

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.**

"The poor are our masters and lords." - (A phrase that Fr. Bernardino would often use). The phrase "The poor are our masters and lords" is a concept rooted in Vincentian spirituality, which emphasizes serving the poor as if serving Christ himself. It stems from the belief that Jesus Christ is present in the poor, and therefore, the poor are to be honoured and served with the utmost respect and care. This idea, popularized by St. Vincent de Paul, calls for a deep and transformative relationship with the poor, where the servant becomes the one who learns from and is guided by the "master".



>> 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: 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! ☺



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. ☺



JOYFUL GIFT

Vol. 3, nr. 478

3rd August 2025 – 10h30am Sunday Mass
18th 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/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel

Instagram: www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/

Email: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com



Fr. Joseph Arun

THE CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. Our Mass time has changed and is now at **10h30** am on Sundays (half an hour later than usual). Today we celebrate the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time. We are blessed to have Father Joseph Arun celebrating our English language Mass for us. Father Joseph is a Carmelite priest, originally from Kerala, India.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23; Psalm 89(90):3-17; Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11; Luke 12:13-21)

Qoheleth the Preacher struggles with the contradictions of life and the vanity of created things which give no lasting satisfaction. Good people suffer; sinners enjoy life and prosper. With no idea of life after death, the Preacher's only solution is to trust that God will make it right eventually.

The Psalm contrasts the shortness of our lives with God's eternity, seeing suffering and death as punishment for sin. But also prays that God will grant some happiness before death.

This final extract from **Colossians** hints at Paul's very detailed moral teaching. The Christian's life is now "hidden with Christ", but when Christ is revealed "you too will be revealed in all your glory". Paul then spells out how we should live our lives focussed on Christ. So that we will grow in knowledge and maturity towards the images of our creator that God intended us to be. We must put away sins of both sex and speech, which damage individuals and the Christian community.

Luke's Gospel answers the Preacher's problem in the first reading: good actions in this life are rewarded after death, and evil will be punished. The rich man's approach was sensible in capitalist terms, and not immoral. But Luke insists that we must help the poor while we can!

- By: Chris Oliver (www.bible-groups.info)

PSALM RESPONSE: O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.



TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC:

By: Larysa and Anastacia

Entry: "This is the day..." - 574

Offertory: "Take our bread, we ask you..." - 528

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

Final: "Colours of day..." - 93

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



LOVE REMEMBERED, LOVE RENEWED

Here at the Penha chapel, many people come forward for blessings - whether it's birthdays, wedding anniversaries, or other special moments.

A couple of years back, I remember a wonderful moment when a couple came up for a blessing. When Father Thomas asked how many years they had been married, they said it was their 60th anniversary. What touched everyone was that after Mass, they were still holding hands in the garden.



This simple but powerful image reminds us of the beauty and strength of love that lasts. Marriage, as the Church teaches, is a sacrament - a sign of Christ's faithful love for His people. But it is also lived out in the everyday moments of patience, forgiveness and kindness.

When couples come forward for blessings, it is more than marking a date. It is an act of faith and gratitude, thanking God for the years past and asking for His grace in the years to come. It also encourages us all, showing how God's love can grow and sustain us through life's ups and downs.

As we go about our week, perhaps we can each think about how to renew our own "yes" to those we love - in our families, friendships, and parish community - not through grand gestures, but through small acts of love that reflect the love Christ has for us.

May God continue to bless all who come to Penha chapel and help us grow together in faith, hope and love.

- Deacon Tito



"People Helping People" (read more info about this charity on the next page) is looking for items to furnish an apartment for a mother and her young daughter. An urgent and very true need!. They need basically everything. If anyone has items such as furniture, kitchen utensils & appliances, bedsheets, pillows, etc. please contact Skip or Jane House after Mass this morning, or by email. Thank you! 😊❤️

Jane House (email): janelh1945@gmail.com
Skip House (email): lhouse28@gmail.com



What is Eucharistic Adoration?

Eucharistic Adoration is a form of a private prayer. It is an opportunity to spend one on one time with Jesus.

What do you do at a Eucharistic Adoration? You can bring a religious book to read. You can say your rosary. You can say any prayer of your choice, remember prayer is a conversation with God. Simply be in the presence of Jesus. Be open and allow Jesus to transform you.

Jesus is inviting you to come and spend time with him. Perhaps fifteen minutes. Maybe thirty minutes. Or forty minutes. It could be any amount of time you can afford to spend with Jesus.

Jesus is inviting each of us to come to him. He says, "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew. 11:28).



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

At the Cathedral in the centre of Funchal.



Tuesdays:
8:30 am to 6 pm;

Fridays:
9 am to 11 am;
4 pm to 5:30 pm

