

Dear brothers and sisters, *buongiorno!*

Today's Gospel presents us a surprising parable: the master of a vineyard goes out from the first dawn until evening to call in some workers, but in the end, he pays everyone equally, even those who have only worked one hour (cf. *Mt 20:1-16*). It would seem an injustice, but the parable is not to be read through wage criteria; rather, it intends to show us the criteria of God, who does not calculate our merits, but loves us as children.

Let us look more closely at two divine actions that emerge from the story. First, *God goes out at all hours to call us*; second, *He repays everyone with the same "coin"*.

First, God is He who *goes out at all hours to call us*. The parable says that the master "went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard" (v. 1), but then continues to go out at various times of the day until sunset, to look for those whom no one had yet taken to work. We thus understand that in the parable the workers are not only men, but above all God, who goes out all day without tiring. This is how God is: He does not wait for our efforts to come to us, He does not make an examination to assess our merits before seeking us out, He does not give up if we are late in responding to Him; on the contrary, He Himself has taken the initiative and in Jesus has "come out"-to us, to show us His love. And He seeks us at all hours of the day, which, as Saint Gregory the Great states, represent the different stages and seasons of our life up to old age (cf. *Homilies on the Gospel*, 19). For His heart, it is never too late; He is always looking for us and waiting for us. Let us not forget this: the Lord always seeks us and awaits us, always!

Precisely because He is so big-hearted, *God* – this is the second action – *repays everyone with the same "coin"*, which is his love. Here is the ultimate meaning of the parable: the labourers of the final hour are paid like the first because, in reality, God's is a superior justice. It goes further. Human justice says to "give to each his own according to what he deserves", while God's justice does not measure love on the scales of our returns, our performance or our failures: God just loves us, He loves us because we are his children, and He does so with an unconditional love, a freely-given love.

Brothers and sisters, sometimes we risk having a "mercantile" relationship with God, focusing more on our prowess than on the generosity of his grace. Sometimes even as the Church, instead of going out at all hours of the day and extending our arms to all, we can feel like the first in our class, judging others far away, without thinking that God loves them too with the same love He has for us. And even in our relationships, which are the fabric of society, the justice we practise sometimes fails to break out of the cage of calculation, and we limit ourselves to giving according to what we receive, without daring to go the extra mile, without counting on the effectiveness of good done freely and love offered with a broad heart. Brothers, sisters, let us ask ourselves: do I, a Christian, know how to go out towards others? Am I generous towards everyone, do I know how to give that extra understanding and forgiveness, as Jesus has done and does every day with me?

May Our Lady help us to convert to God's measure: that of a love without measure

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, Providenciales.
P.O. Box 340, Turks & Caicos Islands.
Phone: (+1649) 941-5136

www.catholic.tc - oldpchurch@catholic.tc



XXVI SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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

In today's Gospel Jesus gives us another parable, which is about a man and his two sons. He asks them to do something but the first refuses but then he goes and does it and the second says 'Yes' but does not do it. I know I have done both and so these 2 sons represent an attitude. The real issue here is one of repentance and conversion, as you can see in the last half of today's Gospel. The first son says "No" at first but then thinks better of it. He admits to himself he was wrong and feels convicted by his bad attitude and changes his mind. So, first comes repentance. This means you suddenly see your sins and have a remorse for them. There are different causes for this but it does include things such as others telling you the truth, or you beginning, with the grace of the Lord, to see how you have hurt someone or again, to see that you have totally misjudged others' intentions. Hopefully, this causes you to have sorrow for your sins. Conversion is the next step. This means that you have a change of heart and this should push you to go and ask forgiveness of the person or persons involved and to do other things, such as praying for the people you have treated badly or thought badly of.

The second son is all words. He says "Yes" but doesn't follow it up with action. In a way he really disrespects his father as he treats his order as nothing. This can be your attitude too, which is one of not listening and remaining in your position or hardness of heart. You can be thinking, "I am never going to forgive that person", for example and you stay in your situation and remain unforgiven yourself.

Let us all ask the Lord to give us hearts full of remorse for our sins and the desire for a real change in both heart and in our actions.

Fr. Paul



HOLY HOUR
FRIDAYS
4:00 pm—5:00pm.

Sing Praise 

If you Join
the choir, to
sing, you will
pray twice
says St.
Augustine.
Come and



CHOIR

Children's Catechism

The Classes for the sacraments of Confession, First Communion and Confirmation will start on the 23rd of September, 2023 at the Catholic School. Every Saturday at 11:00 am

Registration forms (blue) are at the main entrance of the Church.. It's still possible to register, late.



Parish Events October 1-8

Sunday Holy Mass: 09:00 am.10:30am. and 12:30pm.
04:00 pm Coeur de Marie Children's group.
05:00 pm Fraternalite, Red Room.
05:00 pm Creole Youth Choir practice.
05:30 pm Sacre Coeur de Jesus, P. Hall.
05:00 pm Choeur D'hommes 1st and 3rd Sunday at church.

Monday Guardian Angels
05:30 pm D. and Mass Chapel
07:30pm AA meetings Parish Hall.

Tuesday
05:30 pm D. Mass Chapel
07:00pm First English Parish Hall
07:00pm Second English SMG
07:00pm First Spanish Blue Chapel
07:00pm Second Spanish Red Room

Wednesday St. Francis of Assisi
05:30 pm D. Mass Chapel
07:00pm First Creole Parish Hall
07:00pm Third English S.M. Goretti
07:00pm Fourth English, Red Room
07:00pm Fifth English Blue Chapel

Thursday St. Faustina Kowalska
05:30 pm D. Mass Chapel

Friday St. Bruno
04:00pm Adoration, Blue Chapel
05:30pm D. Mass Chapel

Saturday Our Lady of the Rosary
05:30pm Mass Church
07:00pm NCW Eucharist



School Notes

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



Students at HFA began to enjoy after school activities this week, with eleventh grade students beginning their community service work, and our teachers from the Physical Education department holding tryouts for school soccer. Our college freshman received a package from Saint Thomas University, which they proudly enjoy. The priests from OLDP visited the students this week and held confessions for the whole student body,

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:

- AED
- Asthma Inhalers
- Walkie-Talkie Radios
- Projectors