

Our Lady of Divine Providence

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

On this Sunday of the Word, let us listen to Jesus as he proclaims the Kingdom of God. Let us consider *what* he says and *to whom* he says it.

What does he say? Jesus begins his preaching with these words: “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand” (Mk1:15). God is near, that is the first message. His kingdom has come down to earth. God is not, as we are often tempted to think, distant, up in heaven, detached from the human condition. No, he is in our midst. The time of his distance ended when, in Jesus, he became man. Ever since then, God has been very close to us; he will never retire from our human condition or tire of it. This closeness is the very first message of the Gospel; today’s reading tells us that Jesus “was saying” (v. 15) those words: he *kept repeating them*. “God is near” was the leitmotif of his preaching, the heart of his message. If this was the opening theme and the refrain of all Jesus’ preaching, it must necessarily be the one constant of the Christian life and message. **Before all else, we must believe and proclaim that God has drawn near to us**, that we have been forgiven and shown mercy. Prior to every word of ours *about* God, there is his word to us, his Word who continues to tell us: “Do not be afraid, I am with you. I am at your side and I will always be there”.

The word of God enables us to touch this closeness, since – as the Book of Deuteronomy tells us – it is not far from us, it is *near* to our hearts (cf. 30:14). It is the antidote to our fear of having to face life alone. Indeed, by his word the Lord *consoles* us, that is, he stands “with” (*con-*) those who are “alone” (*solus*). In speaking to us, he reminds us that he has taken us to heart, that we are precious in his eyes, and that he holds us in the palm of his hand. God’s word infuses this peace, but it does not *leave us in peace*. It is a word of consolation but also a call to conversion. “Repent”, says Jesus, immediately after proclaiming God’s closeness. For, thanks to his closeness, we can no longer distance ourselves from God and from others. The time when we could live thinking only of ourselves is now over. To do so is not Christian, for those who experience God’s closeness cannot ignore their neighbours or treat them with indifference. Those who hear God’s word are constantly reminded that life is not about shielding ourselves from others, but about encountering them in the name of God who is near. The word sown in the soil of our hearts, leads us in turn *to sow hope through closeness to others*. Even as God has done with us.

Let us now consider *to whom* Jesus speaks. His first words are to Galilean fishermen, simple folk who lived by harsh manual labour, by day and night. They were no experts in Scripture or people of great knowledge and culture. They lived in a region made up of various peoples, ethnic groups and cults: one that could not have been further from the religious purity of Jerusalem, the heart of the country. Yet that is where Jesus began, not from the centre but from the periphery, and he did so in order to tell us too that **no one is far from God’s heart**. Everyone can receive his word and encounter him in person. The Gospel offers a nice detail in this regard, when it tells us that Jesus’ preaching came “after” that of John (Mk 1:14). That word *after* is decisive: it points to a difference. John received people in the desert, where only those able to leave their homes could go. Jesus, on the other hand, speaks of God in the heart of society, to everyone, wherever they find themselves. He does not speak at fixed times or places, but “walking along the shore”, to fishermen who were “casting their nets” (v. 16). He speaks to people in the most ordinary times and places. Here we see the *universal power* of the word of God to reach everyone and every area of life.

Pastor: Rev. Luis Orlando González
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IV SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME



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: Date to be confirmed.

Confirmation: Date to be confirmed.

Jesus in today's Gospel makes His appearance as one having authority. It is not only in His speech but also in His ability to cast out demons. This confirms His authority. The ordinary people are awestruck, and rightly so. Jesus has the power over the demons. Each one of us carries about within us our little 'demons'. Clearly I am not referring to demonic possession, but to those things that get on our nerves and cause us to misjudge people and situations. Perhaps you have the demon of always being negative or thinking that the worst is going to happen. This is one of those demons that some of us have. Others have different ones and they can be kicked out by coming to know the love and mercy of Jesus Christ. Personally, when I have committed some venial sins, I get angry with myself and then I take it out on those around me. When I am given the grace from the Lord to see where it all started and to repent and start again knowing His mercy then the demon leaves.

Jesus is the Holy One of God. This means we can always approach Him. Holiness in the Old Testament, meant that God was too high above us and that we could not approach Him. Now God has become one of us and it is only through Jesus Christ that we can come to know the Father. God shows His holiness by always being merciful to us, unworthy people but He does not stop there. Receiving Jesus through the Word of God and in the Sacraments we become the Holy Ones of God and carry this Holiness out into our lives wherever we go. No one is worthy of this but let that not stop us rejoicing in the fact that we can approach the fount of mercy which is God Himself and that He can make you Holy.

Fr. Paul

Courage!
God's mercy is greater than our weaknesses.
He loves you, as you are



¡Ven y escucha!
Catequesis para adultos
Fecha inicio: Enero 18, 2020.

Lunes y jueves.
7:00 - 8:00 PM Parish Hall
Our Lady of Divine Providence

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://qrqo.page.link/U6mGg>

Parish Events Jan 31– Feb 5

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.
Liturgy of the Word, NCW.
 1st Spanish Community, S.M.Goretti
 2nd Spanish Community, B.S. Chap
 1st English Communities, P. Hall
 2nd English Community, Blue Chapel

Wednesday: **Liturgy of the Word, NCW.**
 1st Creole Community, Red Room.
 3rd English Communities, B. Chapel.

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
Tel: +1(649)941-7875



We are grateful to God that **PreK and Kindergarten** are back at school! Teachers and administration are happy to have them and guide them in the protocols and guidelines.

For information, please visit
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:

- Moving Outdoor planters and gardening material
- Heavy Duty Sun Shade Sail Canopy
- Tablets
- Hand Sanitizer / alcohol
- Paper hand towels
- Tonner Canon ImageRunner ADVANCE C5255

Thank you!