



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.**

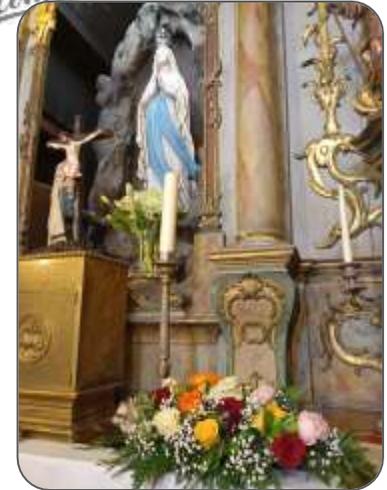
"In the face of disasters, wars and misery, we can only bear witness to God's mercy to those who doubt him, when they experience his mercy through us."
If God loves us with all his being, then we too must love one another.
We cannot love God, whom we do not see, without also loving our brothers and sisters whom we do see (1 John 4:20)."
(in the Apostolic Letter on the Unity of Faith by Pope Leo XIV).



8th of March 2026 – 10:30 am Sunday
 3rd 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. **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 in Kerala, India. Our community is blessed to have him here at the chapel every Sunday.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 3rd Sunday of Lent - Year A
(Exodus 17:3-7; Psalm 94(95); Romans 5:1-2,5-8; John 4:5-42)

Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt about 1300 BC, probably under Ramses II. God gave them food and water while they wandered in the wilderness. But they grumbled, losing faith that "God was with them". "Massah" means "test", "Meribah" means "quarrelling". As this was before they made the covenant with God by Sinai, they are not punished yet. But this generation will not enter the promised land. **The Psalm** invites us to praise and worship the Lord daily, for he is our king and shepherd. We must not lose faith in God, as did the Israelites on their desert journey. Paul tells the **Romans** that God loves and forgives us, just as he continued caring for the ungrateful Israelites. Christ died for us, proving God's love, gaining pardon for all humanity and access to his grace through faith. We hear the first 3 gospels over 3 years, but we hear parts of **John's gospel** every year during Lent and Easter. Today Jesus encounters the Samaritan woman at the well. John carefully moves the characters on and off stage as the woman gradually comes towards faith in Jesus. Then, while still unsure, she goes and brings the rest of the Samaritans in her town to hear this man, wondering "Could he possibly be the Messiah?"

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

PSALM RESPONSE: O that today you would listen to his voice: 'Harden not your hearts'.

TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC:

By: Fátima Cátia Marques

- [1] **Entry Hymn:** "Colours of day..." – n.º 93
- [2] **Gospel Acclamation:** "Glory and praise to you..." – n.º 690
- [3] **Offertory Hymn:** "Veni, lumen cordium..." – n.º 593
- [4] **Communion Hymn:** "Lord Jesus, think on me..." – n.º 340
- [5] **Thanksgiving:** Instrumental
- [6] **Final Hymn:** "Word made flesh..." – n.º 635



>> 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 (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!





People in Madeira once spoke about the famous *Água de Porto Santo*, water brought from the island of Porto Santo and sold in shops in Funchal. It was valued for its purity. People believed it was good for health, refreshing and life giving. Whether it truly had healing properties or not, I remember being given this water when I was ill or had a bad stomach. It is curious that Porto Santo, which is an arid island, was known for having such good water.



The Church gives us the meeting between the Samaritan woman and Jesus Christ at the well in the Gospel of John. The woman comes to draw ordinary water; the kind people need every day. Yet Jesus speaks to her about something deeper. He offers her living water. Water that becomes a spring within, welling up to eternal life.

We understand the value of good water. We know how refreshing it is when we are thirsty. Yet even the pure water of Porto Santo could only satisfy thirst for a short time. Before long we would need to drink again.



The living water that Christ offers is different. It is the life and love of God poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. It renews the soul. It heals what is wounded within us. It draws us into friendship with God.

This living water first reaches us in a very real way through Baptism. Through the simple pouring of water and the prayer of the Church, we are washed from sin and reborn as children of God. A spring of grace begins to flow within us.

Many of us may not remember the day we were baptised, yet it was the most important day of our lives. It was the day God claimed us as His own and planted within us the living water that leads to eternal life.

- Deacon Tito

CONFESSIONS DURING LENT – In English - with Father Joseph



Igreja do Carmo

During 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 (Rua do Carmo 1, Funchal, 9000-019)

WHEN: Wednesdays only

TIME: In the morning: 9H00 – 10H30
In the afternoon: 16H00 – 18H00



Checklist: Things You Can Do for Lent

→ 40 Days of Prayer, Fasting & Almsgiving →

<input type="checkbox"/> Pray Daily Spend time with God	<input type="checkbox"/> Give Up a Habit (Social Media, Sweets, Gossip)
<input type="checkbox"/> Fast on Ash Wednesday & Good Friday	<input type="checkbox"/> Read Scripture Daily Gospel or Psalms
<input type="checkbox"/> Do Acts of Kindness Help, Encourage, Forgive	<input type="checkbox"/> Attend Mass Weekly
<input type="checkbox"/> Give to the Needy Donate, Serve, Share	<input type="checkbox"/> Reflect & Journal Grow Spiritually

EASTER HAMPER APPEAL

We are collecting items to make up Easter hampers for the needy families that 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 English Mass.

Please bring along your donations of tinned items, non-perishable food items and hygiene products. We are also collecting Easter Eggs for the children.

- Thank you 🍌❤️



LAST SUNDAY

Last Sunday we were blessed to have a visiting priest from the UK concelebrating Mass with Father Joseph. The Rev. Father Patrick Armstrong was here on holiday and visited the Chapel for the first time!

