

Pope Francis Audience 22nd January 2025

CATECHESIS ON HOPE IN JESUS CHRIST.

At the beginning of his Gospel, Luke shows the effects of the transforming power of the Word of God, after Jerusalem, the messenger of the great divine annunciations, Gabriel, is sent to a village never mentioned in the Hebrew Bible: Nazareth. At that time, it was a small village in Galilee, in a remote area of Israel, a border area with the pagans and their contamination. It is there that the angel brings a message of an entirely unheard-of form and content, so that Mary's heart is shaken, disturbed. In the place of the classic greeting, "Peace be with you", Gabriel addresses the Virgin with the invitation "Hail!", "rejoice!", an appeal dear to sacred history, because the prophets use it when they announce the coming of the Messiah. It is the invitation to the joy that the Lord addresses to His people when the exile ends and the Lord makes His living and active presence felt.

In addition, God calls Mary with a loving name unknown in biblical history: *kecharitoméne*, which means "filled with divine grace". Mary is full of divine grace. This name says that God's love has already for some time inhabited, and continues to dwell in Mary's heart. He says how "gracious" she is, and above all how God's grace has accomplished in her an inner engraving, making her His masterpiece: full of grace.

This loving moniker, which God gives only to Mary, is immediately accompanied by reassurance: "Do not be afraid!", "Do not be afraid!": the presence of the Lord always gives us this grace of not fearing, and so He says to Mary: "Do not be afraid!". God says "Do not be afraid" to Abraham, Isaac and Moses in history: "Do not be afraid!". And He says to us too: "Do not be afraid, keep going; do not be afraid!". Please, do not be afraid! Do not be afraid! Do not be afraid! This is good. "I am your travelling companion"; and He says this to Mary. The "Almighty", the God of the "impossible", is *with* Mary, together with and beside her; He is her companion, her principal ally, the eternal "I-with-you". Then Gabriel announces to the Virgin her mission, making echo in her heart numerous biblical passages referring to the kingship and messianic nature of the child that must be born of her, and that the child will be presented as the fulfilment of the ancient prophecies. The Word that comes from on High calls Mary to be the mother of the Messiah, that long-awaited Davidic Messiah. She is the mother of the Messiah. He will be king, but not in the human and carnal manner, but in the divine, spiritual manner. His name will be "*Jesus*", which means "*God saves*" (cf. *Lk 1:31; Mt 1:21*), reminding everyone forever that it is not man who saves, but only God. Jesus is the One who will fulfil these words of the prophet Isaiah: "It was not an envoy or a messenger, but His presence that saved them [with] His love and pity" This motherhood shakes Mary to the core. And as the intelligent woman she is, thus capable of reading into events she tries to understand, to discern what is happening to her. Mary does not look outside, but within. And there, in the depths of her open and sensitive heart, she hears the invitation to trust in God, who has prepared for her a special "Pentecost". Just as at the beginning of creation, God wants to nurture Mary with His Spirit, a power capable of opening what is closed without violating it, without encroaching on human freedom; He wants to envelop her in the "clouds" of His presence because the Son lives in her.

And Mary is illuminated with trust: she is "a lamp with many lights". Mary welcomes the Word in her own flesh and thus launches the greatest mission ever entrusted to a woman, to a human creature. She places herself in service: she is full of everything, not like a slave but as a collaborator of God the Father, full of dignity and authority in order to administer, as she will do at Cana, the gifts of divine treasure, so that many will be able to draw from it with both hands.

Sisters, brothers, let us learn from Mary, Mother of the Saviour and our Mother, to let ourselves open our ears to the divine Word and to welcome it and cherish it, so that it may transform our hearts into tabernacles of His presence, in hospitable homes where hope grows.

Our Lady of Divine Providence ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



HOLY MASS

Saturday: 05:30 pm English, Church.

Sunday: 09:00 am English, Church.
10:30 am Creole, Church.
12:30 pm Spanish, Church.

Weekdays: 05:30 pm English, Upper Room, St. Maria Goretti.

Fridays: 04:00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary.

05:30 pm Upper Room St. Maria Goretti.

SCHEDULE OF SACRAMENTS

Baptisms: Contact one of the priests in person.

1st Confession: 13 June, 2025.
1st Communions: 22 June, 2025.

