



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.**



Photo: 2018.03.11

*"We believe that the Church is either People Helping People or the Church is nothing. Choosing the Gospel is choosing the poor." - (Fr. Bernardino Andrade)*

>> **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:** TOTAPTL  
**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: sineadmoynihnan7@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.

**BLESS YOURSELF WITH HOLY WATER**



As you go inside the Chapel just under the archways on either side of the door, 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. 🙏🙏🙏

**Tea and Coffee After Mass** at Moynihans Irish Pub... up the road from the Chapel.



**Please sign our Visitor's book or leave a message**

We'd love to know which country you are visiting us from!



18th January 2026 – 10:30 am Sunday  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

**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 we remember in a special way our dear priest, **Father Bernardino Andrade**, who passed away 2 years ago today, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of January 2024. May he rest in peace. †

We have been blessed to have Fr. Joseph Arun **continue with** celebrating Mass here in English for us every Sunday. Father Joseph is a Carmelite priest, originally from Kerala in India. He also celebrates Mass in Portuguese at the Carmelite church (*Igreja do Carmo*) in Funchal.

**TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A**  
 (Isaiah 49: 3,5-6; Psalm 39(40); 1 Corinthians 1:1-3; John 1:29-34)

**Second Isaiah's** servant songs were written after the Israelites had been released from their captivity in Babylon. The servant, chosen before he was born, is to take God's salvation to the whole world, as well as to Israel. **The Psalm** offers thanks to God for rescue from danger. Doing God's will is the best sacrifice we can offer, trusting in God's Law and his plans for us. From now until Lent we read from Paul's first letter to the **Corinthians**, written from Ephesus about 56AD. Paul cannot stop talking about the centre of his life: Jesus, who called him to be his envoy. Those in the "assembly called by God in Corinth", are called to be holy, part of the universal fellowship of believers, and subject to Christ's authority. He blesses them with grace – God's unconditional love – and peace. **John's Gospel** does not have Jesus being baptised. Instead, after the Baptist insists to questioners from Jerusalem that he is not the Messiah, he recognises Jesus. Uniquely he describes Jesus as the Passover sacrificial "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world", the "Chosen one of God", who "baptises with the Holy Spirit". This gift of new life in God, is greater than the cleansing given by John's baptism with water. - By: Chris Oliver - [www.bible-groups.info](http://www.bible-groups.info)

**PSALM RESPONSE:** Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

**TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC:**

By: Fátima Cátia Marques

- [1] **Entry Hymn:** "Let there be love..." – n.º 317
- [2] **Gospel Acclamation:** "Aleluia..."
- [3] **Offertory Hymn:** "Veni, lumen cordium..." – n.º 593
- [4] **Communion Hymn:** "Spirit of God..." – n.º 514
- [5] **Thanksgiving:** Instrumental
- [6] **Final Hymn:** "Jubilate, everybody..." – n.º 296





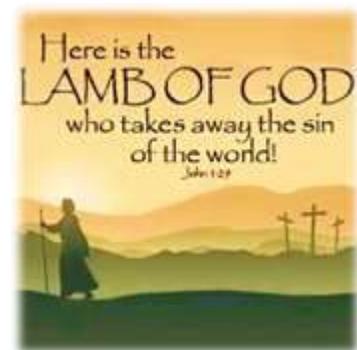
If you were in Santa Cruz last week, you may have noticed something a little unusual. People walking around carrying small brooms. It might have looked odd at first, but it was a familiar sign for many of us. The feast of Santo Amaro, celebrated on **15th of January**, had arrived, bringing with it the old tradition of “sweeping out the cupboards”.



Despite how it sounds, this was never really about cleaning. It was about bringing Christmas to a close. The last of the cakes and sweets were eaten,

decorations were taken down, and life slowly returned to its normal rhythm. In Madeira, the feast of Santo Amaro on the 15th of January gently marks the end of the Christmas season.

As we begin *Ordinary Time* today, the Church mirrors that same movement. The festive colours disappear, and green returns to the sanctuary. Yet the message of today’s readings is clear. Even though Christmas is over, the light of Christ is not.



In the first reading, Isaiah speaks of one who is called to be “a light to the nations”. This light is not meant for a single season or celebration. It is a light that shines in every moment of life. In the Gospel, John the Baptist points to Jesus and simply says, “There is the Lamb of God.” He does not draw attention to himself. He helps others recognise who Jesus truly is.

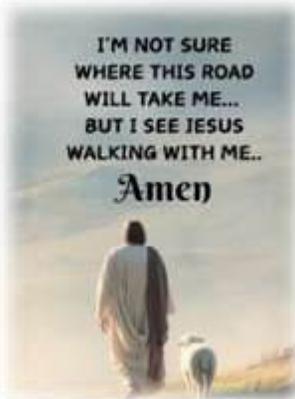
That is what *Ordinary Time* is really about. It is not an empty or unimportant season. It is where faith is lived out in everyday life, in work, in family, in routine, and even in tiredness. God meets us there, not with great displays, but with steady faithfulness.

Christmas may be packed away, but Christ has not disappeared. He remains with us in the Eucharist, in the Word of God, and in one another. Through our baptism, we share in his mission to be light for others. This happens not through dramatic gestures, but through kindness, patience, forgiveness, and hope.

So as the cupboards are “swept out” and the last of the Christmas treats are finished, we are left with what truly matters. **Christ himself walks with us into the ordinary days ahead.**

The festive lights may be switched off, but the light of Christ is never extinguished. It shines quietly and steadily, calling us to carry it into the world.

