

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

27th of August 2023

21st 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/>

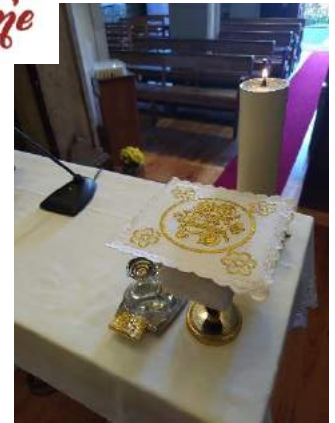
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Email: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com

Welcome

Vol. 3, nr. 377



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. This morning we are blessed with the presence of **Father Stephen Roberts, Deacon Craig Aburn** (visiting us from the UK) and **Father Casimiro**, from Timor-Leste (East Timor).

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

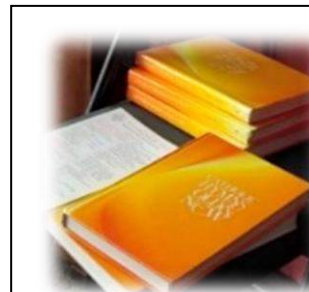
(Is 22:19-23; Ps 137(138); Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20)

Today's reading from **Isaiah** helps us to understand the tremendous power Jesus gives to Peter and the Apostles: Eliakim, newly appointed as "master of the palace", is given complete authority to decide who may enter the House of David – and who may not. And he is to be "a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the House of Judah". **The Psalmist** thanks the Lord for answering his prayer, while calling on all rulers to join in this hymn of thanks for the Lord's words. Earlier in his **letter to the Romans**, Paul suggested that he was sent as the apostle to the pagans "in order to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them". Israel, even while attacking the gospel, is still God's "beloved", since God never takes back his promises. Now Paul gasps in awe and wonder at the daring brilliance of God's plan, which we can never fully comprehend. This chapter of **Matthew's gospel** began with Jesus finally breaking off discussions with the Jewish authorities. Now recognised as divine, Jesus, begins to form his disciples into a community to continue his work after his death. Like Eliakim, Peter, and – in chapter 18 – all the Apostles, are given authority to make eternal decisions, which will be upheld by God.

PSALM RESPONSE: Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.

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 HYMNS:

- [1] **Entry Hymn:** Praise my soul the king of heaven - **464**
- [2] **Gloria:** Gloria in excelsis Deo - **669**
- [3] **Gospel Acclamation:** Sing hallelujah to the Lord - **502**
- [4] **Offertory Hymn:** Blessed be God - **69**
- [5] **Amen:** Amen, amen - **726**
- [6] **Communion:** I'll sing a hymn to Mary - - **255**
- [7] **Thanksgiving:** Immaculate Mary (Ave, ave, ave Maria!)- **256**
- [8] **Final Hymn:** Guide me, O thou great Redeemer – **201**

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.

(Email: bernardinodandrade@gmail.com)



1- "THROW THEM OUT! THROW THEM OUT!"

The year was 1770, and in a small Italian church, two altar boys prepared for Benediction. Annibale Della Genga and Francesco Castiglioni entered the sacristy, put on their albs, and grabbed the heavy brass candlesticks.

And then they began to bicker, arguing over who would stand on the priest's right for the procession. Their quibble escalated into a shouting match. **Alarmed parishioners turned their heads** to the back of the Church to see the commotion, and that's when it happened: Castiglioni cracked Della Genga over the head with his candlestick. Blood dripped from Della Genga's injury, and both boys began shoving each other.

Shocked, parishioners screamed: « *Throw them out! Throw them out!* ». So, the embarrassed priest grabbed the boys, led them to the door, and tossed them out of the church.

Now fast-forward several decades to 1825... Half a million-people gathered in Rome for the great Jubilee celebration. The Jubilee occurred every 25 years, and its grand climax was the opening of the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica. Traditionally, the Pope would knock on the door three times with a large silver hammer and sing: « *Open unto me the gates of justice!* »; on the third knock, the door would swing open and the Pope would lead his people through. The symbolism was rich: pilgrims from all over the world coming back home to the Church, following their leader through the great *porta fidei*, the "door of Faith".

That Jubilee year, in front of thousands of pilgrims, Cardinal Della Genga made his way to the door. It was fifty-five years after the candlestick incident. Cardinal Della Genga who had become Pope Leo XII neared the door. Turning to the Cardinal beside him – Cardinal Castiglioni –, the Pope said: « *Let me have the hammer.* ». With a sly grin, Castiglioni replied « *Just like I gave you the candlestick?* ».

Amazingly, four years later Castiglioni succeeded his friend and became Pope, taking the name Pius VIII.

Now if you had told any of those pew sitters back in 1770 that they had two future-Popes in the back of their church, they'd have laughed you out of the building: "Those two boys? The ones shoving and whacking each other with candlesticks?".



Della Genga
(Pope Leo XII)



Castiglioni
(Pope Pius VIII)

2- I AM ALSO A SUSPECT

A Bishop was sailing for Europe on one of the great transatlantic ocean liners. When he went on board, he found that another passenger was to share a cabin with him. After unpacking his bags, he went to the purser and inquired if he could leave his gold watch and other valuables in the ship's safe.



He explained that he had just met the man who was to occupy the other berth in his cabin and he was afraid that the man might not be trustworthy. The purser smiled, accepted the valuables and remarked: « *It's all right, Bishop, I'll be very glad to take care of them for you. The other man has just been up here and left his valuables for the exact same reason!* »

Love and Peace,
Fr. Bernardino Andrade

THE VATICAN PHARMACY

Source: <https://zenit.org/articles/the-vaticans-drugstore-between-tradition-and-innovation/>



The 149- year-old "Farmacia Vaticana" is the **only pharmacy in the Vatican City.** It was founded in 1874 by Eusebio Ludvig Fronmen, a Fatebenefratelli monk from the Hospitaller Order of the Brothers of Saint John of God. They are known commonly as the *Fatebenefratelli*, meaning "Do-Good Brothers" in Italian, the Brothers of Mercy, and the Merciful Brothers.



The pharmacy, run by the Hospitaller Brothers of St. John of God, includes a large personal hygiene, beauty and cosmetics section, which stocks some 42,000 products, as well as prescription medicines that are approved much faster than in the rest of Italy. The products come from Italy, Switzerland, France, Germany and the United States.

According to Vatican sources, it is the busiest pharmacy in the world, with over 2000 customers per day! Most people coming to the pharmacy are Vatican residents, employees and their family members. The rest come from outside the Vatican for medicines that are not available in Italy or are difficult to find. Outsiders must have a prescription and valid ID to enter.



THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK

