

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

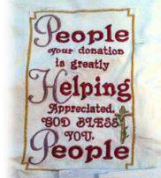
BRANCH: Univ. of Cambridge

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

Vol. 3, nr. 389

19th of November 2023

33rd 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/>

www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel

www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/

penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com



CATHOLIC MASS – 10 AM - (IN ENGLISH)

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. Our Mass today will be celebrated by Father Thomas Muzhuthett, who is originally from Kerala, India, and assisted by Deacon Tito Perreira, originally from Madeira, but now living in the UK.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

(Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31; Psalm 127(128):1-5 r.1; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6; Matthew 25:14-30)

The Book of Proverbs united ancient values and ideals with Israel's understanding of God. Written at the time of the exile, about 500 BC, it was intended for serious study in the effort to gain wisdom. Today's reading is more than a song praising both the housekeeping and commercial activities of a good wife – it is Wisdom in action. And it recognises that a wife should share in the benefits of her work. And the Psalm celebrates the blessings of family life, wishing such a family prosperity and long life. The reading from Paul's letter to the Thessalonians continues from last week's reading, reminding his hearers that the "Day of the Lord" will come when we least expect it. So we should learn wisdom and live every day in justice and integrity, as if it will be our last. Matthew's parable of the talents, like the gospel last week, also urges us to live wisely and justly while waiting for the day of judgement, which will certainly come. But we must do more than just use the resources we have been given for God's purposes: just as it needs effort to learn wisdom, so we must work at developing our faith, otherwise we may lose it.

PSALM RESPONSE: O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

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: "Amazing grace! ..." - 32
- [2] Gospel Acclamation: "Celtic Alleluia..." - 679
- [3] Offertory Hymn: "Take our bread, we ask you..." - 528
- [4] Amen: "Amen, amen..." - 726
- [5] Peace: "Shalom, my friend, shalom..." - 495
- [6] Communion: "The love I have for you, my Lord..." - 555
- [7] Thanksgiving: "As I kneel before you..." - 39
- [8] Final Hymn: "Father, I place into your hands..." - 134



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 Fr Bernardino (bernardinodandrade@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.



1.
WORLD DAY OF THE POOR 2023

UNICEF (the United Nations Children's Fund) tried a very special social experiment. The purpose was to know if well-dressed children were treated equally or if there was any difference in the way people treated the well-

dressed and not so well-dressed children.

A beautiful seven-year-old girl was dressed in a very beautiful dress and was very well presentable to be in public. Then she was left just standing there. Meanwhile TV cameras were filming her and all the scenes. Most of the people, adults and young people, kept stopping to compliment and smile at her, and she responded with the same kindness to everyone. It was considered a very «positive» experience. Everybody enjoyed her presence.

After this first experiment, they tried a second, similar one. The little girl changed her dress, now looking like a dirty child, disorganized hair and looking very messy. She was the same girl, except dressed and looking very different.

The same seven-year-old girl was invited to enter a restaurant and sit down on a bench. In a hidden place of the restaurant, the same camera tried to do the same job of filming her. But it was not possible. All the people around her were unkind and rude to her and invited her to leave the restaurant. The seven-year-old girl could not finish her job. She started crying and very humiliated, started running away and left the restaurant.

It was obvious that poor children were, and are, treated differently. It is obvious that the poor are treated differently. Just because they are different.



2.
7th WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

Pope Francis established the XXXIII Sunday of the Ordinary Time as the 7th SUNDAY OF THE POOR. The theme is «DO NOT TURN YOUR FACE AWAY FROM ANYONE WHO IS POOR». (Tobit 4: 7)

We have to admit that every day we see the poor on the side of the roads and many people who turn their faces away from the poor. The opposite of love is not hatred. The opposite of love is indifference»

Love & Peace,
Fr. Bernardino



SEVENTH WORLD DAY OF THE POOR – Pope Francis' message



Today is the VII WORLD DAY OF THE POOR, established by Pope Francis. Here are some excerpts from his message to the world, entitled "Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor":

«...The poor are persons; they have faces, stories, hearts and souls. They are our brothers and sisters, with good points and bad, like all of us, and it is important to enter into a personal relation with each of them...»

«What the poor need is certainly our humanity, our hearts open to love. Let us never forget that "we are called to find Christ in them, to lend our voice to their causes, but also to be their friends, to listen to them, to speak for them and to embrace the mysterious wisdom which God wishes to share with us through them" (Evangelii Gaudium, 198)..»

Pope Francis' full message can be read on this link below (the Vatican's website):
<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/poveri/documents/20230613-messaggio-giornatamondiale-poveri-2023.html>

HOMELESS JESUS SCULPTURE– Inauguration today in Fatima, Lisbon

The Sanctuary of Fátima in Portugal informed this week that it will be inaugurating the sculpture "Homeless Jesus" ("Jesus sem-abrigo") today, on the 7th World Day of the Poor 2023, at 12 o'clock, in the Enclosure of Prayer, at the Our Lady of Fatima Shrine.

This cast bronze sculpture, designed by Timothy Schmalz, a Canadian artist, was presented to Pope Francis at a general audience in St. Peter's Square, in November 2013. The statue depicts Jesus as a homeless person sleeping on a garden bench and covered by a thin blanket, with only his feet visible, with the wounds from the crucifixion.

Copies of this statue can also be seen in other cities around the world: the Vatican, Florence, Barcelona, Madrid, Dublin, in Singapore, Manila, Seoul, Capernaum, Johannesburg, New York, Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic), in Canada, and in Rio de Janeiro .



CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRIVE - For the needy

Many thanks to all who have so far supported our Christmas Hamper Drive for needy families. Please continue to bring in what you can spare and place in the basket at the entrance of the church (toiletries, food, eg. dried and tinned goods).and sweets for the children.

Any queries please contact Debbie de Jesus at:
deborahadajesus@yahoo.co.uk

