

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).

>> PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE CONTACTS:

EUROPE: Alexandre Silva, Funchal, Madeira, Portugal.
Email: alex.lupus@gmail.com



"You should wash each other's feet"
(John 13:14).

>> TRANSFER TO BANK ACCOUNT IN MADEIRA:

ACCOUNT NAME:
Associacao 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: sineadmoynihn7@icloud.com

When making any donation, please send an email to 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.



**Tea and Coffee
After Mass**
Please join us in
the Social Hall
across the garden
for a cup of coffee
and a chat. And a
piece of home-
baked cake!

Please sign our Visitor's book in the Social Hall.... leave us your comments, or suggestions, let us know where you're from! ☺ We also have a map where you can place a pin on your home town! ☺



Our Social Hall has a Free Little Library: a cabinet full of books. You're welcome to take a book, borrow a book, leave one in exchange, or even bring in some books that you have lying around that you no longer want. ☺



JOYFUL GIFT

7th of July 2024

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

10h00 – Mass in English

11h30 – Mass in Portuguese

Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França,
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www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel

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CATHOLIC MASS – 10 AM (IN ENGLISH)

Good morning! Today is the 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

We are blessed by the presence of two dedicated priests at the Chapel who celebrate Mass in English for us on Sundays: Father Joseph Arun, and Father Thomas Muzhuthett, who are both originally from Kerala, India.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B
(*Ezekiel 2: 2-5; Psalm 122(123); 2 Corinthians 12: 7-10; Mark 6: 1-6*)

Ezekiel was a priest in the Jewish exile to Babylon in 597 BC. Like all prophets, including Christ and Paul, Ezekiel suffered for speaking truth to those who did not want to hear it. Here he is commissioned to speak the Lord's words to Israel – "whether they listen or not". **The Psalm** begs the Lord to have mercy on the people, who are suffering humiliating contempt by others. The last three chapters of Paul's second letter to the **Corinthians**, perhaps a separate letter, contains an impassioned defence against allegations that he was weak, and less committed because he earned his own living. Paul compares his suffering to Christ's, whose sufferings bring believers to accept suffering as the way to the Kingdom. We can only speculate about Paul's "stake in the flesh". But it clearly caused bodily pain, sometimes, as in Galatia, keeping him from his work of spreading the gospel. And it brought humility instead of the pride he might have had from his successful work. But this very weakness was a continual reminder of his apostolic task. In **Mark's Gospel** Jesus, too, finds his words are not listened to, even "among his own relations" and family. Although the later Gospels soften this rejection, it is clear Jesus found it painful.

PSALM RESPONSE: Our eyes are on the Lord till he shows us his mercy.

These Scripture reading notes are brought to you every Sunday by: Chris Oliver.... www.bible-groups.info



TODAY'S HYMNS: Music by: **Fátima Cátia Marques**

- [1] Entry Hymn: "Father, we adore you..." – n.º 136
- [2] Penitential Act: "Lord, have mercy..." – n.º 659
- [3] Gospel Acclamation: "Celtic Alleluia..." – n.º 679
- [4] Offertory Hymn: "How lovely on the mountains – Our God reigns" – n.º 235
- [5] Sanctus: "Scarborough fair Sanctus..." – n.º 707
- [6] Agnus Dei: "Lamb of God..." – n.º 733

[7] Communion Hymn: "As I kneel before you – Ave Maria gratia plena..." – n.º 39

[8] Thanksgiving: Instrumental

[9] Final Hymn: "Go, the Mass is ended..." – n.º 175



Fr Tony's Homilies

Sunday & Weekday Homily, RCIA, Faith Formation, & Bible Study Resources

www.frtonyshomilies.com

Today's readings introduce Jesus as a prophet and explain how prophets and other messengers from God inevitably suffer rejection. The readings challenge us to face rejection and hardship with prophetic courage.

