

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

In the passage from the Letter to the Galatians we have just heard, Saint Paul exhorts Christians to walk according to the Holy Spirit (cf. 5:16, 25), that is a style: to walk according to the Holy Spirit. In effect, to believe in Jesus means to follow him, to go behind him along his way, just as the first disciples did. And at the same time, it means avoiding the opposite way, that of egoism, of seeking one's own interests, which the Apostle calls the "desire of the flesh" (v. 16). The Spirit is the guide for this journey along the way of Christ, a stupendous but difficult journey that begins in Baptism and lasts our entire lives. We can think of it as a long excursion on the mountain heights: it is breath-taking, the destination is attractive, but it requires a lot of effort and tenaciousness.

This image can be helpful to understand the merit of the Apostle's words "to walk according to the Spirit", "allow ourselves to be guided" by Him. They are expressions indicating an action, a movement, a dynamism that prevents us from halting at the first difficulties, but elicit confidence in the "strength that comes from on high" (Shepherd of Hermas, 43, 21). Trodding along this way, the Christian acquires a positive vision of life. This does not mean that the evil present in the world disappears, or that the negative impulses of our egoism and pride diminish. Rather, it means that belief in God is always stronger than our resistance and greater than our sins. And this is important: to believe that God is greater, always. Greater than our resistances, greater than our sins

As he exhorts the Galatians to follow this path, the Apostle places himself on their level. He abandons the verb in the imperative – "walk" (v. 16) – and uses the indicative "we": "let us walk according to the Spirit" (v. 25). That is to say: let us walk along the same line and let us allow the Holy Spirit to guide us. It is an exhortation, a way of exhorting. Saint Paul feels this exhortation is necessary for himself as well. Even though he knows that Christ lives in him (cf. 2:20), he is also convinced that he has not yet reached the goal, the top of the mountain (cf. Phil. 3:12). The Apostle does not place himself above his community. He does not say: "I am the leader; you are those others; I have come from high up on the mountain and you are on the way". He does not say this, but places himself in the midst of the journey everyone is on in order to provide a concrete example of how much it is necessary to obey God, corresponding better and better to the Spirit's guidance. And how beautiful it is when we find pastors who journey with their people, who do not get tired – "No, I am more important, I am a pastor. You...", "I am a priest", "I am a bishop", with their noses in the air. No: pastors who journey with the people. This is very beautiful. It does the soul good.

This "walking according to the Spirit" is not only an individual task: it also concerns the community as a whole. In fact, it is exciting, but demanding, to build up the community according to the way indicated by the Apostle. The "desires of the flesh", "the temptations", we can say, that all of us have – that is, our jealousies, prejudices, hypocrisies and resentments continue to make themselves felt – and having recourse to a rigid set of precepts can be an easy temptation. But doing this means straying from the path of freedom, and instead of climbing to the top, it means returning down below. In the first place, journeying along the way of the Spirit requires giving space to grace and charity. To make space for God's grace. Not being afraid. After having made his voice heard in a severe way, Paul invites the Galatians to bear each other's difficulties, and if someone should make a mistake, to use gentleness (cf. 5:22). Let us listen to his words: "Brethren, if someone is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Look to yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (6:1-2). Quite different than gossiping, like when we see something and we talk behind the persons back about it, right? To gossip about our neighbour. No, this is not according to the Spirit. What is according to the Spirit is being gentle with a brother or sister when correcting him or her and keeping watch over ourselves so as not to fall into those sins, that is, humility.

In effect, when we are tempted to judge others badly, as often happens, we must rather reflect on our own weakness. How easy it is to criticise others! But there are people who seem to have a degree in gossip. Each and every day they criticise others. Take a look at yourself! It is good to ask ourselves what drives us to correct a brother or a sister, and if we are not in some way co-responsible for their mistake. In addition to giving us the gift of gentleness, the Holy Spirit invites us to be in solidarity, to bear other's burdens. How many burdens there are in a person's life: illness, lack of work, loneliness, pain...! And how many other trials that require the proximity and love of our brothers and sisters! The words of Saint Augustine when he commented on this same passage can also help us: "Therefore, brothers and sisters, whenever someone is caught in some fault, [...] correct him in this way, gently, gently. And if you raise your voice, love within. If you encourage, if you present yourself as a father, if you reprove, if you are severe, love" (Discourse 163/B 3). Love always. The supreme rule regarding fraternal correction is love: to want the good of our brothers and sisters. It takes a lot of time to also tolerate others' problems, others' defects in the silence of prayer, so as to find the right way to help them to correct themselves. And this is not easy. The easiest path is to gossip. Talking behind someone else's back as if I am perfect. And this should not be done. Gentleness. Patience. Prayer. Proximity. Let us walk with joy and patience along this path, allowing ourselves to be guided by the Holy Spirit. Thank you

