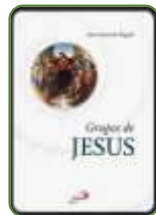


PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)



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 hunger suffered by so many innocent people must be taken seriously. It cannot be accepted as something normal. God does not want that."
(from "grupos de Jesus" <The Groups of Jesus>
— by José António Pagola.)



>> 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: sineadmoynihnan7@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.

Nothing will work out
if you do this:



But when we
do this—



everything works out!

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. 532



11th of October 2026

28th 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.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/

penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com



CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH

Good morning! Today we welcome Father Joseph back! The Chapel has been closed since August 16th, and re-opens today. We are blessed to have Father Joseph celebrating mass for us once again. This morning's Mass is being offered for the repose of the soul of **Karen Matthews**, who passed away on 12th October 2022. May her soul rest in peace. 🙏



● **TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS** – **28th Sunday in Ordinary Time** - Year A
(*Isaiah 25:6-10; Psalm 22(23) v.6; Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20; Matthew 22:1-14*)

After the desolation of the earth and the final judgement, **Isaiah** describes in mouth-watering detail the great banquet the Lord will provide. It will be on Mount Zion and all peoples are invited. Not only will all sorrows be wiped away, but also the ultimate worry – death – will be destroyed.

The familiar **Psalm** expresses our personal confidence that the Lord is preparing a beautiful surprise for us to enjoy after death.

Our readings from Paul's letter to the **Philippians** conclude with Paul again thanking them for their continued support and the money they had sent him. God's help enables him to be content whatever his problems, but their thoughtfulness is especially welcome now that he is in prison. He ends his letter with a fond farewell: "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit".

Matthew compares the kingdom of heaven to a wedding feast – the heavenly banquet to which all are invited. But if we accept the invitation we must prepare adequately and be willing to participate fully. Otherwise we may still be thrown out. Our membership must be visible to others. We must do more than just belong. Like the Philippians we must share what we have with the community we have joined, and with those in need.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

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

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



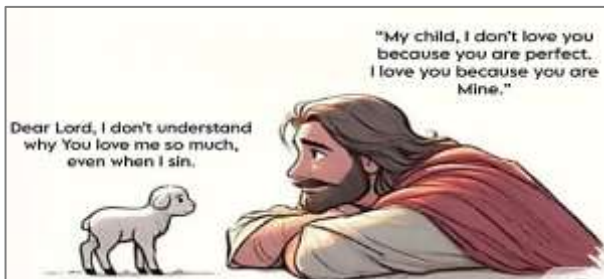
I think all but the most miserable of people love a good party. In today's readings we are shown two occasions when a 'feast' is set before God's people, and the invites are sent out to come and party. Isaiah looks to a time when the People of God can enjoy the benefits of the Lord's generosity and consolation. In Jesus' parable, the wedding banquet is laid out for the guests and the King (God) sends out to see who will respond to the invite.

Both are metaphors for belonging to and taking part in the Kingdom of God; the Kingdom which is the fullness of life promised to those who love and follow God and his teachings. You'd think everyone would jump at it but Jesus' parable contains a warning about the apathy that greets God's invitation from some quarters. Some of those invited miss the chance to enter the Kingdom (the feast) because they don't see it as important: 'farms', 'businesses and power are of more importance.

Our Christian calling is to be on the lookout for God's invitation. Reflecting on the responses of the people in the parable, we should ask ourselves honestly which camp would we be in? Are we delighted to be invited and eager to attend? Or do we think we've got better places to be, and God's timing is a bit inconvenient? It is sometimes hard to see a genuine God-sent invitation when it lands.

This week, let us pray for the watchfulness and wisdom needed to get involved with God's plans for his Kingdom.

~ Eva Harrison



CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

This year, as customary, we will be making up Christmas boxes for the needy families we support under the auspices of our **People Helping People** Charity.



We will be collecting hygiene products (e.g. lotions, toothpaste, shampoo, body wash, etc.), and dried and tinned goods (tins of fruit, sardines, tuna, beans, dried nuts and fruit, rice and pasta, etc.)



Please bring along your offerings and place in the hamper at the entrance of the church).

Any queries, contact Jane House at janelh1945@gmail.com or Debbie Jesus at deborahadajesus@yahoo.co.uk 🍷❤️

THE HOLY ROSARY – Good for your heart and your soul - Pope Francis



The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. On November 17, 2013, Pope Francis gave some sage medical advice to the thousands in attendance at the Vatican, «*I want to recommend some medicine for all of you.*»

Holding up a box that looked like a prescription packet of pills, he urged the people, «*Don't forget to take it,*» he said. «*It's good for your heart, for your soul, for your whole life.*»

What was it? It was a box containing rosary beads and is what the pope described as being, “*spiritual medicine.*”

