

.Today, let us look at the unsurpassable model of evangelization: *Jesus*. The Christmas Gospel defines him as the "Word of God" (cf. *Jn* 1:1). The fact that he is the *Logos*, that is, the Word, highlights an essential aspect of Jesus: He is always in relation, outgoing, never isolated, always in relation, outgoing. The word, in fact, exists to be transmitted, communicated. So it is with Jesus, the Eternal Word of the Father, reaching out to us, communicated to us. Christ not only has words of life, but makes his life a Word, a message: that is, he lives always turned toward the Father and toward us. He is always looking at his Father who sent him and looking at us to whom he was sent. Indeed, if we look at his days as described in the Gospels, we see that intimacy with his Father – prayer – occupies first place. This is why Jesus gets up early, when it is still dark, and goes into deserted areas to pray (cf. *Mk* 1:35; *Lk* 4:42), to speak with his Father. He makes all of his decisions and most important choices after having prayed (cf. *Lk* 6:12; 9:18). Specifically, within this relationship, in prayer which connects him to the Father in the Spirit, Jesus discovers the meaning of his being human, of his existence in the world because he is on a mission to us, sent by the Father to us. It is thus interesting to note the first public act that he accomplishes after the years of his hidden life in Nazareth. Jesus does not work a great wonder, he does not send an effective message, but he mingles with the people who were going to be baptized by John. In this way, he offers us the key by which he acts in the world: spending himself for sinners, he puts himself in solidarity with us without distance, in a total sharing of life. In fact, speaking about his mission, he will say that he did not come "to be served, but to serve and give his own life" (cf. *Mk* 10:45). Every day after praying, Jesus dedicates his entire day to the proclamation of the Kingdom of God and dedicates it to people, above all to the poorest and weakness, to the sinners and to the sick (cf. *Mk* 1:32-39). So, Jesus is in contact with the Father in prayer and then he is in contact with all the people through his mission, through catechesis, by teaching the path to the Kingdom of God. Now, should we want to represent his style of life with an image, it would not be difficult for us to find it: Jesus himself offers it, we have heard it, speaking of himself as the *Good Shepherd*, the one, he says, who "lays down his life for the sheep" (*Jn* 10:11). This is Jesus. In reality, to be a shepherd was not just a job, but it required time and a lot of dedication. It was a true and proper way of life: twenty-four hours a day, living with the flock, accompanying them to pasture, sleeping among the sheep, taking care of those who were weakest. In other words, Jesus does not do something for us, but he gives everything, he gives his life for us. He is a shepherd for all of us. Indeed, to sum up the action of the Church in one word, the specific term "pastoral" is used. And to evaluate our "pastoralness" we need to confront ourselves with Jesus the Good Shepherd. We can ask ourselves: do we imitate him, drinking from the wells of prayer so that our heart might be in harmony with his? Intimacy with Him is "*the soul of every apostolate*". Jesus himself clearly said to his disciples, "Without me you can do nothing" (*Jn* 15:5). By staying with Jesus, we discover that his pastoral heart always beats for the person who is confused, lost, far away. And ours? How many times do we express our attitude about people who are a bit difficult or with whom we have a bit of difficulty: "But it's their problem, let them work it out...." But Jesus never said this, never. He himself always went to meet all the marginalized, sinners. He was accused of this – of being with sinners so that he might bring God's salvation precisely to them. If we want to train our apostolic zeal, we should always have chapter 15 of Luke before our eyes. Read it often. We can understand there what apostolic zeal is. There we discover that God does not remain contemplating the sheep pen, nor does he threaten them so they won't leave. Rather, if one leaves and gets lost, he does not abandon that sheep, but goes in search of it. He does not say, "You got up and left – it's your fault – that's your business!" His pastoral heart reacts in another way: the pastoral heart *suffers* and the pastoral heart *takes risks*. It *suffers*: yes, God suffers for those who leave and, while he mourns over them, he loves even more. The Lord suffers when we distance ourselves from his heart. He suffers for all who do not know the beauty of his love and the warmth of his embrace. But, in response to this suffering, he does not withdraw, rather he *takes a risk*. He leaves the ninety-nine sheep who are safe and ventures out for the lost one, thus doing something both risky and unreasonable, but consonant with his pastoral heart which misses the one who left, the longing for someone who has gone away – this is something consistent in Jesus. And when we hear that someone has left the Church, what do we want to say? "Let them work it out?" No. Jesus teaches us to have nostalgia for those who have left. Jesus does not feel anger or resentment but pure longing for us. Jesus feels nostalgic for us and this is God's zeal.

