

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

We have reached the end of the catechesis on the *Letter to the Galatians*. We could have reflected on so much other content contained in this writing of Saint Paul! The Word of God is an inexhaustible font. And in this letter, the Apostle has spoken to us as an evangeliser, as a theologian and as a pastor. The holy bishop Ignatius of Antioch used a beautiful expression when he wrote: "There is then one Teacher, who spoke and it was done; while even those things which He did in silence are worthy of the Father. He who possesses the word of Jesus, is truly able to hear even His very silence" (*To the Ephesians*, 15, 1-2). We can say that the apostle Paul was capable of giving voice to this silence of God. His most original intuitions help us discover the shocking newness contained in the revelation of Jesus Christ. He was a true theologian who contemplated the mystery of Christ and transmitted it with his creative intelligence. And he was also capable of exercising his pastoral mission towards a lost and confused community. He did this with different methods: from time to time he used irony, firmness, gentleness... He revealed his own authority as an apostle, but at the same time he did not hide the weaknesses of his character. The strength of the Spirit had truly entered his heart: his meeting with the Risen Christ conquered and transformed his entire life, and he spent it entirely at the service of the Gospel. This is Paul. Paul never conceived of Christianity in peaceful terms, lacking bite and force — on the contrary. With such passion he defended the freedom Christ brought that it stills moves us today, especially if we think of the suffering and loneliness he must have endured. He was convinced that he had received a call to which he alone could respond; and he wanted to explain to the Galatians that they too were called to that freedom which liberated them from every form of slavery because it made them heirs of the ancient promise and, in Christ, children of God. And aware of the risks that this concept of freedom brought, he never minimised the consequences. He was aware of the risks that Christian freedom brought. But he did not minimise the consequences. With *parthesia*, that is, courageously, he repeated to the believers that freedom is in no way equal to debauchery, nor does it lead to forms of presumptuous self-sufficiency. Rather, Paul placed freedom in love's shadow and based its consistent exercise on the service of charity. This entire vision was set within the panorama of a life according to the Holy Spirit that brings to fulfillment the Law given by God to Israel and prevents falling back into the slavery of sin. But the temptation is always to go backward, right? One definition of Christians found in the Scripture says that *we Christians are not the type of people who go backward, who turn back*. This is a beautiful definition. And the temptation is to turn back to be more secure. And in this case, to turn back to the Law, disregarding the new life of the Spirit. This is what Paul teaches us: the fulfillment of the true Law is found in this life of the Spirit given to us by Jesus. And this life of the Spirit can only be lived in freedom. Christian freedom. This is one of the most beautiful things, most beautiful. At the end of this catechetical journey, it seems to me that a twofold attitude could rise within us. On the one hand, the Apostle's teaching generates *enthusiasm* in us; we feel drawn to follow immediately the way of freedom, to "walk according to the Spirit". Walking according to the Spirit always makes us free. On the other hand, we are aware of our limitations because we are daily in touch with how difficult it is to be docile to the Spirit, to surrender to his beneficial action. Then *tiredness* can set it *that dampens enthusiasm*. We feel discouraged, weak, sometimes marginalised with respect to a worldly life-style. Saint Augustine, referring to the Gospel episode of the storm on the lake, suggests how to react in this situation. This is what he says: "The faith of Christ in your heart is like Christ in the boat. You hear insults, you wear yourself out, you are upset, and Christ sleeps. Wake Christ up, rouse your faith! Even in tribulation you can do something. Rouse your faith. Christ awakes and speaks to you... Therefore, wake Christ up... Believe what has been said to you, and there will be tremendous calm in your heart" (*Sermon 63*). Saint Augustine says here that in difficult moments it is like we are in the boat at the moment of the storm. And what did the apostles do? They woke Christ up. Wake up Christ who sleeps and you are in the storm, but He is present. This is the only thing we can do in terrible moments: wake up Christ who is within us, but sleeps like [he did] in the boat. It is exactly like this. We must rouse Christ in our hearts and only then will we be able to contemplate things with his eyes for He sees beyond the storm. Through that serene gaze, we can see a panorama that is not even conceivable on our own. In this challenging but captivating journey, the Apostle reminds us that we cannot let ourselves tire when it comes to doing good. "*Let us not grow weary in well-doing*" (*Gal 6:9*). We must trust that the Spirit always comes to assist us in our weakness and grants us the support we need. Let us, therefore, learn to invoke the Holy Spirit more often! "So, Father, how is the Holy Spirit invoked? I know how to pray to the Father with the Our Father. I know how to pray to Mary with the Hail Mary. I know how to pray to Jesus with the Prayer to His Holy Wounds. But to the Spirit... What is the prayer to the Holy Spirit?" The prayer to the Holy Spirit is spontaneous: it needs to come from your heart. In difficult moments, you need to ask: "Holy Spirit, come". The key word is this: *come*. Come. But you need to say it yourself in your own words. Come, because I find myself in difficulty. Come, because I am in the dark. Come, because I don't know what to do. Come, because I am about to fall. Come. Come. This is the Holy Spirit's word — how to call upon the Spirit. Let us learn to invoke the Holy Spirit often. We can do this with simple words at various moments during the day. And we can carry with us, perhaps inside the Gospel in our pocket, the beautiful prayer the Church recites on Pentecost: "Come, come Holy Spirit, / And from your celestial home / Shed a ray of light divine! / Come, come, Father of the poor! / Come, Source of all our store! / Come, within our bosoms shine! / You, of comforters the best; / You the soul's most welcome Guest; / Sweet refreshment... Come..." And so it continues, it is a very beautiful prayer. But only if you have the prayer — or if you cannot find it, the gist of the prayer is "Come", as the Madonna and the Apostles prayed during the days when Christ ascended into Heaven. They were alone in the Upper Room begging: Come, that the Spirit would come. It would be good for us to pray it often. *Come, Holy Spirit*. And with the presence of the Spirit, we will protect our freedom. We are free, free Christians, not attached to the past in the bad sense of the word, not chained to practices. Christian freedom is what makes us grow. This prayer will help us walk in the Spirit, in freedom and in joy because when the Holy Spirit comes, joy, true joy comes. May the Lord bless you. Thank you.

