

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.**

"When we give ourselves to someone, in a word or gesture, we are building happiness in that person"- (José Luis Nunes Martins, in his book "Amor: Silencios e Tempestades... [Love, Silences and Storms]").

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: sineadmoynehan7@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! ☺



Do Stay for
Tea & Coffee

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. ☺



Want to have this newsletter sent to you by email every week? Ask to be added to the newsletter distribution list by sending emailing penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com or alternatively, you can download them from the Chapel's website/blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org

JOYFUL GIFT

20th April 2025 – 10am Sunday Mass

Easter Sunday – Year C

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



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THE CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH

Happy Easter! Today we celebrate Easter Sunday. Our priest this morning is Father Joseph Arun, a Carmelite priest who is originally from India, and now living in Madeira.



TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – Easter Sunday

(Acts 10:34,37-43; Psalm 117(118); Colossians 3:1-4/1 Corinthians 5:6-9; John 20:1-9)

Luke's **Book of Acts** describes how after his death Jesus continues his work on earth through his Holy Spirit, who interrupts Peter's speech to Cornelius. Peter then realises that forgiveness of sins is offered to "everyone who believes" in Jesus' name. The dramatic **Psalm** thanks and praises the Lord for rescuing us from the dangers threatening us. It includes the shouts that welcomed Jesus into the Temple on Palm Sunday, now the second verse of the "Holy, Holy, Holy". Our second readings are all from Paul's letters. The vigil reading from Romans compares baptism to death: our sinful life has died: we have risen to a new life in Christ. The Sunday reading from **Colossians** draws attention away from earthly marks of religion: our focus should be on our new life in Christ. The alternative reading is an early Easter homily. In the Jewish calendar Passover was followed by the feast of Unleavened Bread. In the three synoptic gospels three women discover the tomb empty and run to tell the apostles, who disbelieve. But in John's gospel, Mary of Magdala, alone, finds the stone removed from the tomb. Without going inside, she runs to tell Peter. Peter goes in first and sees the empty burial cloths. When the other disciple goes in, he believes.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: This day was made by the Lord: we rejoice and are glad.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC:

By: Fátima Cátia Marques



- [1] **Entry Hymn:** "Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord..." – n.º 27
- [2] **Penitential Act:** "Lord, have mercy..." – n.º 663
- Seqüência Pascal:** "Victimae Paschali laudes" – n.º 597
- [3] **Gospel Acclamation:** "Celtic Aleluia..." – n.º 679
- [4] **Offertory Hymn:** "At the Lamb's high feast we sing..." – n.º 44
- [5] **Sanctus** - "Holy, holy, holy" – n.º 698

[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:** "Laudate Dominum..." – n.º 305



EASTER REFLECTION

- By Deacon Tito Pereira

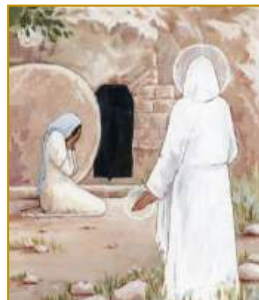
Email: (dcn.tito@gmail.com)

G.K. Chesterton once wrote:

*"On the third day, the friends of Christ coming at daybreak to the place found the grave empty and the stone rolled away. In varying ways, they realised the new wonder; but even they hardly realised that the world had died in the night. **What they were looking at was the first day of a new creation.**"*

Here, at Penha de França, where prayer has been lifted for generations, we find ourselves drawn into that same new dawn. Easter is not just the end of Lent or a nice story we revisit every spring. It's the beginning of something entirely new. A fresh creation. A world made different - not by force, but by the quiet, astonishing triumph of love over death.

The Resurrection of Jesus is not just a Comfort - **it's a shock to the system**. It tells us that death is not final. That sin does not define us. That despair is not the end of the story. When **the women found the stone rolled away**, they were expecting to anoint a dead body. Instead, they were sent running with news that would change the world.



We can come to Easter with heavy hearts - burdened by sorrow, disappointment, the pain of loss and bereavement or the everyday grind of life. And yet, the message of Easter still stands: **Christ is risen**. That means **hope** is real. Life has meaning. And love has the last word.

