



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

"The best of me is not for myself. Love leads us to the other person and allows us to find fulfillment. We belong to those we love, because we have decided that this is how it is, doing whatever it takes to make it so. Love is not a gesture; it is a whole lifetime. I will only be happy if someone else finds happiness because of me!..." - (from the book "Ceu" (Heaven) – by José Luís Nunes Martins)

>> 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!



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

Vol. 3, nr. 529

8th of August 2026 – 10:30 am Sunday

19th 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. The Chapel will be closed from next week while Father Joseph is away. We will re-open on Sunday 11 October. We wish Father Joseph a well-deserved rest, and a wonderful holiday with his family in India (who he has not been able to see for over 2 years), and a safe journey back! ☺.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – ●

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

(1 Kings 19:9,11-13; Psalm 84(85); Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:22-33)

The books of Kings, Joshua, Judges and Samuel tell the story of Israel from entering the Promised Land until frequent unfaithfulness leads to exile. After Elijah successfully called on God to produce rain, and killed all the failed prophets of Baal, he fled from Jezebel's threat of revenge to Mount Horeb, ie Sinai. After Elijah recognises God in "a light murmuring sound" – "a sound of fine silence", God promises a remnant of faithful Israelites will survive, and gives Elijah more tasks. In the **Psalm** a prophet, after the return from exile, first listens to hear what the Lord has to say, and then reports the joyful future happiness revealed to him. Paul shows the **Romans** just how great is his agony that most of the Chosen People have failed to recognise God in Jesus: he would be willing to give up even his own hope of salvation "if it could help my brothers of Israel". **Matthew** describes a small group who do recognize Jesus, and are willing to step out into the unknown to be with him. Jesus encourages them: they have "little faith", but it is enough for them to believe that he is "Son of God". (**Matthew** teaches what the disciples understood after the Resurrection, although Mark says "they did not understand".)

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

PSALM RESPONSE: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and give us your saving help.



TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC:

Entry: "O Lord, my God..." - 419

Offertory: "All that I am..." - 21

Communion: "On this day of joy..." - 447

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



By: Larysa Makarova



REFLECTION FOR THIS SUNDAY - By Elizabeth Stonor

This morning's reflection is written by Elizabeth Stonor, and has been shared with us by Deacon Tito Pereira of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Acton, London.

Reflection on the Gospel of 9 August 2026 - 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A.



Fear often acts as a brake on our spiritual and physical lives – I know it has on mine.

Fear can protect me from harm but it can also prevent me from fulfilling my unique God-given potential.

In today's Gospel Jesus acknowledges Peter's fear but he doesn't engage with it. He encourages Peter to face his fear and trust in God for protection while he walks through danger towards Jesus. Peter first asks Jesus for guidance then takes courage from His answer "Come". A miracle ensues when Peter walks a few steps on water.



Then he loses his nerve – that is, his trust fails. When Jesus stretches out his hand to catch him it is not to save Peter from failure, but from harm.

While my decisions are in my own hands, the results of those decisions are not. They're in God's hands and that should give me courage to face my fears as Peter did.

We all face difficulties in life and sometimes shy away from them. We're afraid of complications, of embarrassment, of entanglement in other people's problems, of repercussions at work if we speak out against wrongdoing.

God is neutral regarding our success or failure. He wants us simply to try our best - to pray for guidance and try to do the right thing for ourselves and others. I am finding increasingly that God repays my trust in Him when I try to do the right thing in spite of my fears.

~ Elizabeth Stonor



PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE - An update! 😊

Thank you to all the special "angels" at Mass the last two weeks who read about the appeal for milk formula and nappies needed for a 2-month-old baby. Another 3 tins of formula and 2 packets of nappies were given to the grateful young family. ❤️ Your caring has made a big difference!



The *People Helping People Association* would also like to take this opportunity to express its gratitude for the generous donations of a fridge and also some furniture which was delivered to another family in need this week!

To everyone, a **big thank you** for helping to make these miracles happen.

'Doing good feels good.'

Thank you for caring. 😊❤️

- Carla Rodrigues: (fcarla.mrodrigues@gmail.com)



THE CHAPEL IS CLOSING FOR A FEW WEEKS - Sunday Mass alternatives

The Chapel is closing for a few weeks while Father Joseph is away, but you are welcome to attend Mass (*in Portuguese*) at the Sé Cathedral or Igreja do Colégio. Mass times there are as follows:

SÉ CATHEDRAL (SUNDAYS):

8H00; 9H00; 11H00

17H00 and 18H00



IGREJA DO COLÉGIO (SUNDAYS):



10H00
12H00
19H30
21H00



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