Confirmations: To be confirmed.

Marriage: Call the parish office for preparation before setting a fixed date.

Anointing of the Sick: Upon request.

Confessions: Everyday before Mass or by appointment.

Today's Gospel asks all of us a few questions. They are : What is your poverty? Secondly, what is that has you captured or enslaved? Do you know you are blind and to what sort of things? Finally, do you know you are oppressed?

For the first it is to realize your inadequacies or your weaknesses. Perhaps you can't speak up when you should correct someone or even you remain silent in front of a clear injustice. Second question: everyone has some sin to which you are enslaved, such as lust, grumbling, judging, gossiping anger and so forth. The third question is more difficult as everyone has some sort of blindness about themselves until someone has the courage to tell you the truth. I remember a friend telling me I was discriminating against a group of people and it helped me eventually to see that he was right and how blind I was to my sin. For this we need to be in the truth with each other but also the word of God and events in your life can shed light on just how terrible we can be and not even know about it! Finally, to be oppressed. How are you oppressed? By thoughts, by animosity and anger or even hatred. So clearly it means your sins but it includes the little temptations that don't stop.

Well, after this depressing list there comes the good news and that is where Jesus Christ enters. He comes to help you by dying on a cross in your place in order to take away all your sins, faults and blindnesses. He comes today with His love for the poor ones, that is, for those today who have the courage to recognize that they are weak, blind, captive and oppressed by their sins.

Let us pray for the grace to really welcome the eternal love and mercy of the Lord for us all and that this may open our eyes to how great and immense is this love for each and everyone of us.

Fr. Paul



"Come to me, all who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest."

(Matthew 11:28)

**Are you suffering and don't know why?
Worried about the future?
Do you feel alone ?**

**Come and Listen
God Loves You!**

Catechesis for Youth and Adults
(13 years old and up)
Starting February 10th, 2025
Mondays and Thursdays
at 7:00pm
(Free babysitting available)

Our Lady of Divine Providence
(Maria Goretti Room)
1310 Leeward Highway, Providenciales TKCA
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JUBILEE -WORLD YOUTH DAY
PLEASE HELP US GET THERE
(around 50 young & adults \$3,000 e/a)



Any help God will reward you a hundred fold, not only spiritually but materially as well.

Parish Events Jan 26-Feb 2

Holy Mass: 09:00 am, 10:30 am and 12:30 pm.
04:00pm Coeur de Marie Children's group.
05:00pm Fraternite, Red Room.
05:00pm Creole Youth Choir practice.
05:30pm Sacre Coeur de Jesus, P. Hall.
06:00pm Choeur D'hommes 1st and 3rd Sunday at church.

Monday St. Angela Merici
05:30 pm Daily Mass, SMG, Upper Room

Tuesday St. Thomas Aquinas
05:30pm Daily Mass, SMG, Upper Room
07:00pm First English, Blue Chapel
07:00pm Second English, St. Joseph's Room
07:00pm Spanish, St. Maria Goretti

Wednesday
05:30pm Daily Mass, SMG, Upper Room
07:00pm Third English, SMG, Upper Room
07:00pm Fourth English, St. Joseph Room
07:00pm Fifth English, Blue Chapel
07:00pm Creole Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Thursday
05:30 pm Daily Mass SMG, Upper Room

Friday St. John Bosco
04:00 pm Adoration, SMG upstairs
05:30 pm Daily Mass, SMG upstairs

Saturday
05:30 pm Mass in Church
07:00 pm Eucharist NCW



School Notes

Holy Family Academy
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This week at HFA we were very impressed to learn the story of Saint Agnes. Through the mass we were inspired to not be ashamed of how weak we are because the Lord will put his own strength in us.



Middle School students in their English class have been focused on improving their argumentative writing strategies. Identifying claims, rebuttals, and reasoning, key components to this style of writing.

www.hfa.catholic.tc

SPONSORS / BENEFACTORS

We continue to look for donations and sponsors to support our **Scholarship Program** and help the school with necessary supplies.

Your sponsorship payment can be done through direct deposit or bank transfer or by donating any of the items below.

- Projectors and projector screens
- Projector stands
- Art Supplies
- Printing Paper
- Sport supplies
- Asthma Inhalers & AED

Click on our [Wish List](#) or scan the code to see more!

