

## Pope Francis Regina Coeli 21 April 2024

Dear brothers and sisters, happy Sunday!

This Sunday, is dedicated to Jesus the Good Shepherd. In today's Gospel (cf. *Jn* 10:11-18), Jesus tells us that, "The good shepherd *lays down his life* for the sheep" (v. 11). He highlights this aspect so much that He repeats it three times (cf. vv. 11, 15, 17). But in what sense, I ask myself, does the shepherd *give his life* for the sheep?

Being a shepherd, especially in Christ's time, was not just a job, it was a way of life: it was not an occupation which took up a defined amount of time, but it meant sharing entire days, and even nights, with the sheep, living- I would say- in symbiosis with them. Indeed, Jesus explains that He is not a hired man who cares nothing for the sheep (cf. v. 13), but a man who knows them (cf. v. 14): He knows the sheep. This is the way things are, He, the Lord, the shepherd of us all, calls us by our name and, when we are lost, He looks for us until He finds us (cf. *Lk* 15:4-5). Moreover, Jesus is not just a good shepherd who shares the life of the flock; Jesus is the Good Shepherd who has sacrificed His life for us and, has given us His Spirit through His resurrection.

This is what the Lord wants to tell us with the image of the Good Shepherd: not only that He is the guide, the Head of the flock, but above all that He thinks about every one of us, and that He thinks of each of us as *the love of His life*. Consider this: for Christ, I am important, He thinks of me, I am irreplaceable, worth the infinite price of His life. And this is not just a way of speaking: He truly gave His life for me, He died and rose again for me. Why? Because He loves me and He finds in me a beauty that I often do not see myself.

Brothers and sisters, how many people today think of themselves as inadequate or even wrong! How many times do we think that our value depends on the goals we achieve, on whether we succeed in the eyes of the world, on the judgments of others! And how many times do we end up throwing ourselves away for trivial things! Today Jesus tells us that we are always infinitely worthy in His eyes. So, in order to find ourselves, the first thing to do is to place ourselves in His presence, allowing ourselves to be welcomed and lifted up by the loving arms of our Good Shepherd.

Brothers, sisters, let us ask ourselves: am I able to find the time, every day, to embrace this assurance that gives value to my life? Am I able to find the time for a moment of prayer, of adoration, of praise, to be in the presence of Christ and to let myself be caressed by Him? Brother, sister, the Good Shepherd tells us that if you do this, you will rediscover the secret of life: you will remember that He gave His life for you, for me, for all of us. And that for Him, we are all important, each and every one of us.

May Our Lady help us to find in Jesus what is essential for life.

## Our Lady of Divine Providence ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Pastor:** Rev. Luis Orlando González  
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## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



### 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:** 24 May, 2024.  
**1st Communions:** 02 June, 2024.

**Confirmations:** TBC(20 October, 2024).

**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.

From today's gospel you can see that faith is a battle, and who are the combatants in it? God and yourself are the opponents. Each day, like me, I presume, that you make a plan about how the day should go. This is fine up to a point. When this plan goes up in smoke, usually, you then go up in smoke, i.e. you get very angry. The reason is that the will of the Lord often comes to break down your ideas about how things should go. This is because you do not allow the Lord to do things His way but your way and hence the battle. The battle to be a 'branch' means to be willing to give up your plans and ideas and allow the Lord to work. I will quote at length what Fr. De Caussade, famous spiritual writer says: "O my God, when will it please you to give me the grace of remaining habitually in that union of my will with your adorable will, ..in which we do everything by letting you act. In this perfect union of wills we perform immense tasks because we work more in conformity with your good pleasure and yet we are dispensed from all toil because we place the care of everything in your hands, and think nothing of reposing completely in you-a delightful state...Yes my God yes, everything that you please. May your holy desires be fulfilled in everything. I give up my own which are blind, perverse and corrupted by that miserable self-love which is the mortal enemy of your grace and pure love, of your glory and my own sanctification." This is what the Gospel of today means when it says "remain in me."

May the Lord grant us this grace so that He can bear much fruit in us without us getting in His way too much.

Fr. Paul



We welcome **Archbishop Thomas Wenski**, from Miami, in his first visit to Turks and Caicos. He will be presiding the Creole Mass today.

In the afternoon, the Archbishop will be visiting some Haitian families from Five Cays, South Dock and Blue Hills.

## HOLY DOOR EXTENDS

**THE HOLY DOOR WILL NOT CLOSE. THE HOLY SEE HAS EXTENDED IT UNTIL THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING 24 NOVEMBER**

In order to get a Plenary Indulgence, which is a full remission of Purgatory, for either yourself or for the soul of someone who has died, the following conditions are needed.

- 1) Sacramental confession within a few days before or after.
- 2) Passing through the Holy Door
- 3) Praying the creed, the Our Father, a Hail Mary for Pope Francis' intentions,
- 4) Attending Mass in this Church and receiving Holy Communion. It is also possible to get a partial indulgence if one or other of the above conditions are not met.

## Parish Events April 28-May 5

### DIVINE MERCY Sunday

04:00pm  
05:00pm  
05:00pm  
05:30pm  
06:00pm

**Holy Mass: 09:00 am, 10:30am and 12:30pm**

Coeur de Marie Children's group.  
Fraternite, Red Room.  
Creole Youth Choir practice.  
Sacre Coeur de Jesus, P. Hall.  
Choeur D'hommes 1st and 3rd Sunday at church.

### Monday

05:00pm  
05:30pm

**St. Catherine of Sienna**  
Confession near Holy Door  
Daily Mass, SMG

### Tuesday

05:00pm  
05:30pm  
07:00pm  
07:00pm  
07:00pm

**St. Pius V**  
Confession near Holy Door  
Daily Mass, SMG  
First English, Parish Hall  
Second English, SMG  
Spanish, Red Room

### Wednesday

05:00pm  
05:30pm  
07:00pm  
07:00pm  
07:00pm

**St. Joseph the Worker**  
Confession near Holy Door  
Mass in SMG  
Third English, SMG  
Fourth English, Red Room  
Fifth English, Blue Chapel

### Thursday

05:00pm  
05:30pm

**ST. Athanasius**  
Confessions near Holy Door  
  
Daily Mass SMG

### Friday

04:00pm  
05:30pm

**St. S Philip and James**  
,Adoration, SMG  
Daily Mass , SMG

### Saturday

05:30pm  
07:00pm

Mass in Church  
Eucharist NCW



## School Notes

Holy Family Academy

Tel: (+1649) 941-7875

The HFA students went to visit the hospital this week to talk to the professionals who work there and to see one possible option for their professional future.



They are also still enjoying the joy of the 50 days of Easter, seeing how in the middle of the suffering they can be happy with Christ.

[www.hfa.catholic.tc](http://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!

## SPLASH DAY!

Be part of our fun water day by contributing with any of the items in our list!

- Pop corn machine
- Pop Corn cups
- Bouncing house

Scan the code to see more!

