

From The Pastor's Desk

Merry Christmas 2020 Happy New 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters from the Turks and Caicos Islands! Again and again the beauty and joy of this Christmas may touch our hearts. Reflecting on the novena and advent liturgies, it is a beauty the splendor of truth and joy that transform fear. Again and again it astonishes us that God makes himself a child so that we may love him, so that we may dare to love him, and as a child trustingly lets himself be taken into our arms, especially during this pandemic time. It is as if God were saying: I know that my glory frightens you and that you are trying to assert yourself in the face of my grandeur. So now, when you experience fear because the virus, sickness, death or the vaccine, I am coming to you as a child, so that you can accept me and love me.

Many brothers and sisters in these islands are passing through a difficult economical time, as well. So let us reflect on the Gospel writer's remark that there was no room for them (Jesus, Joseph and Mary) at the inn. Inevitably the question arises, what would happen if Mary and Joseph were to knock at my door, would there be room for them? And then it occurs to us that Saint John takes up this seemingly chance comment about the lack of room at the inn, which drove the Holy Family into the stable; he explores it more deeply and arrives at the heart of the matter when he writes: "he came to his own home, and his own people received him not" (Jn 1:11). The great moral question of our attitude towards the homeless, towards refugees and migrants, takes on a deeper dimension: do we really have room for God when he seeks to enter under our roof? Do we have time and space for him? Do we not actually turn away God himself? We begin to do so when we have no time for God. The faster we can move, the more efficient our time-saving appliances become, the less time we have. And God? The question of God never seems urgent. Our time says Benedict XVI is already completely full. But matters go deeper still. Does God actually have a place in our thinking? Our process of thinking is structured in such a way that he simply ought not to exist. Even if he seems to knock at the door of our thinking, he has to be explained away. If thinking is to be taken seriously, it must be structured in such a way that the "God hypothesis" becomes superfluous. There is no room for him. Not even in our feelings and desires is there any room for him. We want ourselves. We want what we can seize hold of, we want happiness that is within our reach, we want our plans and purposes to succeed. We are so "full" of ourselves that there is no room left for God. And that means there is no room for others either, for children, for the poor, for the stranger. By reflecting on that one simple saying about the lack of room at the inn, we have come to see how much we need to listen to Saint Paul's exhortation: "Be transformed by the renewal of your mind" (Rom 12:2). Paul speaks of renewal, the opening up of our intellect (nous), of the whole way we see the world and ourselves. The conversion that we need must truly reach into the depths of our relationship with reality. Let us ask the Lord that we may become vigilant for his presence, that we may hear how softly yet insistently he knocks at the door of our being and willing. Let us ask that we may make room for him within ourselves, that we may recognize him also in those affected by the Covid through whom he speaks to us: children, the suffering, the abandoned, those who are excluded and the poor of this world.

May the Lord fill us with his blessing on the new 2021.

Bless you,
Fr. Orlando

Our Lady of Divine Providence ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. Luis Orlando González
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CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR



HOLY MASS

Saturday: 05:30pm English, Church.

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

Weekdays: 05:30pm English, Church.
(*Except Wednesdays*)

Fridays:
05:30pm Church.
06:00pm Adoration Blessed
Sacrament and Rosary.

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: Sep. 27, 2020 Sunday

Confirmation: Date to be confirmed.

It has been a joyful preparation praying the novena of the Nativity of the Lord and Liturgy of Penance for the celebration when the word became flesh and dwell among us.

Let the Lord fill your heart with this joy and the certainty of His love. **Merry Christmas.**



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Thursday, Dec 24:

Christmas Eve 05:30 pm and Midnight 12:00 am

Friday, Christmas day Dec 25:

09:00 am English and 11:00 am Multilingual
05:30 pm English

Thursday, Dec 31: 05:30 pm

Friday, Jan 1:

09:00 am English and 11:00 am Multilingual

Remember:

- Masks are required **ALL TIME** while being inside and in public covering the nose and mouth. (Attendees, choir and lectors as well.)
- Keep 2mts / 6ft of physical distance.
- Attendees must register at the entrance.
- Sanitize your hands.

If you feel sick or can't attend Mass, you can follow our online Sunday Mass at our **YouTube** channel below:

**Our Lady of Divine Providence
Roman Catholic Church**

<https://qrqgo.page.link/U6mGg>

Parish Events Dec 27—Jan 3

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

Monday: 05:30pm Mass, Church.

Tuesday: 05:30pm Mass, Church.

Wednesday:

Thursday: 05:30pm D. Mass Church.
06:00pm Creole Choir Practice Parish Hall.
06:30pm English Choir Practice, D. Mass Chapel.

Friday: 05:30pm Daily Mass, Church.
06:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction.
06:00pm Confessions.

Saturday: 05:30pm Mass, Church.

Liturgy of the Eucharist NCW

06:30pm English and Spanish. Church.
06:30pm Creole. Red Room.



School Notes

Holy Family Academy

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*"May the joy and peace that were present at the birth of Christ be present in your home this season. **Merry Christmas!**"*

Christmas Break.

Dec. 12 -Jan. 3

Back to School

Jan 4.

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:

- Tablets
- Hand Sanitizer / alcohol
- Paper hand towels
- Printing paper
- Tonner Canon ImageRunner ADVANCE C5255

Thank you!