

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)

Vol. 3, nr. 437



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...**

"May I be able to love others, accepting them as they are, without judging them, fighting alongside them for what is essential to them".

(a quote from the book: "Luz - 79 Reflexões" by José Luís Nunes Martins).

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE CONTACTS:

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



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

>> 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

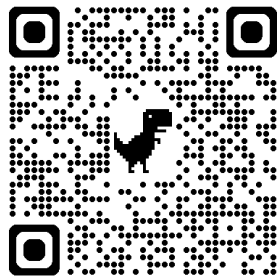
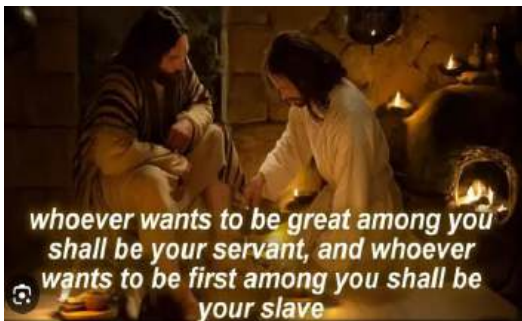
IBAN: GB05 LOYD 3013 5502 4617 43

BIC: LOYDGB21035



The funds will then be transferred to Madeira.
Any questions or concerns about transferring to this account, please contact Sinead Moynihan at: sineadmoynihnan7@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.



QR Code: Order of the Mass

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

JOYFUL GIFT

20th of October 2024

29th 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

Instagram: www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/

Email: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com



CATHOLIC MASS – 10 AM (IN ENGLISH)

Good morning! Today is the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time. We are blessed to have been celebrating our English Service Mass here at the Cathedral for the last 3 Sundays (while The Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França undergoes renovation work).

The special intentions of this morning's Holy Mass are for the souls of † **João De Andrade**, † **Maria Correia**, † **Carlos Correia**, † **Juvenal Rodrigues**, and † **Maria da Conceição Gomes**.



TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS –

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

(*Isaiah 53: 10-11; Psalm 32(33):4-5.18-20.22; Hebrews 4: 14-16; Mark 10: 35-45*)

The reading is from **Isaiah's** last "suffering servant" song, which we hear more fully on Good Friday. Israel is identified as God's innocent servant suffering to bring to completion God's plan for the salvation of all mankind. For Isaiah suffering need not be a punishment for sin. Suffering by the righteous could "redeem" the sins of others – but only if the sinners saw it as symbolising separation from their sins, like the scapegoat sent into the desert. Christians saw Jesus as the suffering servant who redeems mankind. **The Psalm** praises the Lord's power and kindness, confident that he will rescue us from our urgent waiting. Continuing from last week, our reading from the **Letter to the Hebrews** calls Jesus "the Son of God" and "the supreme high priest". Since he was tempted just like us, he is merciful and we must have confidence that he can bring us to God's "throne of grace". After Jesus' third prediction of his passion in **Mark's Gospel**, two Apostles ask if they can share in the kingdom's rewards? They do not understand the sort of kingdom Jesus is bringing in. The Apostles will share in Jesus' suffering, and in doing so they will show themselves to be servants to all.

PSALM RESPONSE:

May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our trust in you.

*The Scripture reading notes are brought to you every Sunday by: Chris Oliver
.... www.bible-groups.info.... Email: chris@chris-oliver.net*



The beautiful organ at the Cathedral, played by Cátia for these last 3 Sundays

HYMN MUSIC:

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

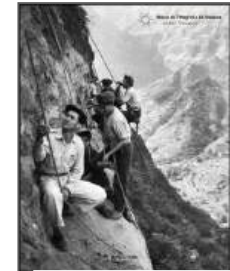
Fátima Cátia Marques



If you've travelled around Europe, you might have noticed an interesting cultural difference. In some countries, being invited to someone's home guarantees you'll be offered food - a meal, a coffee, or at least a biscuit. Hospitality is a way of life. But in other parts of Europe, you might not be offered anything at all - it's just a different approach to welcoming guests. This idea of hospitality and service ties perfectly into today's Gospel. James and John ask Jesus for seats of honour beside Him in glory. They're looking for special status. But Jesus turns their thinking upside down by teaching them a powerful lesson: **"Whoever wants to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be the servant of all."**



We live in a world that often values status and power. But Jesus teaches that true greatness comes not from being served, but from serving others. He points to Himself as the example: **"The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."** His whole life was a sacrifice of love and service for others.



Here in Madeira, we see this spirit of sacrifice and service in our own history, particularly with the **levadas** - those channels that bring water down from the mountains. Many of the people who built the levadas worked in extremely dangerous conditions, often sacrificing their lives to benefit others. They may not have received recognition or praise, but their hard work still blesses us today. Thanks to them, our island has the water it needs for agriculture, drinking, and daily life. This is the kind of service Jesus is talking about - a willingness to give of ourselves, even when there's no reward or recognition, for the good of others.



As we reflect on today's Gospel, let's ask ourselves how we can live out this kind of servant-leadership in our own lives. Whether it's in our homes, communities, or workplaces, we are called to put others first. Just as Jesus served us with love and humility, we're invited to do the same for those around us.

Let's pray for the grace to follow His example, remembering that true greatness isn't found in positions of honour, but in the way we serve one another. **May we continue to build a community, just like the builders of the levadas**, where sacrifice, kindness, and generosity flow abundantly for the benefit of all.

Amen.

- Revd. Tito Pereira



Last Sunday morning, we were blessed once again to be able to attend Mass in English here at the Sé Cathedral. The Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França has been closed for the last 2 weeks for much-needed renovations, as many of you are aware.



If everything goes as planned, the renovation work should be concluded sometime this week, and we will be able to **return to the Chapel for Mass next Sunday, October 27th!**

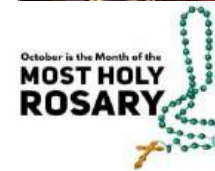
We are very grateful to **Canon Marcos Gonçalves**, Vicar General of the Diocese of Funchal, who kindly invited us to celebrate our English Mass service here in the Sé Cathedral during this time, and whose team here at the Cathedral has welcomed us so warmly every Sunday.



gratitude



Last Sunday, Oct. 13th, we had a visiting priest Fr. Mari Joe, who was in Madeira for a few days on holiday, and celebrated Mass for us in English. Father Mari Joe is a Catholic Carmelite priest from Cape Town, South Africa. He does daily Rosary prayers on the internet through his YouTube channel:



<https://www.youtube.com/@marijoseph8502/videos>



THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK

