

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.**

"Let's help others to believe that it's still possible to change course, choose life and have hope again."

- 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: sineadmoynih7@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.

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 to be added to the newsletter distribution list, or download them from the Chapel's website/blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org

JOYFUL GIFT

2nd March 2025 – 10am Sunday Mass
8th 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
i www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/
e penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com

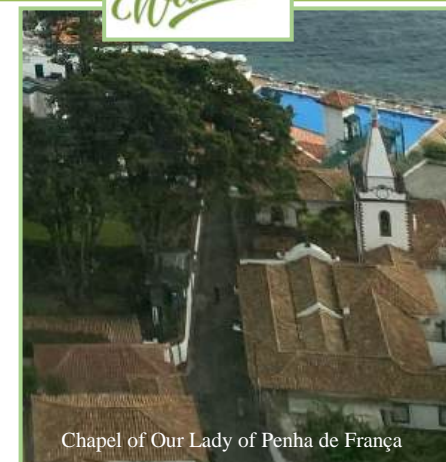
THE CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH

Good morning. Welcome to the 400-year-old Chapel of *Our Lady of Penha de França*.

The special intention of this morning's Holy Mass will be for the **Dos Santos Family**, and in a special way for **Brigita Dos Santos** who is in the hospital, in the ICU.

Welcome

Vol. 3, nr. 456



Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França



TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(*Sirach 27:4-7; Psalm 91(92); 1 Corinthians 15:54-58; Luke 6:39-45*)

The Wisdom book called **Ecclesiasticus or Sirach** was written in Hebrew about 200 BC by Ben Sira, a Jewish sage, and later translated into Greek. It was not translated into Latin by Jerome, but the Greek version was accepted as canonical by the early Church, and there are many allusions to it in the New Testament. At a time of increasing pagan Greek influence, Ben Sira showed that Israel's religion was still a firm basis for moral living. He gives many practical examples, helping Christians of every age to apply moral truths to their own times. Today's reading reminds us not to judge a person before hearing them speak. **The Psalm** extols God's justice: crime may appear to be rewarded but wrong-doers will be punished in eternity. Paul concludes his teaching to the **Corinthians** on the resurrection of the body with these triumphant words from Isaiah and Hosea: "Death is swallowed up in victory"; "Death, where is your sting?" After death our mortal nature puts on immortality. We must therefore never give up hope, confident in the victory God gives us through our Lord Jesus Christ. In **Luke's gospel** Jesus ends his sermon on the plain, which included the beatitudes, by reminding us how our actions and words reflect what is in our hearts.

- Brought to you by: Chris Oliver. (www.bible-groups.info)

PSALM RESPONSE: It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC:

By: Larysa Makarova

Entry: "Bind us together, Lord..." - 65

Offertory: "Father, I place into your hands..." - 134

Communion: "Sweet heart of Jesus..." - 521

Final: "Colours of day dawn into the mind..." - 93





JUBILEU 2025

Juntos em oração

P. Giselo Andrade

O problema de saúde do Papa Francisco, internado desde o dia 14 de fevereiro no Hospital Gemelli em Roma, está a provocar um movimento de oração global que encontra na Praça de São Pedro um centro simbólico. Durante a pandemia de Covid-19, o mundo testemunhou a oração do Papa Francisco que se apresentou sozinho na Praça de São Pedro, onde rezou pelo mundo inteiro, junto ao crucifixo e ao ícone de Maria 'Salus Populi Romani'.

Nestes dias encontramos um cenário oposto. Agora, o mundo inteiro une-se em oração na mesma Praça - e através da internet - para rezar pelo Papa.

Muitas vezes a doença surge sem pré-aviso, alterando as agendas e os projetos em curso, obrigando ao repouso e ao recolhimento, mesmo em ano jubilar.

