

The Gospel of today's Liturgy, the Solemnity of the Patron Saints of Rome, reports the words that Peter addresses to Jesus: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Mt 16:16). It is a profession of faith, which Peter pronounces not on the basis of his human understanding, but because God the Father inspired it in him (cf. v. 17). For the fisherman Simon, called Peter, it was the beginning of a journey: it would indeed have to be a long time before the scope of those words entered deeply into his life, involving him entirely. There is an "apprenticeship" of faith, similar to ours, that also affected the apostles Peter and Paul. We too believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God, but it takes time, patience, and much humility for our way of thinking and acting to fully adhere to the Gospel.

The apostle Peter experienced this immediately. Just after having declared his own faith to Jesus, when Jesus announces that He will have to suffer and be condemned to death, Peter rejects this prospect, which he considers incompatible with the Messiah. He even feels compelled to rebuke the Master, who in turn says to him: "Get behind me, Satan! You are a scandal to me, because you do not think according to God, but according to men!" (v. 23).

Let us consider: does not the same thing happen to us? We repeat the Creed, we say it with faith, but when faced with the harsh trials of life, everything seems to falter. We are inclined to protest to the Lord, telling him that it is not right, that there must be other, more direct, less strenuous ways. We experience the laceration of the believer, who believes in Jesus, trusts in him; but at the same time feels that it is difficult to follow him and is tempted to seek paths other than those of the Master. St Peter experienced this inner drama, and he needed time and maturity. At first he was horrified at the thought of the cross; but at the end of his life he courageously bore witness to the Lord, even to the point of being crucified—according to tradition—upside down, in order to not be equal to the Master.

The Apostle Paul also had his own path, and he too passed through a slow maturation of faith, experiencing moments of uncertainty and doubt. The apparition of the Risen One on the road to Damascus, which changed him from a persecutor into a Christian, must be seen as the beginning of a journey during which the Apostle came to terms with the crises, failures, and constant torments of what he calls a "thorn in the flesh" (cf. 2 Cor 12:7). The journey of faith is never a walk in the park, for anyone, not for Peter nor for Paul, not for any Christian. The journey of faith is not a walk in the park, but is instead demanding, sometimes arduous. Even Paul, who became a Christian, had to learn how to be a Christian in a gradual manner, especially through times of trial.

In the light of this experience of the holy apostles Peter and Paul, each of us can ask ourselves. When I profess my faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, do I do so with the awareness that I must always be learning, or do I assume that I "already have it all figured out"? And again: In difficulties and trials do I become discouraged, do I complain, or do I learn to make them an opportunity to grow in trust in the Lord? For He, in fact— as Paul writes to Timothy— delivers us from all evil and brings us safely to heaven (cf. 2 Tim 4:18). May the Virgin Mary, Queen of the Apostles, teach us to imitate them by progressing day by day on the path of faith.

# 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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### XIV SUNDAY IN 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:** 11 June, 2023.

**Confirmation:** TBA

Today 's Gospel is all about the mission of Jesus Christ! Every baptized person is called to be a missionary. It is not just the preserve of priests, sisters or catechists. When I was younger I had the desire to evangelise but I never could because I did not know what to do nor how to go about it. Secondly, I was very much afraid of losing my face in front of people. Then I came to the Neocatechumenal Way. After a few years in it I was sent to a mission in Africa and then to a seminary in New Jersey and during my time in the seminary I was sent on mission to different places in the US. I learnt to announce the Good News, not only in words but by having the experience of living in the providence of God and seeing that He did, indeed, provide. I also experienced the joy that comes from announcing the Gospel. Whilst it is true that I received many rejections from bishops, priests and lay people alike, I saw many peoples lives changed by this announcement and this was truly amazing. People can change! We are not all stuck in our situations and our sins because Jesus Christ has really risen from the dead and you can experience this concretely in your life and this change comes merely from listening to the announcement of the Good News. When it is listened to, as opposed to being heard, it gives hope to the hopeless and a way out to the trapped, eventhough the actual circumstances of life may not change a bit but the heart of the person who listens does change. It is all the work of the Holy Spirit and He is like the wind which blows wherever He likes and He is usually unpredictable. Often the most unlikely people have life changing experiences.

Let us ask the Lord to send us His Holy Spirit so that we can all listen to the Good News as it is proclaimed and that our lives can truly be touched by the Lord's presence in our lives so that we can bear witness to the action of Jesus Christ in our lives..

Fr. Paul

## CATECHESIS FOR ADULTS IN CREOLE



**W'ap chèche konprann lavi w?  
W fatigué ak lavi a, w Santi w sèl?  
W eskandalize de soufrans?**

**"JEZI AP PASE"  
"Vini, Pou w tande yon bòn nouvèl"**

**Vini e koute yon anons kè kontan. Katechis  
Pou granmoun ak jen: Lendi, e Jedi nan sal  
pawaswal la a 07:00 pm.**

## HOLY HOUR

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.

## Parish Events July3-10

**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 Fraternitey, 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 Creole Catechesis

**Tuesday** 05:30pm D. Mass, Chapel,  
07.00pm 1st & 2nd Spanish. Blue Chapel.  
07:00pm ALL English, Maria Goretti

**Wednesday:** 05:30pm Mass Church  
St Maria Goretti  
07:00pm 1st Creole Blue Chapel.

**Thursday:** 05:30pm D. Mass Chapel.  
06:00pm Creole Choir Practice Parish Hall.  
07:00pm Creole Catechesis

**Friday:** 04:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction. Confessions  
05:30pm Daily Mass, Blue Chapel.

**Saturday:** 05:30pm Mass, Church  
07:00pm NCW Eucharist



## School Notes

Holy Family Academy

Tel: (+1649) 941, 7875

**Summer Break**  
June 22th - August 30th, 2022

**Back to School**  
Wednesday, August 31, 2022.

[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. Any help God will reward you a hundred fold. If you would like and are able to help contact us at [holyfamilytci@gmail.com](mailto: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
- Speaker System
- Jumping Ropes, Ping Pong table.
- Tonner Canon ImageRunner ADVANCE C5255