

## PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)

Vol. 3, nr. 435



People Helping People is a small project founded in the Chapel of Penha de França by the late Father Bernardino Andrade 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 CONTACT INFO:

**EUROPE:** Alexandre Silva, Funchal, Madeira, Portugal.  
Email: alex.lupus@gmail.com / penhafranca.php@gmail.com

### >> 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

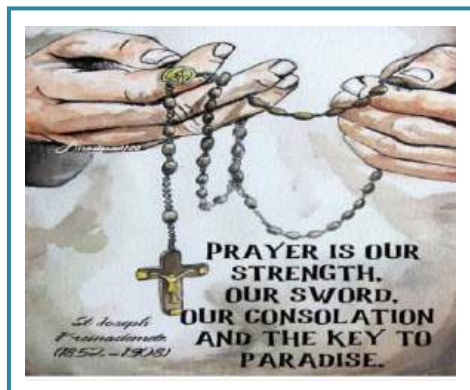


The funds will then be transferred to Madeira. Any questions or concerns about transferring to this account, please contact Sinead Moynihan at: sineadmoynihn7@icloud.com

When making 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.

### THOUGHTS

A poor person's worst enemy is another poor person who thinks they're rich and defends those who make them poor  
— Pepe Mojita



Receive this newsletter by email every week. Email us at: [penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com) to be added to the newsletter distribution list, or download them from the Chapel's website/blog: [www.rcmassmadeira.org](http://www.rcmassmadeira.org)

## JOYFUL GIFT

6th of October 2024

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

10h00 – Mass in English

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

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

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



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

Good morning! Today is the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

We are blessed to be celebrating our English Service Mass here at the Cathedral (for the first time!) while our Chapel undergoes renovation work. This is the only Catholic Mass celebrated in English on the Island of Madeira. Our priest this morning is Father Thomas Muzhuthett, a Carmelite priest, originally from India.

The special intentions of this morning's Holy Mass are for **Emidio Amaro Rodrigues** and his family, and for the souls of † **Nelson Gomes Rodrigues and Maria Alda De Abreu.** †



### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS –

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

(*Genesis 2:18-24; Psalm 127(128); Hebrews 2:9-11; Mark 10:2-16*)

In this second version of creation, since God has created man as social being like himself, he now creates woman, to support and join with him. **The Psalm** celebrates the blessings of children and family life. Readings from the Letter to the **Hebrews** will take us up to the end of Ordinary Time. The most Jewish of the New Testament books, it has a rich theology of Christ's priesthood. Jesus is greater than the angels as God, but lower than the angels as man. Christ's priestly sacrifice, as man and as God's Son, renews once and for ever the covenant God has made with man. As intermediaries, priests offer prayers and sacrifices to God on our behalf. Not seeking to change God's mind. Relationships are confirmed with celebratory meals and things of value sacrificed by making them unusable. A wedding feast confirms our witness and support for the vows made by the married couple. In **Mark's Gospel** Jesus continues teaching during his journey to Jerusalem. He insists on the full meaning of the Law, which Mark updates, applying it also to a Gentile woman divorcing her husband. The union of a man and a woman in a marriage made by God cannot be unmade. Children help us to recognise our utter dependence on God.

### PSALM RESPONSE: May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.

The Scripture reading notes are brought to you every Sunday by: **Chris Oliver** .... [www.bible-groups.info](http://www.bible-groups.info)  
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)



### HYMN MUSIC:

During Mass this morning, the hymn music will be played and sung by:

**Fátima Cátia Marques**

**“For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.”**

*Brothers and Sisters,*

Due to the works taking place at Penha de França where the English Language Mass usually takes place, we celebrate today in this beautiful Cathedral, a church

that was once the mother church of the largest diocese in history - the Diocese of Funchal. This cathedral was a spiritual hub for a vast region, stretching from the Americas to Africa and India. It reminds us that we belong to something much larger than ourselves - a global Christian family, united by our faith in Christ.

