

Dear brothers and sisters, *buongiorno!*

In today's liturgy, the Gospel recounts Jesus' first sermon in his home town, Nazareth. The outcome is bitter: instead of receiving approval, Jesus finds incomprehension and even hostility (cf. Lk 4:21-30). His fellow villagers, rather than a word of truth, wanted miracles and prodigious signs. The Lord does not perform them and they reject him, because they say they already knew him as a child: he is Joseph's son (cf. v. 22), and so on. Jesus therefore utters a phrase that has become proverbial: "No prophet is acceptable in his own country" (v. 24).

These words reveal that Jesus' failure was not entirely unexpected. He knew his people, he knew the heart of his people, he knew the risk he was running, he took rejection into account. And, so, we might wonder: but if it was like this, if he foresaw a failure, why did he go to his hometown all the same? Why do good to people who are not willing to accept you? It is a question that we too often ask ourselves. But it is a question that helps us understand God better. Faced with our closures, he does not withdraw: *he does not put brakes on his love*. Faced with our closures, he goes forward. We see a reflection of this in parents who are aware of the ingratitude of their children, but do not cease to love them and do good to them for this. God is the same, but at a much higher level. And today he invites us too to believe in good, to leave no stone unturned in doing good.

However, in what happens in Nazareth we also find something else. The hostility towards Jesus on the part of his people provokes us: they were not welcoming – but what about us? To verify this, let us look at the models of acceptance that Jesus proposes today, to us and to his fellow countrymen. They are two foreigners: a widow from Sarepta of Sidon and Naaman, the Syrian. Both of them welcomed prophets: the first Elijah, the second Elisha. But it was not an easy reception, it went through trials. The widow welcomed Elijah, despite the famine and although the prophet was persecuted (cf. 1 Kings 17:7-16), he was persecuted for political and religious reasons. Naaman, on the other hand, despite being a person of the highest order, accepted the request of the prophet Elisha, who led him to humble himself, to bathe seven times in a river (cf. 2 Kings 5:1-14), as if he were an ignorant child. The widow and Naaman, in short, accepted through *readiness and humility*. The way of receiving God is always to be ready, to welcome and him and to be humble. Faith passes through here: readiness and humility. The widow and Naaman did not reject the ways of God and his prophets; they were docile, not rigid and closed.

Brothers and sisters, Jesus also goes the way of the prophets: he presents himself as we would not expect. He is not found by those who seek miracles – if we look for miracles, we will not find Jesus – by those who seek new sensations, intimate experiences, strange things; those who seek a faith made up of power and external signs. No, they will not find him. Instead, he is found only by those who accept his ways and his challenges, without complaint, without suspicion, without criticism and long faces. In other words, Jesus asks you to accept him in the daily reality that you live; in the Church of today, as it is; in those who are close to you every day; in the reality of those in need, in the problems of your family, in your parents, in your children, in grandparents, in welcoming God there. He is there, inviting us to purify ourselves in the river of availability and in many healthy baths of humility. It takes humility to encounter God, to let ourselves be encountered by him.

And us, are we welcoming or do we resemble his fellow countrymen, who believed they knew everything about him? "I studied theology, I took that course in catechesis... I know everything about Jesus!" Yes, like a fool! Don't be foolish, you don't know Jesus. Perhaps, after many years as believers, we think we know the Lord well, with our ideas and our judgments, very often. The risk is that we get accustomed, we get used to Jesus. And in this way, how do we grow accustomed? We close ourselves off, we close ourselves off to his newness, to the moment in which he knocks on our door and asks you something new, and wants to enter into you. We must stop being fixed in our positions. And when a person has an open mind, a simple heart, he or she has the capacity to be surprised, to wonder. The Lord always surprises us: this is the beauty of the encounter with Jesus. Instead, the Lord asks us for an open mind and a simple heart. May Our Lady, model of humility and willingness, show us the way to welcome Jesus.

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, P.O. Box 340
Providenciales, Turks & Caicos Islands
Phone: (649) 941-5136

www.catholic.tc - oldpchurch@catholic.tc



V SUNDAY OF 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, Blue Chapel.

Fridays: 04:00pm Adoration of Blessed
Sacrament and Rosary.
05:30pm Blue Chapel.

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: Corpus Christi, 2022.