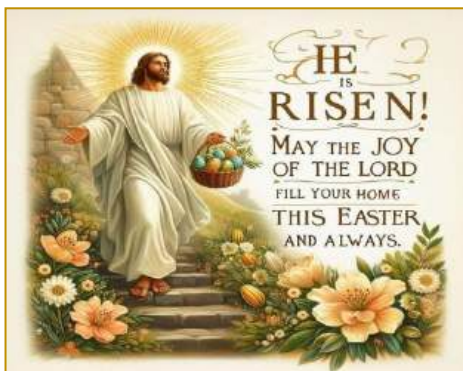
God has not abandoned the world. He has entered into its darkest corners and brought light. In the risen Christ, we see the wounds - still there - but now shining with glory. This is not a promise that we won't suffer, but a **promise that our suffering is not wasted**. That with God, even pain can be redeemed.

So what does Easter mean for us, here and now?

It means **we're called to live like people of the Resurrection**. With courage. With joy. With forgiveness. It means being light in dark places, and bearing witness to the truth that Christ is alive - not just in heaven, but in our midst: in the Eucharist, in our neighbours, and in every act of love.

May this community, continue to be a sign of that hope. A place where hearts are lifted, lives are renewed, and Christ is encountered. And may Our Lady, who saw both the Cross and the Resurrection, walk with us as we live the life of the new creation.

Christ is risen. Alleluia!



He is Risen!



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RISEN
SALVATION
STONE
SUNDAY
TOMB

ANGEL
CALVARY
CHRIST
CROSS

CROWN
DISCIPLES
EMPTY
MARY

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DID YOU

KNOW ?

SOME EASTER WORDS & WHAT THEY MEAN

THE TRIDUUM

PASCHAL TRIDUUM

The Easter Triduum—which begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday, reaching its high point in the Easter Vigil, and closes with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday, is the summit of the Liturgical Year. It commemorates **Christ's Paschal Mystery**, i.e., the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

facebook.com/catholicsknowtheanswerofficialpage

Meaning of the Inscription

I.N.R.I.

I - IESVS
N - NAZARENVS
R - REX
I - IVDAEORVM

It is Latin which literally means:
"Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews."

Catholic Fortress

EASTER HAMPERS CONTRIBUTIONS

A big thank you to everyone who contributed items to make up Easter hampers for the needy families we care for under the People Helping People charity.



Each family was given a bag of toiletries, a bag of groceries and a bag of Easter treats. We were also able to give the children some toys which had been donated.




We wish you all a blessed Easter !
- from the *People Helping People* team.



Volunteers got together to prepare the Easter Hampers for the needy families



The Easter Hampers, packed and ready for distribution 



EASTER TRADITIONS IN MADEIRA - Religious

Easter is one of the most important religious events in Madeira. This is a time full of traditions and customs that are lived with great intensity by the devoutly Catholic Madeiran population. Here are some of the events that took place in Holy Week this year:

ON HOLY THURSDAY: 17th April 2025



The Bishop of Funchal presided at the **Chrism Mass** in the Cathedral of Funchal, with the blessing and consecration of the holy oils and the renewal of priestly promises. In the presence of almost the entire presbyterate of the diocese, Bishop Nuno called on priests to be 'heralds of humanity' and to help 'heal wounds...'.
Foto: Duarte Gomes



During the service of the **Lord's Supper** that took place at the Sé Cathedral in Funchal, Bishop Nuno, repeating the gesture of humility that Jesus had towards his disciples at the Last Supper, **washed the feet** of 12 chosen people: six patients of the health institution *São João de Deus* (St. John of God) and 6 brothers of the Confraternity "*Confraria do Santíssimo da Sé.*"



ON GOOD FRIDAY: 18th April 2025

A group of locals acted out the **Stations of the Cross** in Pico da Torre (Câmara de Lobos). Among the local "actors" there is always someone who carries the Cross, and enacts the crucifixion. This year marks the 28th edition of this enactment, which was made up of around 80 young people from various youth groups.

GOOD FRIDAY:



Thousands of Madeiran Catholics gathered at the Sé Cathedral in Funchal for the Good Friday procession known as "**O Enterro do Senhor**" (The Funeral/Burial of Our Lord). After the Celebration of the Passion of the Lord, presided over by bishop Nuno, hundreds of faithful joined together in silence and prayer, following the cross of Christ through the streets around the Cathedral.