- Deacon Tito



## THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH LITURGICAL COLORS

|  |  |   |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| <br><b>GREEN</b><br>Symbolizes hope, life, and growth.<br>Season of ORDINARY Time<br><small>SAKRISTAN SPOTTED</small> | <br><b>RED</b><br>Symbolizes blood and Holy Spirit.<br>Palm Sunday, Pentecost, Confirmation, Feast of Martyrs | <br><b>PURPLE</b><br>Symbolizes penance and preparation.<br>Season of LENT and ADVENT. | <br><b>WHITE or GOLD</b><br>Symbolizes feast and celebration.<br>Season of EASTER and CHRISTMAS. | <br><b>ROSE</b><br>Symbolizes Joy<br>Gaudete Sunday and Laetare Sunday |
|--|--|---|---|---|

### THE 267<sup>TH</sup> POPE'S MOSAIC – Completed!

A new piece of Catholic church history is ready! The mosaic of the 267th Pope, (Pope Leo XIV) has been completed and will soon join the others inside the *Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls*, in Rome.



On January 14, 2026, Pope Leo XIV was Presented with his official portrait mosaic, continuing a centuries-old tradition for newly elected Pontiffs. The mosaic is a masterpiece of traditional craftsmanship created by the **Vatican Mosaic Studio** and composed of approximately 15,000 tiles made of vitreous enamels and gold.

#### Read more here:

<https://zenit.org/2026/01/15/photo-gallery-leo-xiv-now-has-an-official-mosaic-to-enrich-st-pauls-basilica-and-this-is-how-he-reacted-when-it-was-shown-to-him/>

Today marks the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of Fr. Bernardino's passing. Many of you who have visited the Chapel over the years will remember how warmly he welcomed everyone on Sunday mornings. Over the years he managed to build a community, linking local parishioners and those "visiting" our island on holiday.

A few years ago, Father Bernardino received an email from John and Marie Welsh (who live in the UK, and "visit" us often!), sharing a "Welcome statement" from their parish at Our Lady's, York, England. Father Bernardino loved this "Welcome Statement" so much that it was shared by him a few times in our newsletter. To Father Bernardino everyone belonged to Christ, no matter who you were, and that was enough for him. So, today we share it once again, as we remember Father Bernardino.

*Welcome*



**WELCOME**



to those who are single, married, divorced, re-married, widowed, gay, confused, filthy rich, comfortable, or down to their last penny.

We extend a special welcome to crying new-borns, those feeling their age, and everyone in-between; to the super-fit and to those who could afford to lose a few pounds. You're welcome if you are Yorkshire born-and-bred, here for a while, or just visiting ... even from Lancashire!

**WE WELCOME YOU**

if you can sing like Pavarotti or can't carry a note in a bucket. You are welcome here if you are just looking, just woke up, or just got out of prison.

We don't mind if you're more Christian than the Bishop, or haven't been to church since little Tommy's baptism and don't know what to do.

**WE EXTEND A SPECIAL WELCOME**

to those over 60 but not grown-up yet, and to teenagers growing-up too fast!

We welcome keep-fit mums, football dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk food-eaters.

We welcome those in recovery, and those who are still addicted.

We welcome you if you are having a hard time, or you're down in the dumps, or if you don't like organised religion. You are in good company!

If you blew it all at the racecourse or on the lottery,

**WELCOME!**

We offer a welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't work, can't spell, can't hear, can't see, can't walk, or who have come because grandma is visiting and wants to go to church.

**WE WELCOME**

those who are inked, pierced, or both.

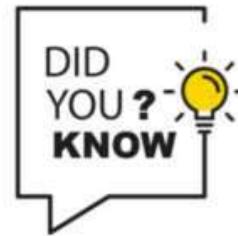
We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throat as a kid, or got lost on the number 4 bus and ended up here by mistake.

We welcome tourists, seekers, doubters, those with more questions than answers ...

**AND YOU!**

*We welcome you, whoever you are, however you are, just as you are, with no hoops to jump through.*

**YOU BELONG WITH US, BECAUSE YOU BELONG TO CHRIST, AND THAT IS ENOUGH.**



**POPE LEO XIV PROCLAIMS FRANCISCAN JUBILEE YEAR**

Did you know that Pope Leo XIV has proclaimed a special Jubilee Year?

The new Jubilee Year is in commemoration of the Eighth Centenary of the passage of St. Francis of Assisi from death to eternal life.

This Jubilee Year (January 10, 2026 - January 10, 2027) is addressed to members of the Franciscan family of the First, Second, Third Regular, and Secular Orders; other associations that observe the Rule of St. Francis; and Franciscan-hearted people everywhere. To those who participate devoutly in this extraordinary jubilee, a plenary indulgence will be granted under the usual conditions. Additional information about the Franciscan Jubilee Year and how to receive the Indulgence, can be read here:

[www.ofm.org/en/pope-leo-xiv-proclaims-franciscan-jubilee-year-for-the.html](http://www.ofm.org/en/pope-leo-xiv-proclaims-franciscan-jubilee-year-for-the.html)

**Prayer to Saint Francis for Peace**

Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us before the Lord.

You recognized true peace in the Crucifix of San Damiano, teach us to seek in Him the source of all reconciliation that breaks down every wall.

You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world raises up boundaries.

In this time afflicted by conflict and division, intercede for us so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ. *Amen*



*Leo P.P. XIV*

- With thanks to Tina de Nobrega for sharing this with us -