Escreveu o Papa na mensagem para o Dia Mundial do Doente deste ano que "a esperança não engana e fortalece-nos nas tribulações". Embora dolorosa, a doença pode ser transformada em momento de encontro com Deus e com os outros, tornando-se em oportunidade para experimentar a graça divina e a solidariedade fraterna.

A experiência de oração pelo Papa Francisco e por todos os doentes é também uma oportunidade para a Igreja viver a virtude da esperança. Nos momentos de sofrimento aprendemos a acreditar e a esperar.

A presença dos fiéis na Praça de São Pedro simboliza a Igreja orante. Mesmo diante das incertezas sobre a saúde do Papa, a comunidade cristã demonstra que a fé não é apenas um caminho individual, mas um "caminhar juntos", como recordou tantas vezes Francisco.

A doença do Papa Francisco lembra-nos a fragilidade da condição humana, mas também a fé e a esperança que não engana.

- Brought to you by Fr. Giselo Andrade

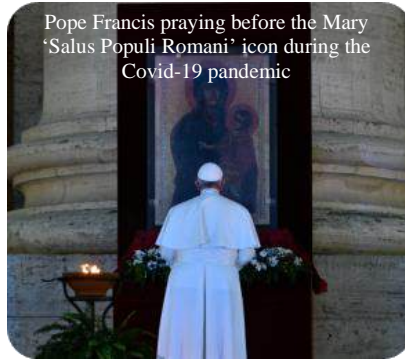
(Translated from his article in Portuguese, in the Funchal Diocese weekly newsletter, "Jornal da Madeira")

TOGETHER IN PRAYER

The health problems of Pope Francis, who has been in Rome's Gemelli Hospital since 14th of February, are sparking a global prayer movement with St. Peter's Square as its symbolic centre.



During the Covid-19 pandemic, the world witnessed Pope Francis praying alone in St. Peter's Square, where he prayed for the whole world, next to the crucifix and before the icon of Mary 'Salus Populi Romani'.



These days we find the opposite scenario. Now, the whole world is united in prayer in the same Square - and via the internet - to pray for the Pope.

Often illness strikes without warning, altering schedules and ongoing projects, forcing rest and seclusion, even in a jubilee year.

The Pope wrote in his message for this year's World Day of the Sick that 'hope does not deceive and strengthens us in tribulations'.

Although painful, illness can be transformed into a moment of encounter with God and with others, becoming an opportunity to experience divine grace and fraternal solidarity.

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The experience of praying for Pope Francis and for all the sick is also an opportunity for the Church to live the virtue of hope. In moments of suffering, we learn to believe and hope.



The presence of the faithful in St. Peter's Square symbolises the praying Church. Even in the face of uncertainty about the Pope's health, the Christian community demonstrates that faith is not just an individual journey, but a 'journey together', as Pope Francis has often reminded us.

Pope Francis' illness reminds us of the fragility of the human condition, but also of faith and hope that does not deceive.

- Fr. Giselo Andrade

Septuagesima, Lent and Holy Week 2025

	Septuagesima Sunday <i>(Sixth Sunday in the Ordinary Time - Novus Ordo)</i>	16 February
	Ash Wednesday	05 March
	First Sunday of Lent	09 March
	Passion Sunday <i>(Fifth Sunday of Lent - Novus Ordo)</i>	06 April
	Palm Sunday <i>(Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord - Novus Ordo)</i>	13 April
	Holy Thursday	17 April
	Good Friday	18 April
	Holy Saturday	19 April
	Easter Sunday	20 April

Catholic Fortress
facebook.com/catholicfortress



viralnow The image of Pope Francis, 88, was projected onto Christ the Redeemer in Rio de Janeiro on Thursday (27/2), accompanied by the message "Strength, Holy Father" in several languages. The pontiff has been hospitalized at the Agostino Gemelli University Polyclinic Hospital in Rome since February 14 to treat bilateral pneumonia. The tribute was shared on the monument's official Instagram.