FACING REJECTION WITH COURAGE



The story of Jesus' rejection by fellow-townsmen in Nazareth is a story that we can identify with because it is a story that has happened to most of us. We might have experienced the pain of rejection caused by hurts, wounds, betrayal, divorce, abandonment, violated trust, trauma, neglect, or abuse in its various forms. What about rejection by those closest to us?

Often our friends, families, or childhood companions fail to listen to, and refuse to accept, the words of grace, love and encouragement that we offer to them, because they are so familiar with us as we were that they are unable to see us as

God's appointed instruments, the agents of God's healing and saving grace. Let us check also the other side of the coin. How often do we discount God's agents through prejudice? How often do we fail to see God's image in them because of our own hardheartedness? We must realize that God's power is always available to transform even the most unlikely people.

"I HAVE A DREAM":

A young boy of 9 was sitting in his father's workshop watching his dad work on a harness.

"Someday Father," said Louis, "I want to be a harness-maker, just like you." "Why not start now?" said the father. He took a piece of leather and drew a design on it. "Now" he said, "take the hole-punch and hammer out this design but be careful that you don't hit your hand."

Excited, the boy began to work, but when he hit the hole-punch, it flew out of his hand and pierced his eye! He lost his sight in that eye. Later, as fate would have it, sight in the other eye failed. Louis was now totally blind.

A few years later, Louis was sitting in the family garden when a friend handed him a pinecone. As he ran his sensitive fingers over the cone, an idea came to him. He became enthusiastic and began to create an alphabet of raised dots on paper so that the blind could feel and interpret. Thus, Louis Braille in 1818 opened up a whole new world for the blind.



— What is it that Jesus intends to do during his three years of ministry? It is this: To open up a whole new world for you and for me. To bring us out of our poverty that has long held us down and to restore vision that you and I have long since lost.

- Fr. Tony Kadavil

(www.frtonyshomilies.com)

SAINT OF THE MONTH: July - Elizabeth of Portugal (Feast Day 4 July)



On July 4, the Catholic Church celebrates Saint Elizabeth of Portugal, a queen who served the poor and helped her country avoid war during the 13th and 14th centuries. **Elizabeth of Aragon was Queen Consort of Portugal** who was given in marriage to King Diniz at age twelve. She was named after her great-aunt, St. Elizabeth of Hungary and received a strict and pious education. In 1282 she was married to Diniz, a good ruler but an unfaithful husband. **She was very devout and unlike her future husband attended Mass every day.** Despite the corrupt court life, Elizabeth maintained her devout habits, helped the sick and the poor, and founded charitable establishments.

On one occasion, one of the Royal Pages told a lie about Queen Elizabeth which the King believed. It involved another page who the King commanded should visit the furnace which was tended by the Court lime-burner. The good page set out obediently, completely unaware that he faced certain death because the King had ordered that the first page to appear should be seized and cast into the furnace.

Like Elizabeth, the good page attended Mass daily, but on this occasion, he decided to stay longer by also attending the Mass that followed. Meanwhile King Diniz sent the wicked page to the lime-burner to establish that the first page had been killed. When the King learned what had happened, he realized that the good page had been saved by God; the liar punished and Queen Elizabeth proven to be innocent. **He immediately resolved to lead a better life and apologized to the Queen in the presence of his entire Court.**

During his last illness Queen Elizabeth never left the King's side, other than to attend daily Mass. **By numerous works of charity throughout the kingdom she became a wonderful role model for all the poor and disadvantaged in Portugal.**

When her son Afonso rebelled against his father, Elizabeth rode between the two armies and reconciled father and son. She also helped settle disputes among other royal relatives. After King Diniz died in 1325, she lived at Coimbra, Portugal, near a Poor Clare convent that she had founded, and she devoted herself to people in need. The testimony of miracles accomplished through her intercession, after her death in 1336, contributed to her canonization by Pope Urban VIII in 1625.



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.

- Albert Schweitzer

