



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 only causes that die are those for which no one dies! God only takes risks with those who take risks.' Love is what sets us free. We cannot always say yes, but every poor person who leaves us should feel that they have left a friend and always have a smile on their face" - (Fr. Bernardino Andrade)*



19th October 2025 – 10:30 am Sunday  
**29th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C**

Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França  
 Rua Penha de França 3, Funchal, Madeira  
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**CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH**

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. This is the only Catholic Mass celebrated in English on the whole island of Madeira. We are thankful and so blessed to have **Fr. Joseph Arun** celebrating Mass here every Sunday for us. In addition to this English Mass, Father Joseph also celebrates Mass in Portuguese at the Carmelite church in Funchal (*Igreja do Carmo*).

**TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
*(Exodus 17:8-13; Psalm 120(121); 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2; Luke 18:1-8)*

During the **Exodus**, after escaping from Egypt across the Red Sea, the Israelites frequently grumbled about God, who responded by giving them water, quail and manna. Then they were challenged by the Amelekites living between Palestine and Sinai. Moses needed a lot of human help to keep his arms up! But his persistence showed complete faith in God. They continued to quarrel and test the Lord, but he showed yet again that he will always look after them. **The Psalmist**, full of confidence in the Lord, assures his companion he too may have total confidence in God. Paul emphasises that **Timothy**, like Moses, must "be persistent" in proclaiming the word "whether it is convenient or inconvenient". He describes the uses of scripture: "for teaching, for refuting error, for guidance and for teaching people to be holy". For Paul, writing before the Gospels were written, "scripture" meant what we now call the Old Testament. So we need to persist in trying to understand the Jewish Scriptures. Just before Jesus enters Jerusalem, **Luke** gives us two parables about prayer. Today we hear how the persistent widow gets justice. Jesus assures us: God will "see justice done to his chosen who cry out to him day and night even when he delays to help them".

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

**>> TRANSFER TO BANK ACCOUNT IN MADEIRA:**

**ACCOUNT NAME:**  
 Associacao 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: [sineadmoynihian7@icloud.com](mailto:sineadmoynihian7@icloud.com)

**PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE CONTACTS:** Alexandre Silva, Funchal. Email: [alex.lupus@gmail.com](mailto:alex.lupus@gmail.com)  
 When making any donation, please send an email to [penhafranca.php@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**COFFEE AND CAKE**



As many of you already know, our little social room down in the garden is temporarily closed for renovation work. Coffee and cakes will be offered up at **Moynihans Irish Pub** (which is located at the top of the road leading down to the Chapel). Many thanks to Sinead and Tadhg Moynihan (for the space and coffee), and to Maury, Susan and Steve (for the delicious home-baked goodies!)



**World Mission Sunday**



**PSALM RESPONSE: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**



**TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC**

**Entry:** "This is the day..." - 574  
**Offertory:** "Take our bread, we ask you..." - 528  
**Communion:** "Sweet heart of Jesus..." - 521  
**Final:** "Colours of day dawn into the mind..." - 93



**By: Larysa Makarova**



**29th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Gospel:** Gospel of Luke 18:1–8

When I was a child in Madeira, widows often wore black for many years. Some, like my grandmother, never wore another colour again.

Their clothing spoke quietly of love, loss and a strength that did not draw attention to itself. My grandmother prayed with quiet persistence even when life seemed impossible. She taught me that

prayer is not about forcing things to happen our way. It is about letting prayer transform us from within.

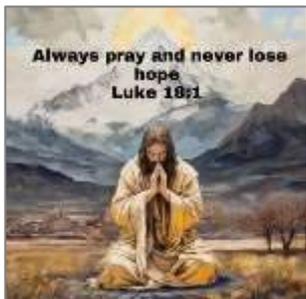
In the Gospel today Jesus speaks of a widow who keeps returning to a judge, asking for justice. She has no power and no position, only her determination to keep asking. In the end the judge gives in. Jesus is not saying that God is like the judge. He is showing us the strength that comes from never losing heart in prayer.

God already knows our needs. He already loves us. Persistent prayer does not change Him. It changes us. It keeps our hearts open to grace. It allows faith to grow quietly in the shadows.

Jesus ends with a question. “When the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?” Faith is found in the hearts of those who keep praying, even when they do not see the answers. I think of those Madeiran widows in black, their lives marked by silence, strength and faith.

May we learn from them and from the widow in the Gospel. May our prayer be steady and faithful. And may we trust that God is always at work, even when everything seems still.

- Deacon Tito



**Prayer has no rules.**

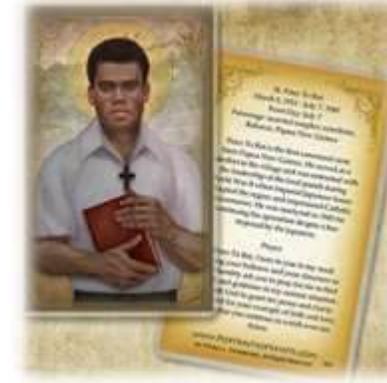
- Pray in church.
- Pray at home.
- Pray in the morning.
- Pray at night.
- Pray on your knees.
- Pray while walking.
- Pray in whispers.
- Pray in silence.
- Pray when you're joyful.
- Pray when you're hurting.
- Just pray. God is always listening.

Here at **The Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França**, we are blessed to be part of a truly international community. Every week we have people visiting here from many different nations, cultures, and backgrounds. We often have visiting priests and deacons (and sometimes even Bishops!) visiting us from other countries around the world. Last Sunday we were blessed to have a visiting deacon from Canada assist Fr Joseph during Mass!



Deacon John Fioretti (from Canada) with Fr. Joseph Arun (from India).

**SAINT PETER TO ROT -** Papua New Guinea's first saint - canonized today



Today, October 19th, Pope Leo XIV will canonize Blessed Peter To Rot, the first saint from Papua New Guinea.

Born in 1912 in Rakunai, Peter was grounded in the Catholic faith and faithfully served as a lay catechist, courageously continuing his pastoral mission even after missionaries were imprisoned by Japanese forces during the Second World War. He is remembered for his steadfast defence of the sanctity of marriage and family, standing firm in the Church's teaching amid political and cultural pressures. Beatified by St John Paul II during his visit to Papua New Guinea in 1995, Blessed Peter To Rot's life remains a powerful witness of faith, fidelity and pastoral zeal. He stood firm in faith at a time when the

people of Papua New Guinea were under immense pressure. His witness was simple but profound, he refused to abandon God, his family, or his community.

**TODAY IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY –** Pope Leo XIV's message



**Today is World Mission Sunday.** In a video message, Pope Leo XIV calls on every Catholic parish to take part in World Mission Sunday, 19 October, recalling how the generosity on this day enables and sustains the good work of missionaries worldwide, as he saw firsthand while serving in Peru.

World Mission Sunday is held every year on the second-to-last Sunday of October. This year it takes place on 19 October with the theme of “Missionaries of Hope among the peoples.”

*"When I served as a missionary priest and Bishop in Peru," Pope Leo says in the video message, "I saw first-hand how the faith, the prayer and the generosity shown on World*

*Mission Sunday can transform entire communities..." "I urge every Catholic parish in the world to take part in World Mission Sunday. Your prayers, your support will help spread the Gospel, provide for pastoral and catechetical programs, help to build new churches, and care for the health and educational needs of our brothers and sisters in mission territories."*

