

Pope Francis Regina Coeli 7 May, 2023

The Gospel of today's Liturgy (*Jn* 14:1-12) is taken from Jesus' last discourse before his death. The disciples' hearts are troubled, but the Lord speaks reassuring words to them, inviting them *not to be afraid*, do not be afraid. He is not abandoning them, but is going to prepare a place for them and to guide them towards that destination. The Lord today thus shows us all the wonderful place *to go*, and, at the same time, tells us *how to get there*, shows us the way. He tells us *where to go and how to get there*.

First of all, *where to go*. Jesus sees the disciples' distress, he sees their fear of being abandoned, just as it happens to us when we are forced to be separated from someone we care for. And so, he says: "I go to prepare a place for you ... that where I am you may be also" (vv. 2-3). Jesus uses the familiar image of home, the place of relationships and intimacy. In the Fathers' house – he says to his friends, and to each one of us – there is space for you, you are welcome, you will always be received with the warmth of an embrace, and I am in Heaven to prepare a place for you! He prepares for us that embrace with the Father, the place for all eternity.

Brothers and sisters, this Word is a source of consolation, and it is a source of hope for us. Jesus does not separate from us, but has opened the way for us, anticipating our final destination: the encounter with God the Father, in whose heart there is a place for each one of us. So, when we experience fatigue, bewilderment and even failure, let us remember where our life is headed. We must not lose sight of the destination, even if we run the risk of overlooking it, of forgetting the final questions, the important ones: where I am going? Where I am I walking towards? What is it worth living for? Without these questions, we compress our life into the present, we think we must enjoy it as much as possible and end up living day by day, without purpose, without a goal. Our homeland, instead, is in heaven (cf. *Phil* 3:20); let us not forget the greatness and the beauty of our destination!

Once we have discovered the target, we too, like the apostle Thomas in today's Gospel, wonder: *how can we get there*, what is the way? At times, especially when there are major problems to face and there is the sensation that evil is stronger, we ask ourselves: what should I do, what path should I follow? Let us listen to Jesus' answer: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life" (*Jn* 14:6). "I am the way". Jesus himself is *the way* to follow to live in *truth* and to have *life* in abundance. He is the way and therefore faith in him is not a "package of ideas" in which to believe, but rather a road to be travelled, a journey to undertake, a path with him. It is following Jesus, because he is the way that leads to unending happiness. Following Jesus and imitating him, especially with deeds of closeness and mercy towards others. This is the compass for reaching Heaven: loving Jesus, the way, becoming signs of his love on earth.

Brothers and sisters, let us live the present, let us take the present in hand, but let us not be overwhelmed; let us look up, let us look to Heaven, let us remember the goal, let us think that we are called to eternity, to the encounter with God. And, from Heaven to the heart, let us renew today the choice of Jesus, the choice to love him and to walk behind him. May the Virgin Mary, who following Jesus has already arrived at the goal, sustain our hope.

Our Lady of Divine Providence ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. Luis Orlando González
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SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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, B. Chapel.

Fridays: 04:00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary.

05:30 pm Blue Chapel.

SCHEDULE OF SACRAMENTS

Baptisms: Contact one of the priests in person.

1st Confessions: 09 June, 2023.

1st Communions: 11 June, 2023.

Confirmations: 22 October, 2023.

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.

Dear brothers and sisters.

Today's Gospel is about asking for the Holy Spirit. Of course, to do so means you see that you are in need of Him, otherwise why ask? This means that you see that you cannot love someone or that you do not deeply trust in the Lord, or you just fail to see how the Lord is working in your crisis or sufferings. Perhaps you doubt the Lord because your prayers are not being answered or it seems that God does not really care for you. "If He did care then why am I suffering like this?" you may be saying. Secondly, there is an experience of what some spiritual authors call "brokenness" It's a sense of feeling broken and of being abandoned. All of the above are necessary moments in which everyone, I hope can relate too, and most are passing through something like these in your lives at the current time. If so, then do not be discouraged as these things are needed in order to cry out to the Lord for His Holy Spirit, as you see you can do nothing in the face of such things. This is the Lord allowing them to happen to you precisely so that you can sincerely 'yearn' for the Holy spirit to come to you. This yearning is humbling because it comes from your very weakness and dependence only on the Lord and He will surely send His spirit to you if you genuinely desire Him.

Secondly, but also following on from above, Jesus says "I will not leave you orphans, I shall come to you." This is the Lord's promise to you. He will not leave you alone, He will always be with you and that presence is His very Spirit. Let us implore the Lord, to give us all His Holy Spirit.

God Bless,

Fr. Paul.



BLESSING OF THE HOUSES

During this Easter Season the priests of the parish will be blessing the houses in the island, if you are interested, please contact the church to schedule the visit.



GREAT MISSION Three Sundays of Easter

Five Cays and Kewtown, Starting April 30, at 5:30pm

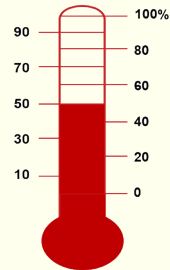


HOLY HOUR FRIDAYS 4:00 pm-5:00pm.



WORLD YOUTH DAY

PLEASE HELP US GET THERE
(53 young and adults \$ 3,500 each)



Goal:
U\$ 185,500

To Date:
U\$ 79,179

Any help God will reward you a hundred fold, not only spiritually but materially as well.

Checks can be made to **Our Lady of Divine Providence - WYD** Thank you!

Parish Events May 14-21

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

Monday St. Isidore the Farmer
D. and Mass Chapel
05:30 pm
07:30pm AA meetings Parish Hall.

Tuesday
05:30 pm D. Mass Chapel
07:00pm First English, Parish Hall
07:00pm First Spanish Blue Chapel
07:00pm Second Spanish, red room
07:00pm Second English, SM.Goretti

Wednesday
05:30 pm D. Mass Chapel
07:00pm First Creole, Parish Hall
07:00pm Second Creole. Bl. Sac. Chapel
07:00pm Third English S.M.Goretti
07:00pm Fourth English, Red Room
07:00pm Fifth English, Blue Chapel

Thursday St. John I Pope, Martyr
D. Mass Chapel
05:30 pm
06:30 English choir

Friday
04:00pm Adoration, Blue Chapel
05:30pm D. Mass Chapel
07:00pm AA Parish Hall meetings

Saturday St. Bernadine of Siena
05:30pm Mass Church
07:00pm NCW Eucharist



School Notes

Holy Family Academy
Tel: (+1649) 941-7875

As part of school's formation of our students, we believe in celebrating all their academic achievements. This past week, some of our students were celebrated for their A/B Honor Roll and Punctuality achievements!



Spirituality

This week, our students at HFA learned the meaning of putting their will in God's hands. A word they received was that in persecution lies the fountain of life because one that is with God shares His eternal glory. We are called to follow Christ and find strength in Him in times of defamation and persecution because this is what Jesus Christ endured for the purpose of saving all.

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:

- Walkie-Talkie Radios
- Electric pencil sharpeners
- Ping Pong table.
- Projectors
- Sports balls