

## 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.**



*"Each of us can perform works of mercy and break the chains of injustice."*  
– Pope Francis.

### 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: sineadmoynihian7@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.

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! ☺



### After Mass

Join us across the garden for a cup of coffee, cake, and a chat!

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. ☺



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



**09 February 2025 – 10am Sunday Mass**  
**5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C**

Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França,  
Rua Penha de França 3, Funchal, Madeira  
**Website and Blog:** <http://rcmassmadeira.org/>  
**f** [www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel](http://www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel)  
**i** [www.instagram.com/capela\\_penha\\_franca/](http://www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/)  
**e** [penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com)



### THE CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH

**Good morning.** Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. This small Chapel was founded in 1622... which makes it 403 years old this year! It is in this chapel that the only English-language Catholic mass on the island of Madeira is celebrated (every Sunday at 10H00). On Saturday evenings at 18H30 a Mass is celebrated in Portuguese.



**TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
(Isaiah 6:1-2a,3-8; Psalm 137(138); I Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11)

Isaiah's calling vision in 742 BC is much quoted in the book of Revelation. He sees God enthroned, with Seraphs who had two wings covering their faces, two covering their body, and with two they flew. They praised God for his total otherness, and their "Holy, Holy, Holy" is repeated before the central part of every Mass. Isaiah expects to die after seeing God's face. But he is symbolically purified by a burning ember on his lips, and so is fit to deliver God's message of doom to those who mistreat the poor. Only a remnant will survive. Paul reminds the **Corinthians** of their roots and especially the gospel he taught them. He uses an existing creedal formula that he himself "had been taught", namely "that Christ **died**", "he was **buried**; he was **raised**; he **appeared**". Paul goes on to argue that, in rising, Christ has conquered death, and therefore all the dead will also rise. Life after death is bodily, not just spiritual, as the Corinthians appeared to believe. After Jesus was rejected in Nazareth he went down to Capernaum, where he taught and healed many people, including Simon's mother-in-law. Today **Luke** describes Simon Peter recognising Jesus as "Lord", his title after the Resurrection. Peter and his partners accept Jesus' call, and follow him, leaving absolutely everything.  
- Brought to you by: Chris Oliver. ([www.bible-groups.info](http://www.bible-groups.info))

**PSALM RESPONSE:** Before the angels I will bless you, O Lord.

### TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC:

- [1] **Entry Hymn:** "A new commandment..." – n.º 2
- [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:** "Jesus the Lord said: "I am the Bread" – n.º 288
- [8] **Thanksgiving:** Portuguese Hymn
- [9] **Final Hymn:** "The Spirit lives to set us free..." – n.º 561

By: *Fátima Cátia Marques*



## REFLECTION FOR THE 5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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



**“In the presence of the angels I praise you, O Lord.” (Psalm 138:1)**

If you walk through the markets of **Madeira**, you will likely come across the **espada**, or black scabbard fish. Long, dark and weird looking, it is caught in the deep, cold waters far below the surface. Fishermen from **Câmara de Lobos** head out before dawn, lowering their lines into depths of **over 1,000 metres**, trusting that beneath the unseen waters, the catch is waiting. It is hard, sometimes dangerous work - but they go, because they know that the sea provides.

In today's Gospel (Luke 5:1–11), Simon Peter and his companions have spent the night fishing but have caught nothing. They are exhausted, disheartened, and ready to give up. Then Jesus steps into Peter's boat and tells him to **“put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.”** It seems pointless - what difference would another attempt make? But Peter listens, obeys, and suddenly the impossible happens: their nets overflow with fish.

Like the **espada fishermen** who go to depths unseen, Peter is invited to go beyond what is comfortable, beyond what seems logical, and to **trust in Jesus' word**. And in doing so, he discovers something greater than a miraculous catch - he discovers his **true calling**. Jesus tells him, *“Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.”* This Gospel is a vision of **heaven on earth**. Just as heaven has its order - **God at the centre, the angels serving, and the saints gathered in His presence** - so too does this moment by the Sea of Galilee. **Jesus stands in the boat, the apostles are called to serve, and the people are waiting to be drawn into the kingdom.** Peter's first response is to feel unworthy: *“Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.”* But Jesus does not look for perfection - He looks for **trust**. Like the fishermen of Madeira who lower their lines into the deep, unsure of what they will bring up, **we are called to trust in Christ's word, even when the outcome is uncertain.**

In the **first reading (Isaiah 6:1-8)**, Isaiah has a vision of heaven, where he hears the angels cry, *“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts!”* This same hymn resounds at every **Mass** as we join the angels in praise. Isaiah, like Peter, feels unworthy, but God purifies him and sends him forth with a mission.



The psalm today reminds us, *“In the presence of the angels I praise you, O Lord.”* Every Mass, every act of love, and every moment of faith is a step towards heaven. Jesus calls each of us to be His disciples, to cast our nets in trust, and to draw others into His kingdom. **May we have the courage to go into the deep, knowing that when we follow Christ, He always provides.**

At the end of **Mass**, we, too, are sent forth. After encountering Christ in the Eucharist, we hear the final words: **“Go forth, the Mass is ended.”** Just as Isaiah is sent, just as Peter is called, we are commissioned to bring Christ into the world. **Heaven touches earth in the Mass, and we are called to carry that presence into our daily lives.**

*With best wishes, Revd. Tito Pereira*



## CELEBRATING CANDLEMAS

- Last week Sunday here at the Chapel



Last Sunday we celebrated *Candlemas* here at the Chapel.

On Candlemas Sunday, Catholics usually take candles to church where they are blessed and then used for the rest of the year.

*Candlemas*, which occurs 40 days after Christmas, on February 2nd, celebrates the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple.

The Scripture readings were all about the presentation of Jesus at the Temple of Jerusalem, referring to Him as the light of the people of Israel.

Father Joseph blessed the candles and also everyone who attended Mass (both inside and outside of the Chapel). 😊



## BOOK SALE !!



**Mrs. Jane Caldwell, an author from the UK** has written 3 murder mystery detective novels, and for the last 2 Sundays she has been selling signed copies of her books. Get one for yourself a copy today after Mass for only **10 Euros. Many thanks** to all who supported the book sale last week Sunday. It was a huge success! All proceeds went towards helping those in need.

**Happy Reading!**  
(janecaldwell902@gmail.com)

## Our Lady of Lourdes

FEBRUARY 11TH

★ The Church celebrates the World Day of the Sick on Feb 11.

★ On Feb 11, 1858, Mother Mary appeared to Bernadette Soubirous.

★ Revealed herself as the Immaculate Conception.

★ Emphasized prayer for sinners.

★ Officially recognized by the Church in 1862.

★ She appeared 18 times at the Grotto of Massabielle in Lourdes.

★ Water from the miraculous spring in the Grotto has healed many.

