of the Field of Stars.

You can read more about this subject at: www.caminoways.com/camino-de-santiago



SUNDAY PRAYERS

