

Pope Francis Angelus 6 January 2025

Dear brothers and sisters, happy Feast of the Epiphany!

Today the Church celebrates the *manifestation* of Jesus, and the Gospel concentrates on the Magi, who at the end of a long journey reach Jerusalem to adore Jesus.

If we look closely, we will discover something a bit stranger: while these wise men from far away come to find Jesus, those who were close by do not take one step towards the grotto in Bethlehem.

Drawn and guided by the star, the Magi face enormous expenses, make their time available, accept the many risks and uncertainties of which there was no shortage in those times. And yet they overcome every difficulty to get to see the King Messiah, because they know that something unique is happening in the history of humanity, and they do not want to miss the event. They had inspiration within, and they followed it.

Instead, those who live in Jerusalem, who should be the happiest and the most prompt to rush, stay still. The priests and theologians correctly interpret the Sacred Scriptures and provide directions to the Magi about where to find the Messiah, but they do not move from their "desks". They are satisfied with what they have, and they do not go seeking; they do not think it is worth the effort to leave Jerusalem.

This fact, sisters and brothers, makes us reflect and in a certain sense provokes us, because it raises a question: to what category do we, I, belong today? Are we more similar to the shepherds, who on the very night itself go in haste to the grotto, and the Magi from the east, who set out confidently in search of the Son of God made man; or are we more similar to those who, despite being physically very close to Him, do not open the doors of their heart and their life, remaining closed and insensitive to Jesus' presence? Let us ask ourselves this question. To which group of people do I belong?

According to a story, a fourth King arrives late in Jerusalem, precisely during Jesus' crucifixion – this is a beautiful story; it is not historical, but it is a beautiful story – because he stopped along the way to help those in need, giving them the precious gifts he had brought for Jesus. Finally, an old man arrived and said to him: "In truth I say to you, all that you have done for the least of your brothers, you have done it for me". The Lord knows everything that we have done for others.

Let us ask the Virgin Mary to help us so that, imitating the shepherds and the Magi, we are able to recognize Jesus close by, in the poor, in the Eucharist, in the abandoned, in our brother, in our sister.

Our Lady of Divine Providence ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. Luis Orlando González
P. Vicar: Rev. Rafael Velázquez
P. Vicar: Rev. Paul Passant

1310 Leeward Highway, Providenciales.
P.O. Box 340, Turks & Caicos Islands.
Phone: (+1649) 941-5136

www.catholic.tc - oldpchurch@catholic.tc



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



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 is the feast of Jesus' baptism by St. John the Baptist. Why did Jesus submit to being baptized when He had no need for it? He did it to show His Father that He would accept even His passion and death on a cross. Baptism is a dying and a rising. In our church there is a baptismal pool. In the early church, in order to be baptized a deacon or assistant went down into the pool with the unbaptised person and submerged them three times. They were then clothed in a white garment that covered their whole body from neck to toe. The symbolism of this was dying to oneself and rising to new life with Jesus Christ. So in His own baptism Jesus is saying that He is ready to go to crucifixion in order to rise again. He is willing to submit to whatever the Father's will is for Him even to the point of dying a miserable death. That is why the Holy Spirit descends upon Him as we read in today's Gospel. Jesus does not see even terrible things in a bad light. He sees them as coming from His Father and so there must be a reason. He, in His humanity did not understand but, nonetheless He put His complete trust in the will of the Father even when it went against His own ideas. This is a lesson for all of us. When the cross comes into your life in a more than unusually heavy event then you are called to rely on the Lord for there to be a resurrection from what looks like God's absence.

"The Christian must enter into this mystery of humble self-abasement and repentance, go down into the water with Jesus in order to rise with Him, be reborn of water and the Spirit so as to become the Father's beloved son in the Son and 'walk in newness of life'". Catechism of Catholic Church 537)

Let us ask the Lord the grace that comes from our own baptism to accept the crosses that He gives us and to begin to believe that they actually come from Him,
Fr. Paul



HOLY HOUR FRIDAYS 4:00 pm—5:00 pm.

Holy Rosary in three languages, readings reflection, and meditation on the Holy Eucharist. Upper Room St. Maria Goretti.

BAPTISM REQUIREMENTS

- Child's birth certificate.
 - Complete application form.
- Parents & godparents need:
- Catechetical preparation (3 classes).
- Godparents also need:
- Minimum 16 years old.
 - Confirmed Catholic practicing the Catholic faith.

Jubilee -World Youth Day PLEASE HELP US GET THERE



(around 50 young and adults \$3,000 e/a)

Any help God will

reward you a hundred fold, not only spiritually but materially as well.

Parish Events Jan 12-19

- 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. Hilary
05:30 pm Daily Mass, SMG, Upper Room

Tuesday
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 Gorretti

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. Anthony of the desert
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
Tel: (+1649) 941-7875

Classes resumed on Monday, with students returning refreshed and ready for the new term. A special Three Kings Day Mass that day provided a wonderful start to the week, followed by students resuming work on their science fair projects.



May God bless us with strength and wisdom this year as we strive to learn and grow each day. May we be kind and compassionate to one another, and may our school be a place where faith and knowledge are able to flourish and grow.

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

