



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.**

"Every Christian is called to become, in God's hands, bread that is broken and shared." - (Pope Francis).



>> **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 Quitéria 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: sineadmoynihn7@icloud.com

**PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE CONTACTS:** Alexandre Silva, Funchal. Email: alex.lupus@gmail.com  
 When making any donation, please send an email to penhafranca.php@gmail.com with the date, and name on the transfer so that we are 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. ☺



JOYFUL GIFT

29th June 2025 – 10am Sunday Mass  
**Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul – Year C**

**Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França**  
 Rua Penha de França 3, Funchal, Madeira  
**Website and Blog:** <http://rcmassmadeira.org/>  
[www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel](http://www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel)  
[www.instagram.com/capela\\_penha\\_franca/](http://www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/)  
[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. Today the Church universally celebrates the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles. We are blessed to have Father Joseph Arun celebrating our English language Mass for us this morning. Father Joseph is a Carmelite priest, originally from Kerala, India. The special intentions for this morning's Mass are for **Suzie Schweers** who is in the hospital in Intensive Care, and for the soul of **Chris Oliver** who passed away last Sunday on 22/06/2025. **May his Soul rest in peace.** ☩

**TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – Saints Peter and Paul** - (13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time)  
 (Acts 12:1-11; Psalm 33(34); 2 Timothy 4:6-8; 17-18; Matthew 16:13-19)

This is the last chapter in Acts about the Jerusalem church before Paul's missionary journeys. Peter's third arrest is this time by Herod who is the grandson of the Herod when Jesus was born. The story of Peter being freed from prison is so lovingly told that the parallels with Jesus' arrest may be missed. Like Jesus, Peter was arrested during the Passover, and was also taken for a ghost, here by the maid, Rhoda, who shuts the door in his face. The angel who proclaimed Jesus to be risen, and who frees Peter, goes on to strike Herod dead. The Psalm thanks the Lord for help in difficult times, urging us to glorify the Lord, who is always ready to give comfort. A rather lonely Paul, abandoned in prison, writes these encouraging words to Timothy, whom Paul has commissioned to take over his ministry. Paul urges him to keep on preaching the true Christian message in its entirety. But Timothy will therefore suffer and need always to rely on the Lord's strength. Today's gospel is Matthew's version of Jesus asking who people say he is. It is similar to Luke's version. But Matthew inserts the well-known commissioning of Peter to be the rock of the Church, the only reference in all the gospels to the whole Church.  
 By: Chris Oliver.... [www.bible-groups.info](http://www.bible-groups.info)

**PSALM RESPONSE:** The angel of the Lord will rescue those who fear him.

**TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC:**

- [1] **Entry Hymn:** "A new commandment..." – n.º 2
- [2] **Penitential Act:** "Lord, have mercy..." – n.º 663
- [3] **Gospel Acclamation:** "Alleluia ..." – n.º 683
- [4] **Offertory Hymn:** "Healer of the sick..." – n.º 217
- [5] **Sanctus:** "Scarborough Fair Sanctus..." – n.º 707
- [6] **Agnus Dei:** "Ubi Caritas" – Lyrics: Ubi Caritas et amor. Ubi Caritas Deus ibi est
- [7] **Communion Hymn:** "Make way, make way..." – n.º 360
- [8] **Thanksgiving:** "Hino de São Pedro e São Paulo" (Hymn of Saint Peter and Saint Paul)
- [9] **Final Hymn:** "Jubilate, everybody..." – n.º 296



By: Fátima Cátia Marques



Dear Friends in Christ,

On 29th June, we celebrate the **Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul**, two towering figures in the life of the Church. Though very different in background and temperament, Peter and Paul were united in one mission: to proclaim Christ and build up His Church. Peter, the fisherman from Galilee, was chosen by Jesus to be the rock, the visible foundation of the Church's unity. Paul, once a zealous persecutor, was transformed by grace and sent to preach the Gospel to the nations. Both gave their lives in Rome as witnesses to the faith.

Here in **Madeira**, this feast is marked with special devotion - particularly to **Saint Peter**, who is deeply honoured in coastal communities. In **Ribeira Brava**, the celebrations are among the most vibrant on the island. The streets are beautifully decorated, and Saint Peter's statue is carried through town before being taken out to sea in a maritime procession. **Boats are adorned with flowers and lights**, accompanied by prayers, singing, and a deep sense of thanksgiving for the protection and blessings of the sea.

A striking part of these celebrations is the presence of the Romeiros - pilgrims who walk from their villages, often over long distances, to take part in the festivities. Their footsteps echo those of generations before them, testifying to a faith that is alive, shared, and cherished. Their journey is more than a tradition - it is a visible sign of devotion and a reminder that faith involves both movement and commitment.

These traditions show us that the Church is not simply an institution, but a **living community**, rooted in the apostles and enlivened by the Spirit. We, too, are part of this apostolic Church, called to be witnesses in our time. The example of Peter and Paul challenges us to deepen our faith, to live it openly, and to hand it on with courage and joy.

As we celebrate this great solemnity, may we walk in the footsteps of these two saints - bold in faith, humble in service, and always seeking to follow Christ.



St. Peter statue in the church of Ribeira Brava

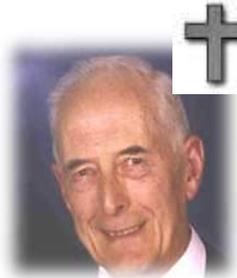
Saints Peter and Paul, pray for us.

- Deacon Tito



## MASS SPECIAL INTENTION

The special intention of this morning's Mass is offered for the soul of Chris Oliver.



We were saddened to hear of the passing this week of Chris Oliver, after a short illness. Many of you who have been coming to the Chapel over the years will remember Chris. He was a very active part of our community for many years, taking over the newsletter from Laura Machado for a short while, and faithfully contributing to the newsletter every week with notes on the Scripture Readings. Chris also started a weekly joint Anglican-Roman Catholic Bible study group (held in the library of the Holy Trinity English church) which he would lead while here on holiday from the UK.

Chris and his late wife, Marina, would often come on holiday to Madeira and made many friends here. We extend our condolences to his family: may our Lord bless and comfort you all during this time of grief.

## POPULAR SAINTS FESTIVAL (*Festa dos Santos Populares*): 12-29th June

The Popular Saints Festival takes place all over the island in the month of June, and is strongly rooted in the traditions of Madeira. They are the high social point of many regions on the island. **These festivities are dedicated to the 3 popular saints: St. Anthony (*Santo António*), St. John (*São João*) and St. Peter (*São Pedro*).** The celebrations begin with St. Anthony, traditionally the saint of love, and a match-maker, but St. John is the most popular saint. From 19<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> June **local shops prepare and show off their creativity by decorating small altars in honour of the 3 saints. There are also lively musical performances** in the city centre.



## THE MONTH OF JUNE – Month of the Sacred Heart

### Sacred Heart of Jesus

**Flames** Jesus' burning love for us and its purifying and transformational power.

**Cross** The Crucifixion, the ultimate sacrifice.

**Wound & Blood** The piercing of Jesus' side during This crucifixion. His precious blood spilled for our redemption.

**Crown of Thorns** Jesus' suffering and agony of the cross, which He willingly endured for our sake.