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, B. Chapel.

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

05:30 pm Blue Chapel.

SCHEDULE OF SACRAMENTS

Baptisms: Contact one of the priests in person.

Confessions: Everyday before Mass or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick: Upon request.

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

1st Communions: 11 June, 2023.

Confirmations: TBC

Jesus Christ goes around Galilee proclaiming the good news. The old English for it is 'Godspel' which is shortened to Gospel. But what is the Good News? In today's reading from the Gospel of Matthew, it says that Jesus went around proclaiming, "Repent for the Kingdom of God is at hand." The first aspect is the call to repentance. As a Christian you are called each day to repent of your sins. This means every day to examine your conscience. Most days I need this examination as my sins are right in my face! They include; laziness, selfishness, lack of charity in dealing with others, judging, thinking badly of others, speaking badly of others and the list goes on. The term 'Repentance' means to renounce your sins. To give them up. With some sins you may say to yourself "I do not want to give this up" or even "I'm not going to give that up." The true Christian spirit is, with the grace of the Lord, to desire to give them all up completely, come what may! Sometimes they are a little overwhelming and you can lose hope in yourself and this is a danger but there is the Good News, which is that Jesus Christ has died on the cross and nailed all your sins to it and also, most importantly that He has risen from the dead and He can therefore most easily forgive your sins, especially given that He has gone to the Cross on your behalf, just for this purpose, to forgive your sins.

Let us all pray most earnestly for the gift of true repentance and remorse for our sins so that we can all experience the deep and abiding forgiveness of God on all of our sins

Fr. Paul



Have you found what you are looking for in life?

Are you suffering?

Do you find it difficult to be happy?

COME AND LISTEN

MONDAYS & THURSDAYS:

7 – 8 PM

Begins Monday Jan 23rd

Our Lady of Divine Providence
Roman Catholic Church

Everyone 13 & older –
Free babysitting

Parish Events Jan.22-29

Sunday Holy Mass: 09:00 am,10:30am, 12:30pm

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

Monday St. Marianne Cope

05:30 pm D. and Mass Chapel
07:00pm Catechesis SMG
07:30pm AA Parish Hall.

Tuesday St. Francis de Sales

05:30 pm D. Mass Chapel
07:00pm 1st English, Parish hall
07:00pm 1st Spanish, Blue Chapel
07:00pm 2nd Spanish, Red Room

Wednesday Conversion of St. Paul

05:30 pm D. Mass Chapel
07:00pm 3rd English, SMG
07:00pm 4th English, Blue Chapel
07:00pm 1st Creole Red Room
07:00pm 2nd Creole Bl. Sac. Chapel
07:00pm 2nd English Parish Hall

Thursday St.s Timothy & Titus

05:30 pm D. Mass Chapel
07:00pm Catechesis SMG

Friday

04:00pm Adoration
5:30pm Daily Mass, Blue Chapel .
07:00pm AA Parish Hall

Saturday St. Agnes

05:30 pm Mass, Church
07:00pm NCW Eucharist



School Notes

Holy Family Academy

Tel: (+1649) 941, 7875

At **Holy Family Academy**, we celebrate the talents God has given our children. In this way, we took the opportunity to celebrate the academic achievements of our students for the first term and encouraged all students to strive with the Lord.



As we continue this season of Ordinary Time, we are encouraged to take this time to reflect on the homily of the meaning of green. In the words of Father Orlando "It represents both hope and maturity of our faith." At HFA we nurture and help our students by guiding them to the Lord so they can mature in their faith.

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. Any help God will reward you a hundred fold. If you would like and are able to help contact us at holyfamilytci@gmail.com

You can also donate from the US in the following link:

<https://www.rcan.org/mission-turks-and-caicos-islands>

Wish List

This is another way to help the missionary school or students who are in need, by donating any of the following:

- Automatic hand dryers
- Microwave x 3
- Walkie-Talkie Radios
- Electric pencil sharpeners
- Sound / Speaker System
- Ping Pong table.
- Tonner Canon ImageRunner ADVANCE C5255