

Pope Francis Audience , Humility, 22 May 2024

We will conclude this cycle of catechesis by looking at a virtue which is not part of the seven cardinal and theological virtues, but which is at the base of Christian life: this virtue is *humility*. It is the great antagonist of the most mortal of sins, namely arrogance. Whereas pride and arrogance swell the human heart, making us appear to be more than we are, humility restores everything to its correct dimension: we are wonderful creatures, but we are limited, with qualities and flaws. From the beginning, the Bible reminds us that we are dust, and to dust we shall return (cf. *Gen 3:19*); indeed, "humble" derives from *humus*, that is, earth. And yet the delirium of omnipotence, which is so dangerous, often arises in the human heart, and this does us a great deal of harm.

It takes very little to free ourselves from of arrogance; it suffices to contemplate a starry sky to restore the correct measure, as the Psalm says: "When I look at thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which thou hast established: what is man that thou art mindful of him, and the son of man that thou dost care for him?" (8:3-4). Modern science enables us to extend the horizon much, much farther, and to feel the mystery that surrounds us and which we inhabit even more.

Blessed are the people who hold in their heart this perception of their own smallness! These people they are preserved from an ugly vice: arrogance. In His Beatitudes, Jesus starts precisely from them: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven" (*Mt 5:3*). It is the first Beatitude, because it is at the base of those that follow: indeed, meekness, mercy, and purity of heart stem from that inner sense of smallness. Humility is the gateway to all the virtues.

In the first pages of the Gospels, humility and poverty of spirit seem to be the source of everything. The announcement of the angel does not happen at the doors of Jerusalem, but in a remote village in Galilee, so insignificant that people used to say, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" (*Jn 1:46*). But it is exactly from there that the world is reborn. The chosen heroine is not a little queen who grew up coddled, but an unknown girl: Mary. She herself is the first to be astonished when the angel brings God's announcement. And in her hymn of prayer, it is indeed this wonder that stands out: "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for He has *regarded the low estate* of His handmaiden" (*Lk 1:46-48*). God is – so to speak – attracted by the smallness of Mary, which is above all an inner smallness. And He is also attracted by our smallness, when we accept it.

From here on, Mary will be careful not to take centre stage. Her first decision after the angelic annunciation is to go and help, to go and serve her cousin. Mary heads towards the mountains of Judea to visit Elizabeth: she assists her in the last months of her pregnancy. But who sees this gesture? No-one, other than God. The Virgin does not seem to want to emerge from this concealment. Just as, when a woman's voice from the crowd proclaims her blessedness: "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts that you sucked!" (*Lk 11:27*). But Jesus immediately replies: "Blessed rather are those that hear the word of God and keep it" (*Lk 11:28*). Not even the most sacred truth of her life – being the Mother of God – becomes a reason for her to boast before men. In a world marked by the pursuit of appearance, of showing oneself to be superior to others, Mary walks decisively, by the sole power of God's grace, in the opposite direction.

We can imagine that she, too, has known difficult moments, days when her faith advanced in darkness. But this never made her humility waver, which in Mary was a granitic virtue. I want to highlight this: humility is a granitic virtue. Let us think of Mary: she is always small, always without self-importance, always free of ambition. This smallness of hers is her invincible strength: it is she who remains at the foot of the cross, while the illusion of a triumphant Messiah is shattered. It will be Mary, in the days leading up to Pentecost, who will gather up the flock of disciples, who had not been able to keep vigil just one hour with Jesus, and had abandoned Him when the storm came.

Brothers and sisters, humility is everything. It is what saves us from the Evil One, and from the danger of becoming his accomplices. And humility is the source of peace in the world and in the Church. Where there is no humility, there is war, there is discord, there is division. God has given us an example of this in Jesus and Mary, for our salvation and happiness. And humility is precisely the way, the path to salvation

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THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST 2024



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.

Today is the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. I am still reading Joseph Ratzinger's, (Pope Benedict XVI) book, 'Introduction to Christianity'. What he says there relates to this feast. He says that God is a totally unselfish God. This is clearly shone in this feast. The Lord gives you and me His body and Blood. Why does He do this? Because He has already given it on the Cross. Jesus did not come on earth for Himself. He came precisely for us all that we might be saved and enter into heaven for all eternity with Him. So he gave His all for us and now He continues to give himself fully to us in the Memorial of His Eucharist. He is truly present in both the bread and the wine. The reason that you are called to receive Him every week is very simple. You need it! Every day through either your sins or the things that go wrong in your life or just the daily routine that gets to you, you can easily lose sight of Jesus' presence in your life. In last week's gospel He said "I am with you always. Even to the end of time." The Eucharist is this sign of His presence in your daily life. Whether you experience anything or not, (sometimes it's better that you don't), the Lord still comes to you and changes you in the depths of your spirit. Mother Teresa of Calcutta did not experience any feelings during or after receiving communion and when she asked her sisters what they felt, they usually answered that they felt Jesus' closeness in their hearts. She just shrugged her shoulders but she was always smiling because love is not a matter of feelings. Well, let us ask the Lord for a renewed reverence of Him in the Eucharistic species and that our souls may be open to His enormous love for us.

Fr. Paul

This Sunday we celebrate the **Solemnity of "Corpus Christi"**, the Body and Blood of Christ. **Congratulations** to the children who have been prepared (receiving the sacrament of reconciliation last year) and will receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time today.

- Isadora Coelho Carvalho
- Jefry Emmanuel Almonte
- Michael Martin
- Myrah Helen Saintilien
- Nicky Longchamp
- Olivia Rose S. Chantoiseau
- Samydely Joseph
- Zane Edison Hall
- Winski Longchamp
- Zanayah Tianna Hall
- Zyan Martin Isai
- Adrian Jhun
- Ava Maria Rochelle Hall
- Daniel Gomez
- Daniela Piwowarczyk
- Dominick Derek Handfield
- Ethan Edward Gangasigh
- Emilio Gareth Butler

HOLY DOOR

JUBILEE OF THE CATHOLIC MISSION IN THE TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS

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. sacramental confession within a few days before or after.

1. Passing through the Holy Door
2. Praying the creed, the Our Father, a Hail Mary for Pope Francis' intentions.
3. 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 June 2-9

Corpus Christi

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

- 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. Charles Lwanga & co.

- 05:00pm Confession near Holy Door
- 05:30pm Daily Mass, SMG

Tuesday

Confession near Holy Door
Daily Mass, SMG
First English, Parish Hall
Second English, SMG
Spanish, Red Room

Wednesday

St. Boniface

- 05:00pm Confession near Holy Door
- 05:30pm Mass in SMG
- 07:00pm Third English, SMG
- 07:00pm Fourth English, Red Room
- 07:00pm Fifth English, Blue Chapel
- 07:00pm Creole, Bl. Sacrament Chapel

Thursday

St. Norbert

- 05:00pm Confessions near Holy Door
- 05:30pm Daily Mass SMG

Friday

Sacred Heart of Jesus

- 04:00pm ,Adoration, SMG
- 05:30pm Daily Mass , SMG

Saturday

Immaculate Heart of Mary

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



School Notes

Holy Family Academy

Tel: (+1649) 941-7875



The Holy Family Academy organized the Evening of the Arts, an event to share and show the student's talents in singing, dancing, storytelling, poetry and music; it was also an occasion to expose all the artworks that they made during the school year. Always remembering that all the good comes from God.

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!