Our Lady of Divine Providence

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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XXXIII 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.

The Gospel of today clearly indicates that the end of the year is coming. Jesus foretells not only the end of the world but also the fall of Jerusalem around 70 AD. The readings are important to us because Jesus is trying to tell you that life is very fragile, but precious, at the same time. No one knows when the end will come not even when your own end will come! Many people ask me if the end of the world is coming soon. Look at what Jesus says, "But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father." So it is useless to try to answer that question if even Jesus does not know! However, everyone should be ready precisely because 'you never know the day nor the hour'. What can you do to be ready? It's good to go to confession. Before every flight I confess my sins. Just to be sure. Secondly, to reconcile with anyone you have something against. If you do not know how to contact them, at least pray for them every day. Thirdly, recall your own sins and pray that He who can turn all things to the good, will turn all your sins to the good. Fourthly, ask the Lord each day that His will can be fulfilled in you. Finally, get your house in order and be ready. Again ask the Lord to give you the grace of not being afraid of death so that you can live your life without fear, in all circumstances. We want to get to heaven but the only problem is that none of us wants to go through death to get there! Finally, it can be very helpful to contemplate what heaven must be like. I cannot wait to see the Trinity in all its splendour and how it works. If a sunset is so beautiful imagine the Trinity which is totally full of love for each other and also for us in the same measure. Fr. Paul

Our Lady of Divine Providence Celebration Month

Nov 15. 7.00pm. Meeting for all the ones responsible of the different groups of the parish; Neocatechumenal communities, Creole choir, Pilipino community and others in charge of the activities for the parish feast.

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

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

Parish Feast — Nov 21, 2021.

09:00am. English Mass - Church.

09:30am. Procession with the Blessed Sacrament from the **Catholic School to the Church**, continuing with multilingual mass in the church.

10:30am. Multilingual Mass - Church.

Everyone is invited to attend wearing the typical costume of their home country.

*Food to take out after Mass.

The Parish Hall Renovation

The Parish hall (old church) is finally being fully repaired and renovated after being damaged by hurricane Irma and termite. 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.14-21

Sunday: Holy Mass: 09:00am, 10:30am and 12:30pm
04:00pm Coeur de Marie: Children's group.
05:30pm Sacre Coeur de Jesusl.
05:00pm Fraternite,
05:00pm Creole Youth Choir practice
05:00pm Choeur D'hommes

Monday: St. Albert the Great
05:30pm D. Mass Chapel
Novena after mass

Tuesday 05:30pm D. Mass, Chapel, Novena
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. Elizabeth of Hungary
07:00pm 1st Creole. Red Room.
07:00pm 2nd Creole B. Sacrament.
07:00pm 3rd English. Blue Chapel

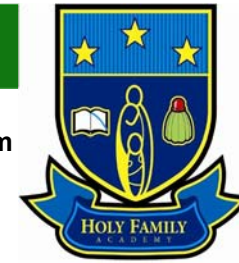
Thursday: 05:30pm D. Mass Chapel. Novena
06:00pm Creole Choir Practice Parish Hall.
06:30pm English Choir Practice, D. Mass Chapel.

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

Saturday: 05:30pm Mass, Church

Liturgy of the Eucharist NCW

07:00pm English: Church.



School Notes

Holy Family Academy

Tel: 649-941-7875

After an eventful week last week, Holy Family Academy is happy to resume daily mass for each grade. The children of HFA enjoy participating and answering Fr. Orlando's questions as well as receiving a word from God with their teachers.

Some of our students were invited to participate in the Turks and Caicos International Film Festival this past Thursday. Our children had the opportunity to receive a guided tour, explaining each theme presented at the festival and had an active discussion



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 holyfamilytc@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
- Toner Canon ImageRunner ADVANCE C5255