

## Pope Francis Audience 8 May 2024

"Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit". These words confirm to us that hope is the answer offered to our heart, when the absolute question arises in us: "What will become of me? What is the purpose of the journey? What is the destiny of the world?".

We all realize that a negative answer to these questions produces sadness. If there is no meaning to the journey of life, if at the beginning and the end there is nothing, then we ask ourselves why we should walk: hence man's desperation, the sensation of the pointlessness of everything, is born. And many may rebel: "I have striven to be virtuous, to be prudent, just, strong, temperate. I have also been a man or woman of faith.... What was the use of my fight, if it all ends here?". If hope is missing, all the other virtues risk crumbling and ending up as ashes. If no reliable tomorrow, no bright horizon, were to exist, one would only have to conclude that virtue is a futile effort. "Only when the future is certain as a positive reality does it become possible to live the present as well" said Benedict XVI. Christians have hope not through their own merit. If they believe in the future, it is because Christ died and rose again and gave us His Spirit. "Redemption is offered to us in the sense that we have been given hope, trustworthy hope, by virtue of which we can face our present" (*ibid.*, 1). In this sense, once again, we say that hope is a theological virtue: it does not emanate from us, it is not an obstinacy we want to convince ourselves of, but it is a gift that comes directly from God.

To many doubting Christians, who had not been completely born again to hope, the Apostle Paul sets before them the new logic of the Christian experience, and he says: "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all men most to be pitied" (1 Cor 15:17-19). It is as if he said: if you believe in the resurrection of Christ, then you know with certainty that no defeat and no death is forever. But if you do not believe in the resurrection of Christ, then everything becomes hollow, even the preaching of the Apostles.

Hope is a virtue against which we sin often: in our bad nostalgia, in our melancholy, when we think that the happiness of the past is buried forever. We sin against hope when we become despondent over our sins, forgetting that God is merciful and greater than our heart. And let us not forget this, brothers and sisters: God forgives everything, God forgives always. We are the ones who tire of asking for forgiveness. But let us not forget this truth: God forgives everything, God forgives always. We sin against hope when we become despondent over our sins; we sin against hope when the autumn in us cancels out the spring; when God's love ceases to be an eternal fire and we do not have the courage to make decisions that commit us for a lifetime.

The world today is in great need of this Christian virtue! The world needs hope, just as it needs patience, a virtue that walks in close contact with hope. Patient men are weavers of goodness. They stubbornly desire peace, and even if some of them are hasty and would like everything, and straight away, patience is capable of waiting. Even when around us many have succumbed to disillusionment, those who are inspired by hope and are patient are able to get through the darkest of nights. Hope and patience go together.

Hope is the virtue of those who are young at heart; and here age does not count. Because there are also the elderly with eyes full of light, who live permanently striving towards the future. Think of the two great elderly people of the Gospel, Simeon and Anna: they never tired of waiting and they saw the last stretch of their earthly journey blessed by the encounter with the Messiah, whom they recognized in Jesus, brought to the Temple by His parents. What grace if it were like that for all of us! If after a long pilgrimage, setting down our saddlebags and staff, our heart were filled with a joy never before felt, and we too could exclaim: "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace / according to thy word; / for mine eyes have seen thy salvation / which thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples, / a light for revelation to the Gentiles, / and for glory to thy people Israel" (Lk 2:29-32).

Brothers and sisters, let us go ahead and ask for the grace to have hope, hope with patience. Always look towards that definitive encounter; always look to see that the Lord is always near us, that death will never, never be victorious. Let us go ahead and ask the Lord to give us this great virtue of hope, accompanied by patience.

Thank you.

## Our Lady of Divine Providence ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Pastor: Rev. Luis Orlando González**

**P. Vicar: Rev. Rafael Velázquez**

**P. Vicar: Rev. Paul Passant**

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## PENTECOST SUNDAY 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: 23 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 the Easter season comes to an end. The Holy Spirit comes down on the Apostles and disciples. This is the beginning of the Church. A body of very different people and speaking different languages but all in communion. All having the same Spirit and the same drive to proclaim the praises of the Lord. You can ask yourself if you can “praise” God for your life, both of the past and the one you have at present. Are you happy with what God has given you or allowed to happen in your life? If not, then today is the day to ask for the Holy Spirit. It is already the action of the Holy Spirit to show you that you are in need of Him. Pentecost is also about being in communion with one another. The first reading from the vigil of this feast, is the Tower of Babel, where the Lord comes down on the men building a tower to Heaven and confuses their language, by making them speak different languages so that they do not understand one another. Perhaps you feel that no one understands you! Everyone else is speaking a different language and therefore, there is no communion. Well, the Lord wants us to experience communion, first of all with Him, through the Holy Spirit, and also with everyone around us. This would make anyone joyful. Joy, by the way, is one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and it is necessary to ask for Joy, especially if you are not joyful. “Lord, make me a joyful person, as many times I am a sour person.” This can be your prayer.

May the Lord send upon us all His Spirit, to bring joy and peace particularly to this world that is suffering from all the wars that there are

Fr. Paul



## HOW CAN WE SERVE GOD IN OUR CHURCH?

We are in need of increasing the number of Eucharist ministers.

If you would like to be part of this service to the church, please contact Fr. Orlando.

## 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 May 19-26

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

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

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 Mary, Mother of the Church

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

### Tuesday St. Christopher Magallanes

05:00pm Confession near Holy Door  
05:30pm Daily Mass, SMG  
07:00pm First English, Parish Hall  
07:00pm Second English, SMG  
07:00pm Spanish, Red Room

### Wednesday St. Rita of Cascia

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

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

### Friday

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

### Saturday Pope St. Gregory VII

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



## School Notes

Holy Family Academy

Tel: (+1649) 941-7875



The HFA students team who won the science fair competition went to Los Angeles, California, to attend the International Science Fair with the teachers Miss Pinedo, Miss Amor and Miss Vazquez, the principal. They attended Mass before going for the international Science Fair. Students are aware of the importance of putting God before anything.

[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.

- Heavy duty printer
- ID card printer
- Projector
- Art Supplies
- Printing Paper
- 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!

