



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 Mission Statement of People Helping People is...** through social solidarity, to mobilize many people to help many people in a combat against poverty, hunger, illness, exclusion, indifference, intolerance, and social injustice, with a special preference for the last, the least and the lost, having as a model the person of Jesus, the «Good Shepherd» (Gospel according to Luke, chapter 15). Our wish is that it may always be an open door when all the other doors close, building in this way, different feelings and acts of Mercy

"It is the silent cry of the poor, the humble, those oppressed by life, and the marginalised who ask for dignity, a listening ear and a welcoming embrace; it is the cry of those deemed 'excluded' from our church communities, who may never have been able to experience the tenderness of God's love..."
(An Army Against Evil – My Truth About Medjugorje – Fr Gabriele Amorth)

>> 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: 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: sineadmoyinhan7@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!



JOYFUL GIFT

12th of July 2026 – 10:30 am Sunday
15th 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/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel

Instagram: www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/

Email: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com



CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. Today the Catholic church celebrates the 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time. The intention for this morning's Mass is for the repose of the soul of **Angela Pingo**; for the health of Emídio Rodrigues, the Rodrigues family and in thanksgiving to Our Lady.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
(Isaiah 55:10-11; Psalm 64(65); Romans 8:18-23; Matthew 13:1-23)

Second **Isaiah**, writing around 550 BC, concludes his "Book of Comfort" to the Jewish exiles in Babylon with an invitation to a joyful banquet. After renewing His covenant of peace, God has reminded Israel that "my thoughts are not your thoughts": God's words come down gently to bring forth divine fruits, like the rain which enables the earth to yield its fruits.

The Psalm give God praise and thanks for his power over all the earth and the rains which produce abundant crops.

Paul continues this theme of God's plan slowly moving towards its climax: creation is unable to attain its purpose without help, and it was made this way by God. Paul gives us a brilliantly clear vision of God's plan: with the coming of Christ creation is now groaning in the birth pangs of being set free. It is worth listening carefully to **Matthew's** explanation of the parable of the sower. And especially to Jesus' very difficult statements that he talks to the crowds in parables because "they listen without hearing or understanding". He says "They have shut their eyes, for fear they should see, ... and be converted". The coming of Jesus brings both judgement and mercy. But some will not receive God's words, unless their minds are open and cease making their own image of God.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: Some seed fell into rich soil, and produced its crop.



TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC:

Entry: "Bind us together, Lord..." - 65

Offertory: "Father, I place into your hands..." - 134

Communion: "Sweet heart of Jesus..." - 521

Final: "Colours of day..." - 93



By: Larysa Makarova

REFLECTION FOR THIS SUNDAY - By Sr. Nuala Gannon

Today's reflection for our newsletter is written by Sr. Nuala Gannon, and sent to us by Deacon Tito Pereira of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Acton, London.

God's Word Is LIFE.

'Let anyone with ears, listen!' - Matthew 13:9

In today's First Reading, the prophet Isaiah speaks to us of God's word. *'As the rain and snow come down from the heavens and do not return 'till they have watered the earth, making it yield seed for the sower, so is my word that goes forth from my mouth'.*

Isaiah assures us that the purpose of God's word is to give life.

In this familiar parable of the sower and the seed, Jesus invites his hearers to **'listen'**. What does he want them to hear?

As I listen to the word of God today from Matthew's Gospel, I may well begin to identify with the sower, as he freely scatters the seed, not knowing whether it will fail or succeed in bringing forth a rich harvest.

Many artists have drawn on the images in this parable, portraying the cycle of nature.

Vincent Van Gough, who produced more than 30 paintings on this theme, sees in this action *'a spiritual metaphor for the sowing of divine truth'*. Scripture scholars invite us to consider in the parable the extravagance of God's love as he scatters the seed of his word indiscriminately.



Receptivity to God's word, made available to all people is what will bear much fruit.

When we allow the Word, who is Jesus, into our lives, we in turn receive the grace to become more generous, capable of sowing goodness and more ready to be seeds of hope in a fragmented world. These are some of the visible fruits of the word of God.

Jesus invites us to 'Listen'

As I listen to, and reflect on the word of God this weekend, I ask myself:

- How is God's word giving me life?
- How is the word of God bearing fruit in my life?
- How will the message of the parable make a difference during this coming week to my personal relationship with Jesus; family members; work colleagues; the poor and rejected?

Pray to have an **attitude of gratitude** for God's extravagant love of you and all humanity.



~ Sr. Nuala Gannon



PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

Recently our "People Helping People" charity received donations of furniture, which were given to families in need.

The Silva family is one of the families who received furniture. They are very grateful. May God bless you all, and thank you very much for bringing new hope to the whole family.



MASS AT BICA DA CANA – 28th of June

On the last Sunday of June, a special Mass was held in memory of Father Bernardino up in the Serra mountains in "Bica da Cana".

Last Sunday we shared some photos of this day.

A friend of Father Bernardino for many years, Ms. Maria, from Carvalhal, had a plaque made in honour of Father Bernardino, which features his photograph. This plaque will be placed near the Good Shepherd shrine and altar there in Bica da Cana.

