



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 poor give themselves entirely, without wanting anything in return! The poor are welcoming, kind and generous. They know that everything they have is a gift from God and therefore share it with joy. In the poor, the Word of the Lord is fulfilled: 'Give, and it will be given to you.'" (in "Canção Nova").



>> 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: 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: sineadmoynihan7@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 (while our tearoom is closed for fixing of the roof)



Please sign our Visitor's book or leave a message

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



Receive this newsletter by email. Ask to be added to the newsletter distribution list by sending an email to: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com or alternatively, you can download them from the Chapel's website/blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org/newsletter-downloads/

JOYFUL GIFT



1st of March 2026 – 10:30 am Sunday
 2nd Sunday of Lent – 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



CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH



Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. Today's Mass is being offered for the soul of **Johnny Sequeira**, who passed away unexpectedly this week in South Africa. **Father Joseph Arun** will celebrate Mass this morning. On the 15th of February this year Fr. Joseph celebrated the 14th anniversary of his priestly ordination. Our community is blessed to have him here at the chapel every Sunday.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 2nd Sunday of Lent - Year A
(Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 32(33); 2 Timothy 1:8-10; Matthew 17:1-9)

After the Fall, the Flood and the Tower of Babel, **Genesis** moves to the times of the patriarchs, probably before 1500 BC. God tells Abram to travel from Haran near the Euphrates to "a land that I will show you". God promises that Abram's descendants will become a great nation which will be blessed, and will take God's blessings to all peoples. Abram trusts in God and obeys, following the age-old migration route through Palestine to Egypt. **The Psalm** praises the Lord's power and kindness, confident that he will rescue us from our urgent waiting. In one of his last letters, Paul instructs **Timothy** to continue proclaiming the true gospel he received from Paul, correcting errors that will arise from false teachers. God's plan, made before time began, was revealed by the appearing of Jesus Christ, who has saved all humanity, abolishing death. And God freely offers us grace to be holy. In **Matthew's gospel**, Jesus for the first time tells his disciples of his coming passion. They are then given a preview of Jesus' glory as the Son of God. Moses and Elijah appear with Jesus, who is the correct interpreter of the Law and the Prophets. Then Jesus predicts his resurrection, after which they will understand what they have seen.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC:

Entry: "The light of Christ..." - 548
Offertory: "Take our bread..." - 528
Communion: "O, the love of my Lord..." - 433
Final: "I will be with you..." - 249





On this Second Sunday of Lent, as we contemplate the Transfiguration of the Lord, the words of St. Anthony of Lisbon (Padua) guide us with simplicity and depth:

“A caridade é a alma da fé, torna-a viva; sem amor, a fé morre.”
Charity is the soul of faith, it makes it alive; without love, faith dies.

Lent is a time when we ask ourselves not only, “Do I believe?” but also, **“Do I love?”** That second question is often the more searching one.

It is possible to recite the Creed faithfully each Sunday. It is possible to know our prayers and to observe the outward practices of the season. These are good and necessary. Yet the Gospel always presses further. Faith is not simply agreement with truths about God. It is a living relationship with Him, and every living relationship must bear the fruit of love.

When we ask, “Do I love?” we begin to examine the heart. Am I patient with those who test me? Do I forgive old hurts, or do I cling to them? Do I notice the lonely, the struggling, the overlooked? Does my faith soften my speech, deepen my compassion, and widen my generosity?

On the mountain, the disciples see the glory of Christ. But they must come down again and follow Him on the road to Jerusalem, where love will be proved not in brightness but in sacrifice. So it is with us. **The prayer of Lent draws us closer to Christ. Charity shows whether that closeness is real.**

If love is missing, faith grows thin. If love is present, even in small and hidden ways, faith is alive.

May this holy season renew not only what we profess with our lips, but what we live with our lives, so that our faith, animated by charity, may reflect the light of Christ in the world.

- Deacon Tito



SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA

EASTER HAMPER APPEAL

We are collecting items to make up Easter hampers for the needy families we support through our People Helping People charity. A basket to collect the items is placed at the entrance of the chapel during the 10H30 Mass in English.

Please bring along your donations of tinned food items and hygiene products.

- Thank you

CONFESSIONS DURING LENT – Available in English

During the Season of Lent, and leading up to Holy Week, Father Joseph will be available for confessions **in English**.

WHERE: The Carmo Church (*Igreja do Carmo*) in Funchal

WHEN: Wednesdays only

TIMES: In the morning: 9H00 – 10H30

In the afternoon: 16H00 – 18H00



Address of the Carmo Church (*Igreja do Carmo*):

Rua do Carmo 1, Funchal, 9000-019

Ask for “Padre José” (Father Joseph)



Igreja do Carmo



20 YEARS LATER – A special blessing at Moynihans Irish Pub!



The 1st of February 2026 was a special day at Moynihans Irish Pub. After Sunday morning Mass, many of you walked up the road to Moynihans to enjoy a cup of coffee from the owners, Tadhg and Sinead Moynihan, who are also members of our chapel's community for many years. You may have been surprised to see a priest and a deacon there! It just so happened that it was a special occasion that day... the **20th anniversary of Moynihans Irish bar** opening its doors. Father Bernardino had blessed the pub 20 years earlier, and now Father James Lewis, a visiting priest from the UK who had celebrated Mass at the Chapel that morning, kindly blessed Moynihans once again with these words:

"Heavenly Father, we thank You for this wonderful place of hospitality. We pray for Sinead and Tadhg and this wonderful bar here. We ask you to continue to bless them and all their staff and everybody who comes in here for food or refreshment, that they may experience your love in this place. In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen".

We wish Tadhg and Sinead continued success in the future and thank them for all the support and hospitality which they have shown towards the Chapel and to Father Bernardino's *People Helping People* charity over the years.

