



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.**

*"Performing acts of mercy is inconvenient. I have a friend who is ill, and I would like to visit him, but I don't feel like it... I prefer to rest or watch television... (stay) quiet. Performing acts of mercy always involves inconvenience. They are inconvenient. The Lord, however, suffered inconvenience for us: he climbed onto the cross. To give us mercy." - (Humility and Awe - Homilies at Casa Santa Marta – Pope Francis).*



**16th November 2025 – 10:30 am Sunday  
33rd 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](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)



**CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH**

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. This morning, we are once again blessed with the presence of **Fr. Joseph Arun**, who will be celebrating Mass for us today. Father Joseph is a Carmelite priest from Kerala, India, and has been living in Madeira since August 2019 serving the community of the Carmo church (Igreja do Carmo) in Funchal.

**TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
(Malachi 3:19-20; Psalm 97(98); 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12; Luke 21:5-19)

Writing anonymously about 460 BC, after the Jews returned from their Babylonian exile to rebuild the Temple, **Malachi** criticises the people's religious indifference, priestly abuses, intermarriage with pagans and divorce: "Where is the God of justice?" But he promises the day of the Lord is coming, preceded by a messenger to prepare the way, seen by Christians as John the Baptist. When that day comes evil-doers will be burnt up, while those who fear the Lord will be energised and healed, gambolling with joy, treading on ashes of evil-doers. **The Psalm** urges all creation to praise the Lord for His victorious salvation. The **Thessalonians** had heard a forged letter saying the Lord's second coming was very close. Some had stopped working for a living and were "interfering in everyone else's" work. Paul says they are "busybodies", stirring up trouble! They should be shunned until they pull their weight in the community, as Paul did when he was with them. In the **Gospel**, Jesus foresees the destruction of the Temple, and the disasters, persecutions and false prophets that must precede the second coming. But we must not worry about these future problems, nor try to guess the day of the Lord's second coming. We should concentrate on the day-to-day following of Jesus, placing all our trust in Him.

- 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: [sineadmoynihan7@icloud.com](mailto:sineadmoynihan7@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 for the lovely cake and biscuits!

**BLESS YOURSELF WITH HOLY WATER**



As you enter the Chapel, just under the archways on either side, you will find a small font on the wall, with Holy water inside which you can use to bless yourself with, before and after Mass. 🙏🙏🙏🙏

**PSALM RESPONSE:** The Lord comes to rule the peoples with fairness.



**TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC**

**Entry:** "Morning has broken..." - 368  
**Offertory:** "All that I am..." - 21  
**Communion:** "A new commandment..." - 2  
**Final:** "Go, the mass is ended..." - 175



By: Larysa Makarova



**WORLD DAY OF THE POOR**

A few years ago, after the terrible floods in Funchal, something remarkable was uncovered near Rua 31 de Janeiro. As workers cleared the debris, they came across the buried remains of

the *Forte de São Filipe*, a sixteenth-century fortress that once protected the city from pirates. For centuries, it had been hidden beneath the streets of modern Funchal. Its discovery reminded us that beneath what seems ordinary lie layers of history waiting to be revealed.



That image helps us understand today's Gospel. Jesus tells his followers that the great Temple in Jerusalem, the pride and centre of their faith, would one day be destroyed. His words must have been deeply unsettling, yet his message was one of hope. He wanted them to see that faith built only on what is visible will not last, but faith grounded in him will endure forever.

Like the ruins of the old fort, the things we build can fall apart, but from what is broken, God brings something new. When life changes or when we lose what we once held dear, faith helps us discover a deeper truth: Christ himself is our foundation and our strength.

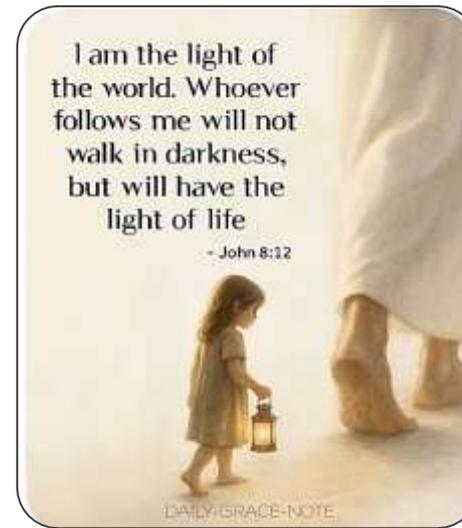
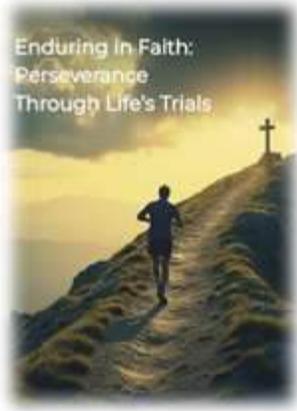


On this World Day of the Poor, we are reminded that those who have little often teach us what real faith looks like. Here at Penha, this is beautifully shown through *People Helping People*, our own parish outreach that serves those most in need across Madeira. Their compassion, their patience and their generosity make Christ's love visible and invite each of us to serve with the same open heart.

In November, as we remember our loved ones who have died, we are invited to look beyond what fades and to trust in what endures. Even when the world seems fragile, God is quietly building something lasting. Our Redeemer is close to us, and his promise is sure: those who persevere in faith will gain their lives.

Amen.

- Deacon Tito



**9<sup>TH</sup> WORLD DAY OF THE POOR**

Today the Church throughout the world celebrates the **9th World Day of the Poor.**

**CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRIVE**

We are collecting food staples and toiletries for the poor for Christmas. Please bring in what you can spare and place the items in the basket at the entrance of the church. We will be collecting through to December 14th.. **Everything received will be distributed amongst families who need our help.** Many thanks!

**For further details, please email Debbie: [deborahadajesus@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:deborahadajesus@yahoo.co.uk)**



**BOOK SALE AFTER MASS**

Last Sunday we had a very successful book sale after Mass. All proceeds from the sale went towards helping the poor in our community. **Mrs Jane Caldwell** (aka *Agatha Frisky*) and her husband, Peter, have become frequent visitors to Madeira over the years, and after learning about the poverty on the island, Jane decided to write some novels to help the "People Helping People" project which was started here at the Chapel after the devastating floods in 2010. So far, she has written 3 books! One of the books ("Deadly Drama") even features a character based on our own dear Father Bernardino!

If you didn't get a copy last week, you can still get one today after Mass. You can read it while you're here on holiday, and at the same time you will be contributing to a worthy cause. The books cost **10 Euros** each and absolutely every cent will go directly to helping those in need. There are only 12 books left, so don't miss out!



**Happy Reading!**

Jane Caldwell's contact info: [janecaldwell902@gmail.com](mailto:janecaldwell902@gmail.com)



Mrs Jane Caldwell signed copies of her book