# Our Lady of Divine Providence

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. Luis Orlando González  
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### XXXII 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, 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:** Corpus Christi, 2022.  
**Confirmation:** January 16, 2022.

In today's Gospel two kinds of people are presented to us. The first is the Pharisee who does religious things for show and to get applauded, whilst he is corrupt in his dealings with the poor ones. This kind of person is near to us churchgoers. We pretend to be holy in Church but are very different when we are outside of the Church. You want people to think well of you and so you behave as if you were good and yet you have many hidden faults! In this way we are all like the Pharisees. The second type of person is the humble poor person, of which there are many, but you hardly ever recognise them! Perhaps you look down your nose at them because poor people can be dirty or not very polite. Yet in both cases, the Lord sees into the hearts of the people, both the poor one and the Pharisee. The point is that you do not have to do anything for the Lord to love you. He loved you from all eternity. There is no need to impress others, either in church or anywhere in your life. The Lord alone is the important one, not you or me. The Lord cannot do much with you unless your heart is with him. How often do you not see the truth or the reality that is there? In this we must ask the Lord to give us the gift of discernment to see what is really going on here and not to be taken in by people who appear to be good, but are not, or the opposite, people who do not look too good and yet have a generous heart.

Let us pray to the Lord to give us hearts that can discern the truth and that can really love those around us and also the grace to stop pretending to be what we are not and finally to make us never forget the enormous love that Jesus Christ has for us all.

Fr. Paul

### Our Lady of Divine Providence Celebration Month

**Nov 12—Nov 20** Novena to our Lady after daily Mass.

**Nov 20** Rosary at dawn. Starting at 5:45am at Holy Family Academy.

**Nov 21 Parish Feast**  
Procession with the Blessed Sacrament at 9:00am from the Catholic School to the Church, continuing with multilingual mass. Everyone is invited to attend wearing the typical costume of their home country.

Food to take out after Mass.

### The Parish Hall needs to be renovated and we need your help.

The Parish hall (old church) is finally being fully repaired and renovated. The roof was damaged since hurricane Irma and now is seriously affected by termites as well.

If you would like to help complete this project, the Lord will reward you a hundredfold for any contribution you make.

Donations can be made by check to **Our Lady of Divine Providence** or bank transfer through Scotiabank. Instructions in the link below:

<https://www.catholic.tc/donate.html>

## Parish Events Nov. 7-14

**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 Fraternite, 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

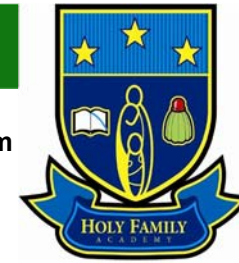
**Tuesday** 05:30pm Mass,  
07:00pm 1st English. Church  
07:00pm 2nd English. School  
07:00pm 4th English. B. Sacrament  
07:00pm 1st Spanish. Blue Chapel  
07:00pm 2nd Spanish. Red Room

**Wednesday:** St. Leo the Great  
07:00pm 1st Creole. Red Room.  
07:00pm 2nd Creole B. Sacrament.  
07:00pm 3rd English. Blue Chapel

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

**Friday:** 05:30pm Daily Mass, Blue Chapel.  
Novena after mass  
St. Josaphat 06:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction.  
06:00pm Confessions.

**Saturday:** 05:30pm Mass, Church  
St. Frances Cabrini Liturgy of the Eucharist NCW  
07:00pm English: Church.



## School Notes

Holy Family Academy  
Tel: 649-941-7875

Holy Family Academy had a successful All Saints Day, thanks to the contributions of the parents and students..Commemorating all the Saints, followed by each grade presenting a play about the life of a Saint.



### 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:

- Tablets
- Hand Sanitizer / alcohol
- Paper hand towels
- 3 tricycles
- Tonner Canon ImageRunner ADVANCE C5255