



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.**

"An authentic faith - which is never comfortable or individualistic - always implies a deep desire to change the world, to transmit values, to leave the Earth a little better after our time on it. The Church cannot and should not remain on the sidelines in the fight for justice. All Christians, including Pastors, are called to be concerned with building a better world." [José António Pagola in his book "Recuperar o projecto de Jesus" [Recovering Jesus' Project.]



>> **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.

A SPECIAL REQUEST

People Helping People (PHP) is looking for a bathroom sink for the apartment which they are renovating for a mother and her young daughter, who are in need.

If you are able to help, please contact Jane House: (janelh1945@gmail.com)



ORANGE WALK

Annual Orange Walk in Santa Catarina Park 😊

When: Sunday, 28 September
Time: 12:30.

Sponsor Sheets will be available.
More info: Jane House (janelh1945@gmail.com)



JOYFUL GIFT

21st September 2025 – 10:30 am Sunday
25th 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/>

www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel

www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/

penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com



THE CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. This Chapel was founded over 400 years ago (in 1622) by Antonio Dantas who wanted to provide the garrison of soldiers close by in the port of Funchal a space for prayer. We are blessed to have **Fr. Joseph Arun** celebrating Mass here every Sunday for us in English. In addition to this English Mass, Fr. Joseph also celebrates Mass in Portuguese at the Carmelite church in Funchal (*Igreja do Carmo*).

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Amos 8:4-7; Psalm 112(113):1-8; 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 16:1-13)

Amos was a shepherd from Judah who around 760 BC prophesied doom to the northern kingdom Israel, largely because of its social injustice. Israel under Jeroboam was very prosperous, but when it was overrun by Assyria 40 years later the prophet's warnings were remembered. It was not just the ways the rich cheated the poor – inflating the currency and giving short measure. Worse was their belief that sacrifices and fasting would absolve them from God's blame: sacrifice without justice is meaningless. **The Psalm** urges praise for God at all times and in all places for he who is supreme over all stoops down to raise up the poor. In our modern liturgies we follow all of Paul's advice to **Timothy**: we lift up our hands in the traditional manner to offer prayers of petition, intercession and thanks, and we pray for secular authorities – "so that we may live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet". We should reject false gods like riches or possessions. There is only one God, and Christ Jesus, our one High Priest, is the only mediator between us and God. **In the Gospel**, Jesus also warns us not to be seduced into worshipping money. Jesus says though the steward was "dishonest", his motive was right: to gain friends who would help him later.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: Praise the Lord, who raises the poor.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC: By: Fátima Cátia Marques



- 1| **Entry Hymn:** "Father, we adore you..." – n.º 136
- 2| **Gospel Acclamation:** "Celtic Aleluia..." – n.º 679
- 3| **Offertory Hymn:** "How lovely on the mountains..." – n.º 235
- 4| **Communion Hymn:** "As I kneel before you – Ave Maria gratia plena" – n.º 39
- 5| **Thanksgiving:** Portuguese Hymn
- 6| **Final Hymn:** "Ubi caritas"





REFLECTION - 25th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Jesus says in today’s Gospel: “No servant can serve two masters... You cannot serve God and money.” He does not leave much room for debate. At some point we all have to decide what really matters in life. Is it God, or the things that money can buy?

The parable of the dishonest steward can sound strange. Jesus is not praising dishonesty. What He highlights is the steward’s determination. He recognises that he is running out of time and he acts decisively with what is in front of him. Jesus is telling us to be just as purposeful but to direct that energy towards the things that last forever.

I once taught in a school in one of the poorest parts of London. Families lived in overcrowded flats and parents worked long hours for little pay. Life was tough. Yet in that place I saw real generosity shining through.

One mother managed to buy a computer for her child. Instead of keeping it just for her own family she opened her home so that other children could come after school and do their homework. That one computer became a lifeline for a whole group of children.



I also remember a little girl in my class who desperately wanted to win the weekly award. After weeks of trying she finally won. She could have chosen a pencil or a puzzle book or a notebook. But she asked if she could give her prize to another child because it was his birthday. After all that effort her first thought was still for someone else.

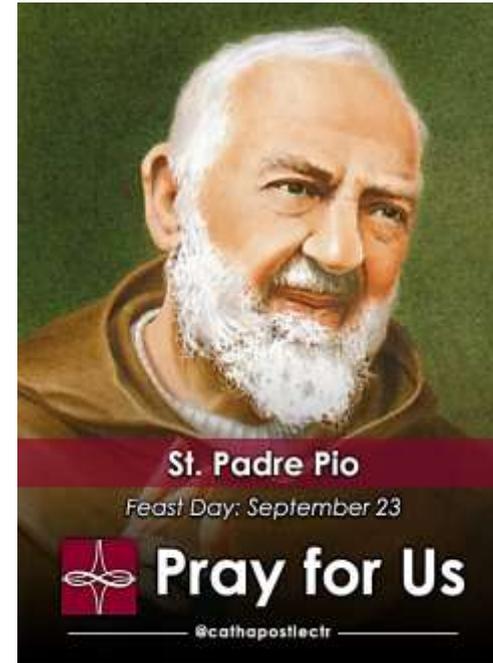


Moments like these made me realise what Jesus means when He says we must be faithful in small things. True faith is not always about big gestures. It is about what we do day by day with the little we have. Do we cling tightly to it or do we use it to bless others?

We see this spirit alive in the *People Helping People* charity which continues to be a sign in the community that people themselves are the true treasures of the Church.

This week perhaps we could ask ourselves: with what God has given me, whether my time or my money or my talents, am I serving myself first or am I letting it become a gift for others? In the end we cannot serve two masters. Only one will truly last.

- Deacon Tito



PADRE PIO

- Italian priest and saint
- Born May 25, 1887, Pietrelcina, Italy
- Died September 23, 1968
- Canonized in 2002 by Pope John Paul II
- Feast day September 23

Born into a devout Roman Catholic family, he consecrated himself to Jesus at age 5. At age 15 he joined the Capuchin order and took the name Pio in honour of St. Pius I.

In 1910, the year in which he became a priest, he received the stigmata (bodily marks corresponding to the wounds suffered by the crucified Jesus) for the first time, though they eventually healed. He was drafted into the Italian military in 1915 for medical service during World War One but was shortly discharged because of his poor health. He received the stigmata again in 1918, and this time they remained with him until his death. These and other signs of his holiness (such as his reported ability to be in two places at once and his gift of healing) drew growing numbers of pilgrims to him. He was noted for his charity

and piety. Padre Pio died on September 23, 1968. His funeral was attended by over 100,000 people. Pope John Paul II recognized Padre Pio as a saint on June 16, 2002.

"... stay in the boat in which our Lord has placed you, and let the storm come. You will not perish. It appears to you that Jesus is sleeping, but let it be so. Don't you know that if he sleeps, his heart vigilantly watches over you? Let him sleep, but at the right time, he will awaken to restore your calm."

-Padre Pio



"When parents pray for their children, God hears them, angels move, and great things happen. Pray with faith, and do not worry."

- St. Padre Pio



"You don't have to be worthy; you only have to be willing."

- St. Padre Pio

