

Brothers and sisters, good morning!

Saint Paul, who loved Jesus and had clearly understood what salvation was, taught us that the “children of the promise” (Gal 4:28) — that is all of us, justified by Jesus Christ — are not bound by the Law, but are called to the demanding life-style of the freedom of the Gospel. The Law however exists. But it exists in another way: the same Law, the Ten Commandments, but in another way, because it could no longer be justified by itself once the Lord Jesus had come. And therefore, in today’s catechesis I would like to explain this. And we ask: what, according to the Letter to the Galatians, is the role of the Law? In the passage we heard, Paul says that the Law was like a pedagogue. It is a beautiful image, that of the pedagogue we spoke about during the last audience, an image that deserves to be understood in its correct meaning.

The Apostle seems to suggest to Christians that they divide the history of salvation into two parts, and also his personal story. There are two periods: before becoming believers in Christ Jesus and after receiving the faith. At the centre is the event of Jesus’ death and resurrection, which Paul preached in order to inspire faith in the Son of God, the source of salvation, and in Christ Jesus we are justified. Therefore, starting from faith in Christ there is a “before” and an “after” with regard to the Law itself, because the Law exists, the Commandments exist, but there is one attitude before the coming of Jesus, and another one afterwards. The previous history is determined by being “under the Law”. And those who followed the path of the Law were saved, they were justified; the subsequent one, after the coming of Jesus, is to be lived by following the Holy Spirit (cf. Gal 5:25). This is the first time that Paul uses this expression: to be “under the Law”. The underlying meaning implies the idea of a negative servitude, typical of slaves: to be “under”. The Apostle makes it explicit by saying that when one is “under the Law” it is as if one is “watched” and “locked up”, a kind of preventive custody. This period, Saint Paul says, has lasted a long time — from Moses, to the coming of Jesus — and is perpetuated as long as one lives in sin.

The relationship between the Law and sin will be explained in a more systematic way by the Apostle in his Letter to the Romans, written a few years after the one to the Galatians. In summary, the Law leads to the definition of the transgression and to making people aware of their own sin: “You have done this, and so the Law — the Ten Commandments — say this: you are in sin”. Indeed, as common experience teaches, the precept ends up stimulating the transgression. In the Letter to the Romans he writes: “While we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. But now we are discharged from the law, dead to that which held us captive” (Rom 7:5-6). Why? Because the justification of Jesus Christ has come. Paul succinctly expresses his vision of the Law: “The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law” (1 Cor 15:56). A dialogue: you are under the law, and you are there with the door open to sin.

In this context, the reference to the pedagogical role played by the law makes total sense. But the Law is the pedagogue that leads you where? To Jesus.

Our Lady of Divine Providence

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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XXIII SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



HOLY MASS

Saturday: 05:30pm English, Church.

Sunday: 09:00am English, Church.
10:30am Creole, Church.
12:30pm Spanish, Blue Chapel.

Weekdays: 05:30pm English, Blue Chapel.
(Except Wednesdays)

Fridays: 05:30pm Blue Chapel.
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: June 6, 2021 Sunday

Confirmation: January 2022, Date to be confirmed.

From the pastor's desk:

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Reflecting on how many mothers in this Island and even more overseas are passing difficult moments with their children, especially when they reach the age so called "teenagers". How difficult to accept the changes that life and nature brings about at that age. This is a time when parents need more patience than ever; therefore, we need a divine intervention.

St Monica and St Augustine's witnesses which we commemorate, this past week, 27 and 28 August, a mother and her son, can be of great comfort and help to so many families also in our time. Monica, who was born into a Christian family at Tagaste, today Souk-Aharàs in Algeria, lived her mission as a wife and mother in an exemplary way, helping her husband Patricius to discover the beauty of faith in Christ and the power of evangelical love, which can overcome evil with good. After his premature death, Monica courageously devoted herself to caring for her three children, including Augustine, who initially caused her suffering with his somewhat rebellious temperament.

As Augustine himself was to say, his mother gave birth to him twice; the second time required a lengthy spiritual travail of prayers and tears, but it was crowned at last with the joy of seeing him not only embrace the faith and receive Baptism, but also dedicate himself without reserve to the service of Christ. How many difficulties there are also today in family relations and how many mothers are in anguish at seeing their children setting out on wrong paths! Monica, a woman whose faith was wise and sound, invites them not to lose heart but to persevere in their mission as wives and mothers, keeping firm their trust in God and clinging with perseverance to prayer.

As for Augustine, his whole life was a passionate search for the truth. In the end, not without a long inner torment, he found in Christ the ultimate and full meaning of his own life and of the whole of human history. In adolescence, attracted by earthly beauty, he "flung himself" upon it as he himself confide (cf. Confessions, 10, 27-38) - with selfish and possessive behaviour that caused his pious mother great pain. But through a toilsome journey and thanks also to her prayers, Augustine became

always more open to the fullness of truth and love until his conversion, which happened in Milan under the guidance of the Bishop, St Ambrose.

He thus remained the model of the journey towards God, supreme Truth and supreme Good "Late have I loved you", he wrote in the famous book of the Confessions, "beauty, ever ancient and ever new, late have I loved you. You were within me and I was outside of you, and it was there that I sought you.... You were with me and I was not with you.... You called, you cried out, you pierced my deafness. You shone, you struck me down, and you healed my blindness" (ibid.)

May St Augustine's intersections obtain the gift of a profound encounter with Christ for all those young people who, thirsting for happiness, and St. Monica helps mothers to turn confidently to Mary, Seat of Wisdom to accompany their children's progress with their own example and prayers, because God is love and He loves us.

God Bless you all.

Fr. Orlando



Children's Catechism

The Classes for the sacraments of Confession, First Communion and Confirmation will start on the 18th of September, 2021 at the Catholic School. Every Saturday at 11:00 am

Registration forms (blue) are at the main entrance of the Church.

Parish Events Sep.5—Sep. 12

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, D. Mass Chapel.
07:00pm Creole Catechesis Parish Hall

Tuesday: 05:30pm Mass, D. Mass Chapel.

Wednesday: Penitential Celebration, NCW.
07:00pm All Communities in the church

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

Friday: 05:30pm Daily Mass, Blue Chapel.
06:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction.
06:00pm Confessions.

Saturday: 05:30pm Mass, Blue Chapel.
Liturgy of the Eucharist NCW
07:00pm English: Church.
Creole: Blue Chapel.



School Notes

Holy Family Academy

Tel: 649-941-7875

BACK TO SCHOOL

Wednesday, September 1st, 2021

Sept. 1 First Day of School
School Mass. SJB Hall 8:00am,
Pre-K to 5th Grade.
Term I begins.

Sept. 1-3 Orientation and Assessment of Students.

Visit our website for information about our History, Mission and Academics! You will also find updates and news about our school year, students and staff!

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:

- Tablets
- Hand Sanitizer / alcohol
- Paper hand towels
- Printing paper
- Toner Canon ImageRunner ADVANCE C5255

Thank you!