"Christ the Redeemer lit up in a message of hope and unity. In partnership with Hallow App, we join in prayer for Pope Francis, sending him strength in this time of recovery."

Source: <https://www.instagram.com/viralagora/reel/DGn-GWWs8LF/>

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

I remember growing up in London in the 70s when things were so different. In those days, children played out on the streets, free to explore and get up to all sorts of mischief. One favourite pursuit was sneaking into the orchards to go scrumping. I still remember the thrill of stealing (Yes I stole an apple) an apple, feeling victorious as I took a big bite, only to spit it out in disgust because it was sour! I'd expected sweetness but got nothing but bitterness.



Jesus gives us a powerful lesson about the heart and the words that flow from it. He says, "A good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good, and an evil person out of evil treasure produces evil; for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks." These words invite us to reflect on the source of our actions and



words. If our hearts are filled with love, peace, and kindness, then our words and deeds will reflect those virtues. Conversely, if our hearts are full of anger, resentment, or bitterness, then negativity is what we will inevitably give. It is not that we are evil, but that we can be filled with evil influences which then flow out in our actions and words.

Consider a tree, as Jesus does in the parable. A good tree produces good fruit, while a bad tree produces bad fruit. An apple tree doesn't give oranges, and a thornbush doesn't produce figs. The fruit reflects the nature of the nourishment the tree has received. In the same way, our actions reflect the nature of what we fill our hearts with.

Yet, in today's world, we are constantly bombarded with negativity. At the flick of a finger, as we scroll through social media, we are exposed to anger, outrage, gossip, and cynicism. We are surrounded by voices that criticise, judge, and divide. If we are not careful, this constant stream of negativity can seep into our hearts, influencing our thoughts, our words, and our actions. If we fill ourselves with bitterness and anger from what we consume online, how can we expect to give love and kindness? Just as we are careful about the food we eat for the health of our bodies, we must be vigilant about what we feed our hearts and minds. We need to ask ourselves: Are we filling ourselves with negativity, or are we seeking what uplifts, inspires, and brings peace?



How do we cultivate this goodness within us? Firstly, by turning to the source of all goodness - God Himself. We need to open our hearts to His grace through prayer, the sacraments, and reflection on His Word. In a few moments, we will approach this altar to receive the Holy Eucharist - the very Body and Blood of Christ. As we receive Him, we are not merely performing a ritual; we are welcoming the source of all goodness into our hearts. If we want to bear good fruit, it begins here, by receiving Christ Himself.



Just as healthy trees need good nourishment, we need the grace and love of Jesus to transform our hearts. When we receive Him in Holy Communion, we are filled with His love, His mercy, and His peace. Let us approach the altar today with hearts open to receive, so that we may go forth and give that same love, mercy, and peace to others. May we draw closer to Christ, the source of all goodness, and may our hearts be filled to overflowing with His love, so that our words and actions always reflect His light to the world. Amen.

- Revd. Tito Pereira



SPRING PHP FUNDRAISING SCHEDULE

The charity, "People Helping People" (PHP) hopes you will join us for the following events:

SUNDAY LUNCH for friends and church family

Sunday
March 9th
 at the "Why Not?" Cafe.
 Join us!



PHP QUIZZ NIGHT

Saturday
March 29th
 18h30 for 19h00
 Pub dinner(menu details to follow)
 inclusive of a drink (wine, beer or soft drink)
 Quizz to start at 20h00
 Live music from 22:00



(We are asking friends and businesses for Prizes and Raffle items, from now until 23rd March. All donations welcome and much appreciated).
 • 5€ added to meal price for PHP.

EASTER HAMPERS

• Collection of chocolates, hygiene products and food to begin March 9th through April 13th



ORANGE WALK

Sunday
April 6th
 •Details to follow



ARRIAL (Street party)

Sunday
June 8th
 •Details to follow



For more information or questions, please contact PHP Committee member, Jane House, by email:
 janelh1945@gmail.com