Confirmation: TBA

In the Gospel St. Peter sees Jesus' miracle of the large catch of fish and is amazed and becomes repentant. He recognises that Jesus is coming from God and he sees his own unworthiness in the face of this event. Have you ever seen a miracle? Clearly there have been miracles in my life. I can think of how at my parents and my brother's deaths the Lord granted them the grace of reconciling with the church. These are three miracles. They had all been away from the church for many years. Back to St. Peter. He saw that on his own strength he could not catch a thing but then Jesus intervenes and everything changes. His work brought in an abundant catch. It's important for each of us to discover, like St. Peter, that we just cannot do it. Then the Lord can act. This can include seeing your incapability of defeating some of your sinful habits. Only until we see our inability to do anything can the Lord use us to bear much fruit. Just like our Lord said to St. Paul, "My strength is at full stretch in weakness. When you are weak I am strong." (2 Cor. 12) this then should open up the way for us to say "yes" to the Lord. "Your will be done and not mine, Lord."

Let us ask the Lord for the grace to see His actions in our lives and to believe through this that Jesus is really in command and so bring us to a sincere repentance. Then we can be open to His will, whatever it may be. Then Jesus will say to you, "get up, and do not look at your sinfulness but go out to announce the good news." Fr. Paul

HOLY HOUR TO END THE PANDEMIC



All are invited to come and adore the Lord in the blessed sacrament at the new time of 4:00 pm –5:15pm on every Friday in the daily mass chapel. There will be adoration, rosary, spiritual reading and confessions. This can also be a good preparation for the daily mass at 5:30pm. The change comes so that those who could not stay after 6pm due to other reasons can now come earlier.

CATECHESIS FOR ADULTS

COME AND LISTEN

"I am the resurrection. Anyone who believes in me will never die."

Jn. 11:26

**MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS
7-8PM**

Daily Mass (Blue) Chapel

All are invited 13 years and older

Free babysitting

Parish Events Feb. 6-13

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

04:00pm Coeur de Marie: Children's group.

05:30pm Sacre Coeur de Jesus, P. Hall.

05:00pm Fraternite, Red Room.

05:00pm Creole Youth Choir practice

05:00pm Choeur D'hommes 1st and 3rd Sunday at church.

Monday: 05:30pm D. Mass Chapel

07:00pm Catechesis Blue Chapel

Tuesday 05:30pm D. Mass, Chapel,

St. Jerome Emiliani 07:00pm 1st English. Church

St Josephine Bakhita 07:00pm 4th English. B. Sacrament

07:00pm 1st Spanish. Blue Chapel

07:00pm 2nd Spanish. Red Room

Wednesday: 05:30pm Daily Mass Chapel

07:00pm 1st Creole. Red Room.

07:00pm 2nd Creole B. Sacrament.

07:00pm 3rd English. Blue Chapel

07:00pm 2nd English, Church

Thursday: 05:30pm D. Mass Chapel.

Saint Scholastica 06:00pm Creole Choir Practice Parish Hall.

07:00pm Catechesis, Blue Chapel.

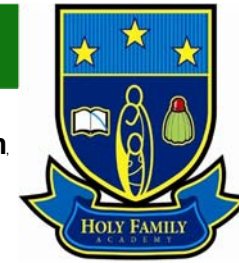
Friday: 04:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction. Confessions

St. Agatha 05:30pm Daily Mass, Blue Chapel.

Saturday: 05:30pm Mass, Church

Liturgy of the Eucharist NCW

07:00pm Church, Blue Chapel and Red Room.



School Notes

Holy Family Academy

Tel: (+1649) 941-7875

After a month of virtual classes, Holy Family Academy thanks God and the TCI Ministry of Education for the permission to commence face-to-face classes. As classes are slowly returning to normal, the students of HFA are working hard and preparing for the Science Fair which will take place February 15, 2022.

Spirituality--Mass

Our HFA students and teachers were ecstatic to celebrate their first in-person mass of the year. It was a great joy to see our students and staff receive the word of God together again.

GOD IS LOVE AND HE LOVES US!

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:

- Abacus
- Jumping Ropes, Pingo Pong table
- Hand Sanitizer, alcohol and paper hand towels
- Cleaning Tools (mops, brooms, gloves.)
- Tonner Canon ImageRunner ADVANCE C5255