

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)

Vol. 3, nr. 438



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...**

"True solidarity is being truly present in the lives of others, sharing their joys and their sufferings" - Pope Francis



PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE CONTACTS:

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: 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.

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 where you are visiting us from! ☺



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

27th of October 2024

30th 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)

This morning we celebrate Mass of the 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time. We are back at the Chapel once again after celebrating Mass at the Cathedral for the last 3 Sundays. The special intentions of this morning's Holy Mass are for the souls of † **Joe Da Silva**, † **Arro Naidoo**, † **Manuel de Gouveia**, † **Armando Pestana**, and † **Francois Mendes**.



TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B
(*Jeremiah 31: 7-9; Psalm 125(126); Hebrews 5: 1-6; Mark 10: 46-52*)

Jeremiah has promised that Israel will return from their exile in Babylon. This new exodus will be on a smooth path with ample water, not like the first wanderings in the desert. God has redeemed his people, and will make a new unbreakable covenant with Israel, writing his law on people's hearts, instead of on breakable stone. Jesus made this new covenant at the Last Supper. The **Psalm** exults in the imagined joy of this restoration, so intense as to seem like dream. The extended extract from **Hebrews** read over the last 2 weeks, concludes by showing how Christ's humanity enables him to understand our weaknesses. As the high priest forever, appointed by God at his baptism, Christ is therefore supremely fitted to mediate between us and God. But Hebrews goes on to say that Christ had to learn the depths of the human condition through his suffering. Today we hear the last of Jesus' teachings during his journey up to Jerusalem. Though blind, Bartimeus calls Jesus "Son of David". He can see who Jesus is more clearly than the disciples following Jesus. He then calls Jesus "Master", the only person in the first three gospels to do so before the resurrection. Able to see, Bartimeus now follows as a disciple.

PSALM RESPONSE: What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.



TODAY'S HYMNS:

Music by: Fátima Cátia Marques



- [1] **Entry Hymn:** "Jubilate, everybody" – n.º 296
- [2] **Penitential Act:** "Lord, have mercy..." – n.º 659
- [3] **Gospel Acclamation:** "Celtic Aleluia" – n.º 679
- [4] **Offertory Hymn:** "Healer of the sick" – n.º 217
- [5] **Sanctus:** "When the Saints – Sanctus" – n.º 710
- [6] **Agnus Dei:** "Lamb of God" - n.º 737

[7] **Communion Hymn:** "Amazing Grace" – n.º 32

[8] **Thanksgiving:** "Veni, lumen cordium" – n.º 593

[9] **Final Hymn:** "The Spirit lives to set us free" - n.º 561



REFLECTIONS – By Deacon Tito Pereira - (dcn.tito@gmail.com)

It was good to see you all at the Cathedral last Sunday and I managed to catch up with some of you after Mass. Yet, today is a special day as we gather once again in our beloved Penha de França chapel, after several weeks away during its renovation. There's something comforting about being back in this familiar space. We may not immediately notice all the work that's been done – much of it is hidden, like the improvements to the bathroom and sacristy area, the areas behind the scenes. But that doesn't lessen its importance.



Renovation work being done in the Chapel

In many ways, it reminds me of today's Gospel from Mark (10:46-52), where Jesus heals the blind man, Bartimaeus. What strikes me is not just the miracle of sight being restored, but the deeper transformation that happens within Bartimaeus.



Like the renovation work that's unseen, the most significant changes in our lives often happen within – in the quiet, private spaces of our hearts. Bartimaeus was healed not just because of his persistence in calling out to Jesus, but because he had the faith to trust in something he could not see yet. He trusted that Jesus could restore him, and that's a lesson for us. Sometimes, in our own lives, we need to trust in the unseen work that God is doing in us. The changes may not be obvious straight away, but that doesn't mean they aren't important.



As we return to this sacred space, it's a chance for us to reflect on the work God is doing in each of us. Just as the chapel has been renewed and restored, **we too are constantly being renewed** in our faith, in our relationships, and in our service to others. Even if the changes aren't immediately visible, **we trust that they are making a difference.**

So today, let us give thanks – for the gift of this community, for the quiet work of renewal both in our chapel and in our hearts, and for the love of God that calls us, like Bartimaeus, to walk in faith, trusting in the unseen but ever-present grace that sustains us.

- *Revd. Tito Pereira*

CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRIVE – People Helping People



This year, as customary, we will be making up Christmas boxes for the needy families we support under the auspices of our People Helping People Charity. We will be collecting hygiene products (e.g. lotions, toothpaste, shampoo, body wash, etc.), and dried and tinned goods (tins of fruit, sardines, tuna, beans, dried nuts and fruit, rice and pasta, etc.). Please bring along your offerings and place in the hamper at the entrance of the church).

Any queries contact Jane House at: janelh1945@gmail.com.



4 SAINTS WHO RECEIVED MIRACULOUS HELP – From animals!

In the lives of the saints, there are often many miracles that occur through the divine intervention of God. On certain occasions, these miracles are completed through the cooperation of animals, who are part of God's creation and can be made into instruments of his divine plan.



St. John Bosco. During his life a huge grey dog would often appear and protect him from violent men.



St. Roche. He nearly died until a dog brought him food every day and licked his wounds.



St. Benedict. He asked a raven to take a poisoned loaf away and to dispose of it safely.



St. Francis. Birds sometimes gathered while St. Francis spoke, and they listened intently to his sermons.

OUR ENGLISH SERVICE MASS AT THE CATHEDRAL – Last Sunday



Last Sunday morning, we celebrated our last English Mass service at the Cathedral. We were blessed with the presence of Father Joseph Arun and Deacon Tito Pereira who celebrated the Mass.



THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK

God loves us more than a father, mother, friend or anyone else could, even more than we are able to love ourselves.

– St. John Chrysostom