

# Our Lady of Divine Providence

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

Let us resume today our catechesis on prayer, which we have interrupted for the catechesis on the care of creation, and which we will now resume; and let us meet one of the most compelling characters in the whole of Sacred Scripture: the prophet Elijah. He goes beyond the confines of his time, and we can also see his presence in some episodes of the Gospel. He appeared at Jesus' side, together with Moses, at the moment of the Transfiguration (cf. Mt 17:3). Jesus Himself refers to him to give credit to the testimony of John the Baptist (cf. Mt 17:10-13).

In the Bible, Elijah appears suddenly, in a mysterious way, coming from a small village that is completely marginal (cf. 1 Kings 17:1); and in the end, he leaves the scene, under the eyes of the disciple Elisha, on a chariot of fire that takes him to heaven (cf. 2 Kings 2:11-12). He is therefore a man without a precise origin, and above all without an end, taken up into heaven: for this reason, his return was expected before the coming of the Messiah, as a precursor. In this way, the return of Elijah was awaited.

Scripture presents Elijah as a man of crystalline faith: his very name, which may mean "Yahweh is God", encloses the secret of his mission. He will be like this for the rest of his life: a man of integrity, incapable of petty compromises. His symbol is fire, the image of God's purifying power. He will be the first to be put to the test, and he will remain faithful. He is the example of all people of faith who know temptation and suffering but do not fail to live up to the ideal for which they were born. Prayer is the lifeblood that constantly nourishes his existence. For this reason, he is one of those most dear to the monastic tradition, so much so that some have elected him as the spiritual father of the life consecrated to God. Elijah is the man of God, who stands as a defender of the primacy of the Most High. And yet, he too is forced to come to terms with his own frailties. It is difficult to say which experiences were most useful to him: the defeat of the false prophets on Mount Carmel (cf. 1 Kings 18:20-40), or his bewilderment in which he finds that he is "no better than [his] ancestors" (see 1 Kings 19:4). In the soul of those who pray, the sense of their own weakness is more precious than moments of exaltation, when it seems that life is a series of victories and successes. This always happens in prayer: moments of prayer that we feel lift us up, even of enthusiasm, and moments of prayer of pain, aridity, trial. This is what prayer is: letting ourselves be carried by God, and also letting ourselves be struck by unpleasant situations and even temptations. This is a reality found in many other biblical vocations, even in the New Testament; think, for example, of St Peter and St Paul. Their lives were like this too: moments of exaltation and moments of low spirits, of suffering. Elijah is the man of contemplative life and, at the same time, of active life, preoccupied with the events of his time, capable of clashing with the king and queen after they had Nabot killed to take possession of his vineyard (cf. 1 Kings 21:1-24). How much we are in need of believers, of zealous Christians, who act before people who have managerial responsibility with the courage of Elijah, to say, "This must not be done! This is murder!". We need Elijah's spirit. He shows us that there should be no dichotomy in the life of those who pray: one stands before the Lord and goes towards the brothers to whom He sends us. Prayer is not about locking oneself up with the Lord to make one's soul appear beautiful: no, this is not prayer, this is false prayer. Prayer is a confrontation with God and letting oneself be sent to serve one's brothers and sisters. The proof of prayer is the real love of one's neighbor. And vice versa: believers act in the world after having first kept silent and prayed; otherwise, their action is impulsive, it is devoid of discernment, it is rushing without a destination. Believers behave in this way, they do so many injustices because they did not go to pray to the Lord first, to discern what they must do.

The pages of the Bible suggest that Elijah's faith also made progress: he too grew in prayer, he refined it little by little. The face of God came into focus for him as he walked. He reached his peak in that extraordinary experience, when God manifested Himself to Elijah on the mount (cf. 1 Kings 19:9-13). *He manifests himself not in the storm, not in the earthquake or the devouring fire, but in "a light murmuring sound" (v. 12). Or better, a translation that reflects that experience well: in a thread of resounding silence. This is how God manifests Himself to Elijah. It is with this humble sign that God communicates with Elijah, who at that moment is a fugitive prophet who has lost peace. God comes forward to meet a tired man, a man who thought he had failed on all fronts, and with that gentle breeze, with that thread of resounding silence, He brings calm and peace back into the heart.*

This is the story of Elijah, but it seems written for all of us. In some evenings we can feel useless and lonely. It is then that prayer will come and knock on the door of our hearts. We can all gather a corner of Elijah's cloak, just as his disciple Elisha collected half his cloak. And even if we have done something wrong, or if we feel threatened and frightened, when we return before God with prayer, serenity and peace will return as if by miracle. This is what the example of Elijah shows us.

