

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

6th of August 2023

(The Transfiguration of the Lord) 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

Welcome

Vol. 3, nr. 374



CATHOLIC MASS – 10 AM SERVICE (IN ENGLISH)

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 – (The Transfiguration of the Lord)

(Dan 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 96(97):1-2,5-6,9; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9)

The Book of Daniel, was written about 170 BC during the bitter persecution of the Jews by Antiochus Epiphanes. Apocalyptic literature was intended to strengthen the people in their suffering, using coded but readily understood visions. Prophetic teaching insists on right conduct, with the certainty that God's kingdom will prevail. Daniel's vision of the heavenly throne of God, approached by "One like a son of man", was used in the Book of Revelation. Jews applied this title to the Messiah, the One through whom salvation is realised. **The Psalm** rejoices at the coming of the Lord as judge, overthrowing paganism and rewarding God's worshippers. The **Second Letter of Peter**, was attributed to Peter but probably written some time after his death, possibly in the next century. Containing much positive teaching, it seeks to strengthen hearers in their faith, while warning them against false teachers, especially "those scoffers" who claim there will be no second coming. The day of judgement "will come like a thief". We must be prepared while "we await the new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells", foreshadowed by Jesus' transfiguration. **Matthew's** description of the transfiguration includes several themes in the Old Testament and in Jewish apocalyptic literature to indicate the divine presence: bright light, cloud, white garments. With the Father's confirmation of his Son, these all indicate that Jesus will come in glory at the end of time.

PSALM RESPONSE: The Lord is king, most high above all the earth.

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: "Immaculate Mary!..." - n. 256

Offertory Hymn: "Blest are you, Lord, God of all creation..." - n. 69

Peace: "Shalom, my friend, shalom..." - n. 495

Communion Hymn: - "Love is his word, love is his way..." - n. 353

Thanksgiving: - "O God, you search me and you know me..." - n. 405

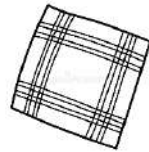
Final Hymn: "Lord, the light of your love is shining..." - n. 344

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.



THE HANDKERCHIEF IN MY LEFT POCKET

I always use two handkerchiefs. One in each pocket. The handkerchief in my right pocket is coloured and I use it for everything I might need. It is my handkerchief. When I change my daily clothes, the handkerchief in my right pocket goes to the laundry basket.



The handkerchief in my left pocket is white and I never use it for anything. It is not mine. It is always ready for emergencies that are very rare. It goes directly from my pocket to the laundry basket without being used. It is always clean and ready.

One day I was with my family on a mountain top in Brazil. A lady's son had smashed the door of her car on her finger, and it had started bleeding painfully. I offered her the handkerchief from my left pocket and I assured her that it had never been used. She took it, and I left this handkerchief from my left pocket to stop the bleeding of a woman I had never seen before, and I would never see again. I prayed for her and thanked God for the gift of the handkerchief in my left pocket.

For a few years my niece Ana lived with me in California. Before she took her driver's license, she was always a passenger and I was the driver of my car. One thing that started bothering me was that, very often, she used and abused the handkerchief of my left pocket. And of course, she knew that handkerchief would never be returned.

One day she sneezed and as usual she asked me for the handkerchief of my left pocket. I gave it to her but impatiently remarked, "Ana! You know that a handkerchief is something very personal that you always need. Why don't you start bringing your own tissues?" A little embarrassed, she answered, "Tio" (that means Uncle), you will never know how good it is to travel in life with someone who always carries a handkerchief I can use. In any situation, every time I need, to wipe my tears, blow my nose, with no questions asked. Thank you Tio for the always carrying a handkerchief in your left pocket. Please never stop using it. You may find, in your life, other people who might need the handkerchief of your left pocket with no questions asked." Of course, I felt tears in my eyes and since then I never forget to carry a white handkerchief in my left pocket. It is always clean and always available for anyone who needs it with no questions asked.



"Help carry one another's burdens." – Gal 6:2
(Drawing inspired on Good News Bible – Today's English Version)

Love and Peace,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade



Fr. John Madigan – last Sunday at Mass

LAST SUNDAY AT OUR CHAPEL

Every so often we have priests from other countries visiting Madeira on holiday. They come to our Chapel on a Sunday morning, expecting to attend Mass seated with the congregation and instead, end up celebrating Mass together with Father Bernardino! This is what happened last Sunday with Fr. John Madigan who was in Madeira on holiday. After being introduced to Father Bernardino before Mass, he was invited to preside, which he graciously accepted.

Fr. John Madigan grew up in Ireland, and now serves as a priest in Seattle, Washington (USA).



Dear members of the Penha de França Community (and visitors to our Chapel), in last week's newsletter I made a special appeal to see if we could be able to get Mr. J a small canoe to help him change and better his life. I was really hoping for a good response. And then a miracle happened!



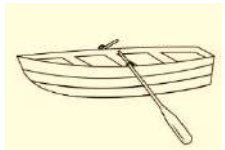
With only 4 donations, we managed to gather €2.373,55 (!!!), which seems perfect to purchase the small canoe and some of the fishing equipment needed!

I am completely awestruck with this. I was reminded of my mother that always taught me and my brothers to respect EVERYONE. When we secured the money for this project, I felt amazed for the respect you have shown to our families, our values and our goals.

I cannot thank you enough. I sincerely cannot express the gratitude I have for your help.

I will keep you informed on this, and I hope next week we can show you a picture of the boat and Mr. J!

– Alexandre Silva (alexlupus@gmail.com)



P.S.- Mr. J already told me that everyone from the Penha de França Chapel community is welcome to go out with him fishing anytime you want (weather conditions allowing), so I really can't recommend enough for you to accept his invitation, and see for yourselves a bit of the lives you have been helping to keep afloat (pun intended) all these years!

PICTURES OF THE WEEK



Pope Francis hears the confession of a World Youth Day pilgrim in Vasco da Gama Garden in Lisbon, Portugal, Aug. 4, 2023. The pope administered the sacrament to three pilgrims: young men from Italy and Spain, and a young woman from Guatemala. CNS photo/Vatican Media

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A photo taken in Brazil. The photographer said he waited 3 years to get to take it. Simply amazing.