Today’s readings highlight this sense of unity, not only with each other but also with God Himself. From the very beginning, God intended for us to



live in communion. In the first reading from Genesis, we hear about the creation of man and woman. After creating Adam, God says, “It is not good for man to be alone,” and He creates Eve from Adam’s side. This tells us something important about our nature: Adam and Eve are of the same flesh, equal in dignity, made in the image of God, and meant to live together in harmony.

This foundational story from Genesis also teaches us something essential about Christian marriage. In marriage, a man and a woman come together, becoming one flesh, reflecting the unity that was present from the beginning. Marriage is a powerful sign of God’s love, built on mutual respect and self-giving love. It’s through this sacrament that a husband and wife are called to mirror Christ’s love for the Church - a love that is sacrificial, unconditional, and life-giving.

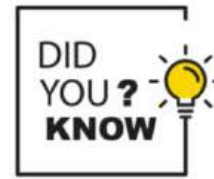
But today’s readings point to an even deeper unity - a unity that includes all of us, married or single. In the New Testament, we see that the idea of being “of the same flesh” takes on a greater meaning in Jesus Christ. Jesus, the Son of God, became human, taking on our flesh. He entered our world, shared our joys, struggles, and pain. As the Letter to the Hebrews reminds us: “The one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock.” **Jesus made us holy, drawing us into His own family. He is not ashamed to call us His brothers and sisters.**

Through His life, death, and resurrection, Jesus has united us to Himself. Just as Adam and Eve were of one flesh, we too are united with Christ, especially through the Church. We are His Body, and we share in His life. This is not just a spiritual idea, but a real connection. Through the sacraments, particularly Baptism and the Eucharist, we are made one with Jesus and become part of God’s family.

Since the Incarnation, when God became man in Jesus, humanity has been given a unique bond with God. Jesus didn’t remain distant from us - He came close, becoming like us so that we could become like Him. This is an extraordinary gift. We are not merely God’s creation; we are His children, His family. And this is the dignity we hold as Christians. **However, being united with Christ also calls us to live in unity with each other.** Just as Adam and Eve were called to live in harmony, we are called to live in love and unity as members of the Church. Being one with Christ means living out His love in our daily lives - caring for one another, forgiving each other, and building up the Body of Christ. We are all part of God’s family, and that means we have a responsibility to one another. In Christian marriage, this unity is expressed in a special way. A husband and wife are called to love each other as Christ loves the Church, with a love that is selfless and enduring. Their relationship becomes a sign of God’s love for the world, and their family reflects the love of God’s family - the Church. As we reflect on today’s readings, let’s remember the great gift we have been given: we are part of God’s family. We share in the life of Christ, and through Him, we are sanctified. Let’s strive to live in this unity, both in our families and in our community, showing the love and grace that God has poured into our hearts.

May God give us the strength to live as true brothers and sisters in Christ, growing in love for Him and for each other. Amen.

- Revd. Tito Pereira



## ROSARY FOR PEACE – From Madeira to the world

Have you heard about the “Rosary for Peace” that you can get here at the Cathedral in Funchal? It is an initiative that was started here at the Cathedral some months back, and there are already Rosaries circulating in prayer for Peace in several cities around the world. Rosaries have gone from here to the USA, Scotland, Brazil, Venezuela, Portugal and Madagascar.

The “Rosary for Peace” is a rosary that passes from hand to hand in a strong and great chain of prayer for PEACE

So... how does it work?

At the entrance of the Cathedral, you will see a small room where candles are sold. There you can buy your very own *Rosary for Peace*. All Rosaries have a box with a rosary number. This example is Rosary number 1. Take the box home, and register it on the Cathedral website, here:



<https://www.catedraldofunchal.com/terco-pela-paz/>

(All you need to do is fill in your name, the Rosary number and which city you are in)



We want the Rosary Prayer to unite people in building Peace. You can pray too! You can do a lot for Peace in our world.

Pray the Rosary and then offer it to someone. Explain to that person that they should register their Rosary on the Cathedral website too, and then pray for PEACE and offer it to someone else.



Little by little we will build a great chain of fraternity, friendship and prayer.... And you will be able to see how your rosary travels around the world! 😊

October is the Month of the **MOST HOLY ROSARY**