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: (+1649) 941-5136

[www.catholic.tc](http://www.catholic.tc) - [oldpchurch@catholic.tc](mailto:oldpchurch@catholic.tc)



## XXVIII 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, Church.  
(Except Wednesdays)

**Fridays:** 05:30pm Church.  
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:** Sep. 27, 2020 Sunday

**Confirmation:** Date to be confirmed.

Every Sunday for the past three Sundays we are given a parable by Jesus in the Gospel. Today's is similar to last Sunday's. The king invites many people to the wedding banquet of his son and they are not interested, or they are too busy or even kill the king's servants as in last week's Gospel. It is strange that those invited do not want to come to a banquet. At the very least there will be free food and entertainment! But no, they do not want it. You and I can be like this. Many times the Lord invites us to do His will which will make us happy and we choose something else and it does not satisfy.

The banquet is a joyful occasion you can get caught up in other, so called important things, that we miss the banquet. This means that you do not value the banquet. The Church understands the wedding feast as the Eucharist. Every Sunday all are invited, the good as well as the bad. No one is excluded. The King and his Son, (God the Father and Jesus Christ) only want the best for those invited, yet they refuse. Jesus invites you each Sunday to his banquet, a banquet of the Word and his body and blood. Let us not put other things before it.

The banquet also includes God's immense mercy, a mercy that is everlasting even when you have rejected the banquet.

Finally, the banquet represents the joy, the bliss of heaven. The entrance into that banquet is the wedding garment which means to receive and believe in God's forgiveness.

Fr. Paul

**Remember:**

- Masks are required **ALL TIME** while being inside and in public covering the nose and mouth. (Attendees, choir and lectors as well.)
- Keep 2mts / 6ft of physical distance.
- Attendees must register at the entrance.
- Sanitize your hands.

If you feel sick or can't attend Mass, you can follow our online Sunday Mass at our **YouTube** channel below:

**Our Lady of Divine Providence  
Roman Catholic Church**

<https://qrgo.page.link/U6mGg>

**CCD CLASSES  
HAVE BEGUN!**



**Registration 2020-2021 is open.**

If you would like your child to receive the Sacrament of Penance, Communion or Confirmation, please contact Holy Family Academy to find out more about the registration process and scheduling.

As young Catholics this, Sacraments are crucial for their Christian formation, so we encourage you to register.

**Holy Family Academy at 941-78875.**

**Parish Events Oct 4—Oct 11**

**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 Fraternity, Red Room.  
05:00pm Creole Youth Choir Practice  
05:00pm Choeur D'hommes 1st and 3rd Sunday at church.

**Monday:** 05:30pm Mass, Church.

**Tuesday:** 05:30pm Mass, Church.

**Liturgy of the Word, NCW.**

06:30pm 2nd English: Blue Chapel.  
07:00pm Spanish: S.M. Goretti.  
07:00pm 2nd Spanish BS Chapel:

**Wednesday:** 6:30pm Creole: Parish Hall  
06:30pm 3rd English: Blue Chapel  
06:30pm 1st English: S. M. Goretti.

**Thursday:** 05:30pm D. Mass Church.  
06:00pm Creole Choir Practice Parish Hall.  
06:30pm English Choir Practice, D. Mass Chapel.

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

**Saturday:** 05:30pm Mass, Church.  
**Liturgy of the Eucharist NCW**  
04:30pm 2nd English: SM. Goretti.  
06:00pm 1st, 2nd Spanish SM. Goretti.  
6:10pm 1st, 3rd English, Creole.Church.



**School Notes**

**Holy Family Academy**  
Tel: 649-941-7875

Friday Mass is where our students receive the Word of God in the midst of the Celebration. It is one of the most important aspects of any Catholic education. It helps the development of Christian's values and the transmission of Faith. The school has been cultivating seeds of spiritual growth in our students, forming them into well rounded individuals that can contribute to society, serve others and above all, glorify the Lord.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**



**Oct 12 National Heritage Day - School Closed**

Contact us at 941-7875 from 9:00 am to 1:00 p.m. or send an email to [holyfamilytci@gmail.com](mailto:holyfamilytci@gmail.com).

[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:

- Scholarships
- Tablets
- Hand Sanitizer / alcohol
- Paper hand towels
- Printing paper
- Toner or ink refill for Canon ImageRunner ADVANCE C5255

Thank you!