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

"Jesus is not merely a healer of illnesses, but one who restores men and women who have been broken. Jesus frees these people from loneliness and isolation. He welcomes them, listens to them and understands them in their loneliness and abandonment."…
"He helps them to realise that they are not alone, abandoned by God."
- (José António Pagola in the book: "*Ide e Curai" <Go and Heal>)*

>> 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.

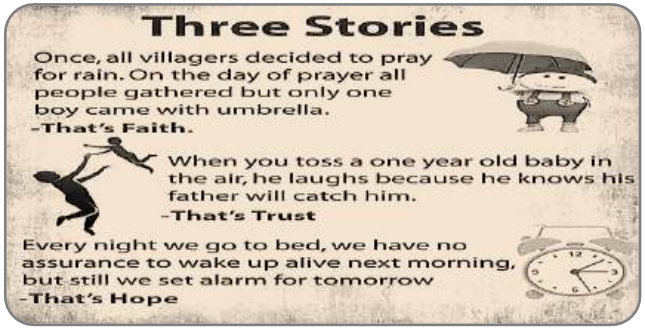
>> DONATIONS FROM THE UK:

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: 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.





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

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25th of October 2026
30th 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.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel
www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/
penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com

CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH IN MADEIRA

Today we celebrate the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

This morning's Mass will be celebrated by Father Joseph Arun, a Carmelite priest, originally from Kerala in India. Father Joseph has been a priest for 14 years, and we are very blessed to have him with us here at the chapel every Sunday.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

***(Exodus** 22:20-26 (& cf 24:9-11), **Psalm** 17(18):2-4. 47. 51. R.2, **I Thess** 1:5-10; **Matthew** 22:34-40)*

In our reading from **Exodus** the Lord expands the rather general Ten Commandments into detailed rules for living, with practical laws and punishments. In this covenant or treaty, the Lord promises his favour and the people accept certain obligations. Moses sprinkled blood on the people to seal this covenant with the Lord. The sacrificial meal, eating and drinking in the Lord's presence, ritually confirms the people now belong to the family of the Lord.
Five verses sum up this very long **Psalm**, thanking God for his help against enemies while welcoming his justice.
Continuing our reading from the earliest surviving Christian document, Paul concludes his address to the **Thessalonians** with fulsome praise for them. He knows they are chosen and loved by God because others have told him the examples they give. Especially their imitation of Christ, and their acceptance of the word of the risen Lord, in spite of suffering persecution.
In **Matthew's Gospel** it is now the turn of the Pharisees to test Jesus. But they fare no better than the Sadducees heard last week. Again, Jesus shows that he is the authoritative interpreter of the Jewish Scriptures. Even the detailed rules given to Moses can be summed up in the requirement to love God and your neighbour.

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

PSALM RESPONSE: **I love you, Lord, my strength.**





TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC:

Entry: "Morning has broken…" - **368**
Offertory: "All that I am…" – **21**
Communion: "A new commandment…" - **2**
Final: "Go, the Mass is ended…" - **175**

By: **Larysa Makarova**

REFLECTION FOR THIS SUNDAY

- Rev. Dcn Tito Pereira
(dcn.tito@gmail.com)



Love Begins with God

Each day, the Church prays these words in the Divine Office: *"The loving kindness of the heart of our God, who visits us like the dawn from on high."* It is one of my favourite verses from scripture. The words remind us that love begins with God.

Jesus tells us that the greatest commandments are to love God with all our heart, soul and mind, and to love our neighbour as ourselves.



Sometimes, we can see these commandments as things we simply have to try harder to do. But Jesus is showing us something more. He is showing us how much God loves us. Through Jesus, we see the loving heart of God. Jesus is God's love made visible in our world.

Jesus does not just talk about love. He shows us what it means. In his Passion and death, he gives his life for us. His love is not just words. He shows us how much we matter to God.

But loving God and our neighbour is not always easy. We may have been hurt by others, feel unloved, or struggle to believe that we are worth loving. At times, loving others can feel like a big ask.



Perhaps the first step is to recognise just how much God loves us. We do not have to earn his love or prove that we are worthy of it. He loves us as we are. And when we begin to trust in that love, we can find it easier to share it with others.

This does not mean doing anything extraordinary. It might mean taking time to listen to someone who is lonely, checking on a neighbour, or making peace with someone we have fallen out with. Small acts of kindness can make a real difference.

We do not have to find this love all by ourselves. God gives it to us first. Like the dawn bringing light into the darkness, his love brings hope into our lives and helps us bring hope to others.

~ Dcn Tito



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 😊 ❤️

