

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)



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...**

"There is something at least as noble as helping others: it is letting yourself be helped by them, presenting yourself as needy and accepting that others are really good and important too!" (José Luís Nunes Martins) in his book: "Perguntas a Deus" (*Questions to God*).



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: sineadmoynihian7@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

17th of November 2024

33rd 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 we celebrate the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. As many of you already know, this 10am Mass is the only Catholic Mass celebrated entirely in English, on the island of Madeira. The English Mass is a tradition that dates back to 1966, when Fr Rafael Andrade, having just returned from his first visit to England, complied with the bishop's request to start an English celebration. Fr Rafael presided over this mass for over 30 years, when he had to stop in 1999 due to overlapping duties. For eight years there was no Catholic mass in English in Madeira, until it began again on the first Sunday of Lent in 2007 with Father Bernardino Andrade who had returned to Madeira, his birthplace, after many years as a priest in California. Father Bernardino was our appointed Sunday priest until January 2024 when he sadly passed away. We have been blessed to have the English mass continue every Sunday with Father Joseph Arun and Father Thomas Muzhuthett.

The special intentions of this morning's Mass will be offered for the souls of Martinho De Freitas Abreu, Maria Lucia Nunes Abreu and João De Agrela Pingo.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B
(*Daniel 12: 1-13; Psalm 15(16): 5:8-11; Hebrews 10: 11-14.18; Mark 13: 24-32*)



The Book of **Daniel** belongs to "apocalyptic" literature, which secretly looks forward to the day of the Lord at the end of history, when all will be made right. It was written about 165 BC to strengthen the Jews who were suffering bitter persecution. The hero, Daniel, is saved by adhering to his faith in face of many trials. Daniel is promised that the just will live for ever, an early expectation of resurrection. The **Psalm** rejects idolatry and expresses confidence in the Lord, who will bring us to everlasting life. Our final reading from the Letter to the **Hebrews** also looks forward to the end time. The daily animal sacrifices in the Temple could not take sins away. They have now been replaced by the one sacrifice of Christ, who now sits enthroned until he comes again. His perfect sacrifice has made forgiveness available to all. No further sacrifices will ever be needed. An earlier chapter in the Book of Daniel, which we will hear next week, describes a vision of "One like a Son of Man" coming to rule God's kingdom on earth. In today's **gospel** Jesus graphically describes the heavenly signs that will accompany his return as the "Son of Man".

PSALM RESPONSE: Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC: Larysa Makarova

Entry: O the word of my Lord... - 434

Offertory: Take our bread... - 528

Communion: O bread of Heaven... - 392

Final: This is the day... - 574





If you ever visit the north of Madeira, you might pass by the famous chapel of *Nossa Senhora de Fátima* in São Vicente. It has a rather unusual clock tower - each side displays a clock, but they all show different times. In reality, none of the clocks actually work; they're frozen in time. One story says that the local faithful couldn't afford a working clock, so they painted one on each side instead. Yet, with a wink, locals will often tell you they **did** manage to afford it - but the priest ran off with the money! It's a local joke, of course, but it does get you thinking.



Chapel of Nossa Senhora de Fatima in Sao Vicente

Isn't that clock tower a bit like how we sometimes live our own lives? We rush about, claiming we have "no time" for what matters most, yet let our days slip away in distraction, frozen in routines that leave us feeling stuck. Today's Gospel, in speaking of the end times, reminds us that all things in this world are passing away. Unlike that clock, though, our time keeps moving, **and every second is precious.**

The challenge, then, is how we choose to use the time we have. Jesus' message urges us to break free from the habits and distractions that keep us "frozen" in place. It's easy to become bogged down by routines, endlessly checking our phones, or getting caught up in worries that don't matter in the long run. Instead, we're invited to live with purpose and intention, to use our time not just for ourselves, but for the good of others, to make the world a little better each day.



Take, for example, the inspiring work being done by the community's charity "People Helping People." This charity is a beautiful reflection of how the local community is making the most of its time, not in idle distractions, but in service to others. Through their efforts, they provide food, clothing, pay for medicines and support to families in need across the island. Volunteers give their time generously, and in doing so, they help build a stronger, more compassionate community. People Helping People is a testament to the power of using time well.

For example, volunteers spend hours preparing and delivering resources to families going through hard times, not expecting anything in return but knowing that their time has made a real difference in someone else's life. These small, everyday acts of

kindness - helping someone are how God's Kingdom grows here on earth. This is the kind of purposeful living Jesus invites us to. **It's not about waiting for the world to change, but about doing our part, step by step, with the time we have.**

So, this week, let's look at that tower clock as a reminder to make every second count - not just waiting for things to happen but taking small, intentional steps to live with meaning and purpose. Whether we're volunteering our time, supporting a friend in need, or simply being present for someone who needs us, each moment is an opportunity to build God's Kingdom. After all, unlike that clock, we're very much alive, and our time is moving forward. Let's use it well.



- Revd. Tito Pereira

CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRIVE – During November & December



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 **basket at the entrance of the church.**

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

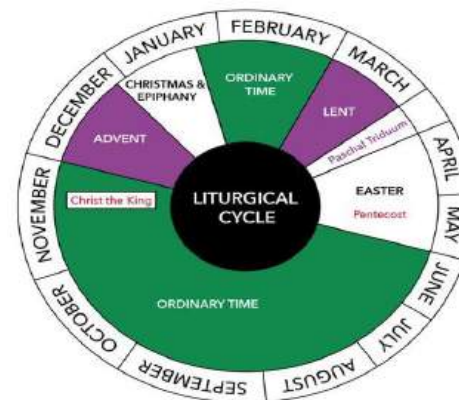


THE LITURGICAL CYCLE IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The liturgical calendar of the Catholic Church consists of 3 Cycles,

A – Matthew, **B** – Mark, and **C** – Luke..

The liturgical cycle starts at Advent, followed by Christmas, Ordinary time, Lent, Paschal Triduum, Easter and ends at Ordinary time. We are now in Year **B**, next Sunday we celebrate Christ The King, and the following Sunday the new liturgical year will begin: Year C.



WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

2024

In 2017 Pope Francis established the **World Day of the Poor**. It is celebrated every year on the Sunday before the last Sunday of the Liturgical Year (which this year, is today, November 17th). Every year the Pope sends a special **Message with a special theme**. This year, the 8th World Day of the Poor, the theme is "The prayer of the poor rises up to God" (Sirach 21:5).



You can read Pope Francis' message on the Vatican's website at: <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/poveri/documents/20240613-messaggio-viii-giornatamondiale-poveri-2024.html>

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"Each of us has a mission... each of us is called to change the world, to work for a culture of life, a culture forged by love and respect for the dignity of each human person."

- **Pope Benedict XVI**

