

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

28th of July 2024

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

10h00 – Mass in English

11h30 – Mass in Portuguese

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!

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CATHOLIC MASS – 10 AM (IN ENGLISH)

Today we celebrate the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Every Sunday morning we are blessed to have a dedicated priest at the Chapel who celebrates Mass for us in English. We are grateful to **Father Joseph Arun, and Father Thomas Muzhuthett**, who have been celebrating Mass for us every week since Father Bernardino's passing. They are both Carmelite priests serving at the *Igreja do Carmo* Church in Funchal, originally from Kerala, India.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B
(*2 Kings 4: 42-44; Psalm 144(145); Ephesians 4: 1-6; John 6: 1-15*)

Six books, Joshua, Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, and 1 and 2 Kings, tell Israel's story from the death of Moses until the fall of Jerusalem in 586 BC and the exile to Babylon. While individuals strived for political control, prophets criticised the worshipping of other gods. Elijah had given his mantle to Elisha, who has been establishing his authority with several miracles for both Jews and Gentiles. As well as the feeding miracle we hear about today, Elisha also restored the Shunammite's son back to life and cured Naaman's leprosy. **The Psalm** praises God's lordship over all creatures and his generous responses to all our requests. After emotionally praying that the **Ephesians** may be strengthened by Christ dwelling in their hearts, Paul now urges them to follow Christ in the way they live. Although this is the year of Mark, his gospel is short, so for five weeks we now read from chapter six of **John's gospel**. John has no institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper. Instead, Jesus washes the disciples' feet, and his teaching on the Eucharist is given earlier, after the feeding miracle described today. We will see the range of reactions his teaching prompted, with some ceasing to follow him.

PSALM RESPONSE: You open wide your hand, O Lord, and grant our desires.

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: "Bind us together..." – n.º 65
- [2] Penitential Act: "Lord, have mercy..." – n.º 663
- [3] Gospel Acclamation: "Celtic Aleluia..." – n.º 679
- [4] Offertory Hymn: "Take our Bread..." – n.º 528
- [5] Sanctus: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord..." – n.º 704
- [6] Agnus Dei: "Lamb of God..." – n.º 737
- [7] Communion Hymn: "Amazing Grace..." – n.º 32
- [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



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www.frtonyshomilies.com

GOD BLESSES THOSE WHO SHARE THEIR TALENTS WITH LOVING COMMITMENT.

This is illustrated in the life of Mother Teresa who went to serve the slum dwellers of Calcutta with just twenty cents in her pocket. When she died forty-nine years later, God had turned those original twenty cents into eighty schools, three hundred mobile dispensaries, seventy leprosy clinics, thirty homes for the dying, thirty homes for abandoned children, and forty thousand volunteers from all over the world to help her.

We can begin our own humble efforts at "sharing" right in our parish by participating in the works of charity done by organizations like the St. Vincent DePaul Society, the Knights of Columbus and many other volunteer groups. We may say, "I do not have enough money or talent to make any difference." But we need to remember that the small boy in the story had only five barley loaves and two dried fish.

The Bible guarantees that every believer has at least one gift from the Holy Spirit. This is our one "tiny fish." Perhaps our "fish" is not money, but a talent or an ability that God has given us. We all have something. If you have never trusted God with your time, or your talent, or your treasure...all your resources...this is the time to start. Let us offer ourselves and whatever we have to God saying, "Here is what I am and what I have Lord; use me; use it." And He will bless us and bless our offering, amplifying it beyond our expectations. When we give what we have to God, and we ask Him to bless it - that is when the miracle happens. We, too, can perform wonders in our own time and place, by practicing the four "Eucharistic verbs" of Jesus: Take humbly and generously what God gives us, bless it by offering it to others in God's love, break it off from our own needs and interests for the sake of others, give it away with joy-filled gratitude to God who has blessed us with so much. We are called by Christ to become the Eucharist we receive at this altar, giving thanks for what we have received by sharing those gifts - our talents, our riches, ourselves - so that He can use them and us to work miracles in creating communities of joyful Faith.

- Fr. Tony Kadavil (www.frtonyshomilies.com)



SHARING EVERYTHING:

A young man saw an elderly couple sitting down to lunch at McDonald's. He noticed that they had ordered one meal, and an extra drink cup. As he watched, the gentleman carefully divided the hamburger in half, counted out the fries, one for her, one for him, until each had half of them. Then he poured half of the soft drink into the extra cup and set that in front of his wife.

The old man then began to eat, and his wife sat watching, with her hands folded in her lap. The young man decided to ask if they would allow him to purchase another meal for them so that they didn't have to split theirs. The old gentleman said, "Oh no. We've been married 50 years, and everything has always been and will always be shared, 50/50." The young man then asked the wife if she was not going to eat, and she replied, "It's his turn with the teeth."



DID YOU KNOW? – Today, July 28th, we celebrate the World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly



Pope Francis established a World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly which took place for the first time on Sunday 25 July 2021. Today the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be celebrated for the fourth time – as it is the Sunday closest to the **Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne**, Grandparents of Jesus. The theme chosen by Pope Francis for this year's celebration is: "**Do not cast me off in my old age**" (cf. Psalm 71:9).

Loneliness of the elderly is at the heart of Pope Francis's theme for this 4th Grandparents Day. According to a press release from the

Dicastery, it is meant "to call attention to the fact that, sadly, loneliness is the bitter lot in life of many elderly persons, so often the victims of the throw-away culture." Today Catholics around the world will be invited to take time to reflect on the great heritage and wisdom passed on by their grandparents and the elderly.

You can read Pope Francis message here:

<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/it/bollettino/pubblico/2024/05/14/0395/00809.html#ING>

Saints Joachim and Anne

1 They are known in Christian tradition as the parents of the Virgin Mary and, therefore, the grandparents of Jesus Christ.

2 The information about Joachim and Anne comes primarily from the apocryphal Gospels, particularly the Protoevangelium of James, which tells their story and the miraculous birth of Mary.

3 According to tradition, they were elderly and childless, a fact considered a great shame at the time. They prayed for a child until an angel appeared to Anne to announce that she would conceive a special daughter.

4 Joachim and Anne are considered the patrons of grandparents and childless couples.



We grandparents and elderly people have a great responsibility: to teach the women and men of our time to regard others with the same understanding and loving gaze with which we regard our own grandchildren.

- Pope Francis

DID YOU KNOW?

In our Chapel we have statues of Saint Joachim and St Anne! You will see them up front, on either side of the statue of Our Lady of Lourdes, and the Tabernacle.



Statue of St. Anne

Statue of St. Joachim