



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 ingredients for a happy life are called Beatitudes: **blesed are the simple, the humble who make room for God, who know how to weep for others and their mistakes, who remain meek, fight for justice, are merciful to all, maintain purity of heart, always work for peace and remain joyful, do not hate and, even when they suffer, respond to evil with good.**" (in "Deus quer que sejas feliz" [God Wants You to Be Happy] – by Pope Francis)



Photo taken in the courtyard of the Chapel last Sunday during Mass (1st of February 2026)

8th of February 2026 – 10:30 am Sunday – (5th 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
www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/ penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com

>> 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: 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.

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!



CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. **Father Joseph Arun** will be celebrating Mass for us this morning. We are blessed to have him here with us at the Chapel. 😊 The special intention of this morning's mass is for the soul of **Patricia Martins-Hawkins** who passed away just over a year ago. Our sincere condolences to her family who are present here at Mass this morning. ✝️

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
 (Isaiah 58:7-10; Psalm 111(112); 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Matthew 5:13-16)

After the exiles returned to rebuild Jerusalem there were many difficulties and they lost heart. Third Isaiah writing after 500BC told them this was because of a lack of social justice: ritual and fasting have value **only** if they are expressions of a just society. Today's reading and the verse before it gives the essentials of true religion: deal justly with your neighbour, free the oppressed, feed the hungry. Then your good deeds will influence others and give glory to God, without drawing attention to yourselves. **The Psalm** praises the virtues of the God-fearing man, who lights the way for others lost in confusion. Paul says that when he came to the Corinthians, he did not draw attention to himself by relying on the powers of clever oratory to convince people about the **'mystery'** of God - the salvific events to be revealed in the age to come. No, he believes "Jesus Christ and him crucified", the message itself, making visible the power of God, is strong enough to convince. In **Matthew's gospel** Jesus began his ministry in Galilee, previously part of the northern kingdom Israel. On a mountain he teaches the beatitudes, before insisting Christians must show the way for all mankind to find the way to God, influencing without seeking to be noticed.
 - By: Chris Oliver - www.bible-groups.info

PSALM RESPONSE: The good man is a light in the darkness for the upright.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC:

Entry: "Longing for Light..." - 329
Offertory: "Gifts of bread and Wine..." - 159
Communion: "This is My Body..." - 572
Final: "Colours of Day..." - 93



By: Larysa Makarova



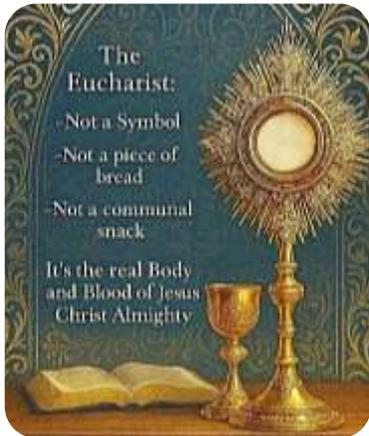
Jesus tells us that we are the light of the world. Not as a compliment, and not as something we might become one day, but as something we already are through our relationship with him. To belong to Christ is to carry his light within us and to let it reach others through the way we live.

It is easy to think that being a good Christian means doing big, impressive things. Most of the time, though, God works in much quieter ways. His light shines through ordinary choices. A kind word when someone is having a hard day. A moment of patience when we feel irritated. A willingness to

forgive instead of holding a grudge. These simple acts may not seem important, but they matter more than we realise.

Every opportunity to do good is a chance to reflect the light of Christ. These opportunities come to us constantly, often hidden in small moments. How we speak to people. How we treat those who are difficult. How we respond when no one is watching. In these everyday situations, we decide whether the light shines or stays hidden.

We do not shine because we are perfect or better than others. We shine because Christ lives in us. When we choose love, we are not drawing attention to ourselves. We are quietly pointing others towards God. Our lives become a gentle witness that goodness is real and that God is still at work in the world.



Sometimes the darkness around us can feel overwhelming. There is so much suffering and division that we can begin to feel powerless. Yet even a small light makes a difference. One act of kindness can lift a heavy heart. One moment of compassion can change a day. When we receive the Eucharist, we receive Christ, the true Light. He comes to live within us so that we can carry him into our homes, our workplaces, and our communities. This week, let us notice the small chances to do good that God places before us. By choosing them, we allow Christ's light to shine through us and bring hope to others.

- Deacon Tito



“BOOK SALE” – A huge success last Sunday!



Last Sunday's book sale was a huge success. Many thanks to all those who were at Mass last Sunday and supported the book sale by buying one of the books written by Mrs Jane Caldwell (*also known as Agatha Frisky!*), and also thank you to those who placed a donation in the “white” bag after Mass. after Mass. You made it possible for the *People Helping People* charity to help a lady pay for urgent medical exams which she couldn't afford, but desperately needs to do.

Today there are still a few few books left, so if you missed out, here's your chance to get yourself a copy, for the price of **10 Euros**. The proceeds of today's sale will once again be donated to People Helping People to help the poor in the community. We thank Mrs Jane Caldwell and her husband, Peter, for their continued generosity and support. 😊❤️❤�



FATHER JAMES LEWIS – A visiting priest from the UK

Last week Sunday morning, we were blessed to have a **visiting priest** from the UK, **Fr. James Lewis**, celebrate Mass for us. Father James was last here on holiday in Madeira 12 years ago when he attended Mass celebrated by Father Bernardino (!). This was the first time that Fr. James has been back to the island since then!



Also, **for the first time** ever, the Chapel was completely full, with close to 300 people in attendance... some even having to stand outside in the road as there were no more chairs (or space) available, as can be seen by the picture on the front page of the newsletter today. In Fr. James' words: “What a blessed Mass and worship of God together. So uplifting to see such faith and devotion to our Lord! “

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK

