

## 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:** Alexandre Silva, Funchal, Madeira, Portugal.

Email: alex.lupus@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 USA:

Please contact Mr. Larry Contreras (contact info below) for instructions on sending funds to People Helping People in Madeira, Portugal, from USA.



Larry Contreras  
Tel: 707-333-5501

Email: l.a.contreras@sbcglobal.net

### >> 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

### >> THE BASKET

Every Sunday morning at the door of the Chapel you will see a **basket to collect food for the poor**. You are welcome to bring any little thing to help alleviate their suffering. (Rice, pasta, milk, canned tuna, biscuits etc.) Thank you ! ☺



When sending any donation, please send an email to [penhafranca.php@gmail.com](mailto:penhafranca.php@gmail.com) with the date, and name on the transfer so that Alexandre Silva is able to confirm that the transfer has been received. Thank you.

**Food items are also appreciated and can be left in the basket at the Chapel door on Sunday mornings.**

Older issues of the newsletter can be downloaded from the Chapel's website/blog: [www.rcmassmadeira.org](http://www.rcmassmadeira.org)

## JOYFUL GIFT

14th of April 2024

3rd Sunday of Easter - Year B

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](https://www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel)

**ig** [www.instagram.com/capela\\_penha\\_franca/](https://www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/)

**✉** [penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com)



### CATHOLIC MASS – 10 AM (IN ENGLISH)

Good morning! Today is the 3rd Sunday of Easter. Our 10am Mass is the only Catholic Mass on the whole island of Madeira celebrated entirely in English. There are also masses celebrated here at the Chapel in Portuguese: on Saturday evenings at 18h30, and on Sunday mornings at 11h30 (straight after this English service).

### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 3rd Sunday of Easter

(Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19 ; Psalm 4; 1 John 2: 1-5; Luke 24: 35-48)

After Peter healed the man lame from birth, who had been begging at the Beautiful gate, the man joyfully walked with the Apostles in the Temple. At the portico of Solomon, Peter addresses the crowds, emphasizing that the man had been cured by the power of the God the Jews believed in, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. God's kingdom is already becoming visible. Perhaps reflecting later antagonism between some Jews and Christians, Peter adds that it was "you", "men of Israel" who insisted on killing Jesus, declared innocent by Pilate. But, Peter says, they "acted in ignorance" so that God's plan would be fulfilled. **The Psalm** begs God's aid and admonishes incredulous observers to put their trust in God. Paul appointed presbyters to lead his young churches. Thirty years later, John's community appears to have almost no structure. But there are problems: "many antichrists have come", and some members have left the community, perhaps misled by the small amount of moral teaching in **John's Gospel**. Paul's hierarchical model survived, but tension between structure and charism continues. How strange the resurrected Jesus appears! The two disciples had recognised Jesus after he had left them in the inn on the way to Emmaus, but now they are frightened, thinking him a ghost.

### PSALM RESPONSE: Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

Brought to you by: **Chris Oliver...** [www.bible-groups.info](http://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](mailto:chris@chris-oliver.net)

### TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC:

- [1] **Entry Hymn:** "Jesus Christ is ris'n today, alleluia!..." – n.º 279
- [2] **Gloria:** "Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo..." – n.º 669
- [3] **Gospel Acclamation:** "Celtic Aleluia..." – n.º 679
- [4] **Offertory Hymn:** "Gifts of bread and wine, gifts we've offered..." – n.º 159
- [5] **Agnus Dei:** "Great Amen (Deutsche Messe)..." - n.º 726
- [6] **Communion Hymn:** "Father, I place into your hands..." – n.º 134
- [7] **Thanksgiving:** "Now the green blade riseth..." – n.º 389
- [8] **Final Hymn:** "Go, the Mass is ended..." - n.º 175

3rd Sunday  
of  
Easter



# THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION

(<https://frtonyshomilies.com/2024/04/08/easter-iii-b-april-14-sunday-homily/>)

## 1. SAME SERMON

It was his first Sunday in the parish, and the congregation were on full alert to form their initial judgment of their new parish priest. His homily was excellent. This was a great relief to all.



The following Sunday the crowds had increased significantly, probably because the good news had gone around during the week. To the surprise of those who were there the previous Sunday, the priest proceeded to give the exact same sermon. They excused this in the belief that there were so many newcomers this morning, which was all very well until the next Sunday, the next Sunday, and, indeed, the following Sunday, the very same sermon!

Two or three of the parishioners decided to approach him as diplomatically as possible, to talk to him about how they felt about what was happening. They were extremely diplomatic.

"That's a very good sermon, Father."

"Oh, thank you very much. I'm glad you found it helpful."

"We were just wondering, Father, if you realise that you have given the exact same sermon for the past five Sundays."

"Oh. Yes, I know that," replied the priest.

"Well, Father, without wishing to be offensive, but we have to have an answer for those who sent us in here, do you have any other sermons?"

"Oh, of course, I have plenty of other sermons."

"Well Father, you will be going on to one of the other sermons, won't you?"

"Of course, I will," replied the priest.

"When will that be, Father?"

"I promise you that I will move to the next sermon - as soon as I see you doing something about the first one!"



## 2. WHAT'S THE FIRST NAME OF THE WOMAN WHO CLEANS THIS BUILDING?

A nurse in training went to one of her classes one day. The professor announced that there would be a pop quiz. She breezed through the questions, until she came to the last question.

The last question was this: "What is the first name of the woman who cleans this building?" She thought it must be some kind of a joke. Whoever heard of that kind of a question on a test?

She had seen the cleaning woman. She could describe her physically, but why should she know her name? She handed in her test, leaving the last question unanswered.



She asked the professor, "Are you going to count that last question on the final score?"

"Absolutely," said the professor, "In your careers you are going to meet many people. Each one is significant. Each person deserves your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say hello."

- Today's Gospel reminds us that for the risen Lord, each of his apostles was important.

(From Buzz Stevens) (<https://frtonyshomilies.com/>).



# GOD HAS SENT YOU A TEXT



## PLEASE READ IT!



**WHAT IF WE BEGAN TO TREAT OUR BIBLES THE WAY WE TREAT OUR CELLPHONES?**

WHAT IF WE...

- ...CARRIED IT WITH US EVERYWHERE?
- ...TURNED BACK TO GO GET IT IF WE FORGOT IT?
- ...CHECKED IT FOR MESSAGES THROUGHOUT THE DAY?
- ...USED IT IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY?
- ...SPENT AN HOUR OR MORE USING IT EACH DAY?



**Elderly gentleman, with limited means, is in urgent need of a second-hand personal computer.**

Please contact Debbie (964 384 806) if you can help. [deborahadajesus@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:deborahadajesus@yahoo.co.uk)

Thank you 😊

