

Dear brothers and sisters, *buongiorno*, good Sunday!

This Sunday, the Gospel presents us one of the most beautiful and fascinating encounters Jesus has – the one with the Samaritan woman (cf. *Jn* 4:5-42). Jesus and his disciples take a break near a well in Samaria. A woman arrives and Jesus says to her, “Give me a drink” (v. 8). I would like to pause specifically on this expression: *Give me a drink*.

This scene depicts Jesus, thirsty and tired. A Samaritan woman finds him at the hottest hour, at midday, asking for refreshment like a beggar. It is an image of God’s abasement. God lowers himself in Jesus Christ for our redemption. He comes to us. In Jesus, God made himself one of us, he lowered himself. Thirsty like us, he suffers our same thirst. Thinking about this scene, each one of us can say: the Lord, the Teacher, “asks me for a drink. So, he is thirsty like me. He shares my thirst. You are truly near me, Lord! You are in touch with my poverty.” But I can’t believe it! “You have grasped me from below, from the lowest part of myself, where no one reaches me” (P. Mazzolari, *La Samaritana*, Bologna 2022, 55-56). And you have come to me from below and you have grasped me from below because you were thirsting and thirst for me. In fact, Jesus’ thirst is not only physical. It expresses the deepest thirsts of our lives, and above all, a *thirst for our love*. He is more than a beggar. He “is thirsty” for our love. And this will emerge at the culminating moment of his passion, on the cross, where, before dying, Jesus will say: “I thirst” (*Jn* 19:28). That thirst for love brought him to descend, to lower himself, to abase himself, to be one of us.

But the Lord who asks for a drink is the One who gives to drink. Meeting the Samaritan woman, he speaks to her about the Holy Spirit’s living water. And from the cross, blood and water flow from his pierced side (cf. *Jn* 19:34). Thirsty for love, Jesus quenches our thirst with love. And he does with us what he did with the Samaritan woman – he comes to meet us in our daily life, he shares our thirst, he promises us living water that makes eternal life well up within us.

*Give me a drink*. There is a second aspect. These words are not only a request from Jesus to the Samaritan woman, but a cry – silent at times – that meets us every day and asks us to slake someone else’s thirst, to take care of someone else’s thirst. How many say ‘*give me a drink*’ to us – in our family, at work, in other places we find ourselves. They thirst for closeness, for attention, for a listening ear. People say it who thirst for the Word of God and need to find an oasis in the Church where they can drink. *Give me a drink* is a cry heard in our society, where the frenetic pace, the rush to consume, and especially indifference, that culture of indifference, generate aridity and interior emptiness. And – let us not forget this – ‘*give me a drink*’ is the cry of many brothers and sisters who lack the water to live, while our common home continues to be polluted and defaced. Exhausted and parched, she too “is thirsty”.

Before these challenges, today’s Gospel offers living water to every one of us who can become a refreshing spring for others. And so, like the Samaritan woman who leaves her jug at the well and went to call the people of her village (cf. v. 28), we too will no longer only think of slaking our own thirst, our material thirst, our intellectual or cultural thirst, but with the joy of having met the Lord, we will quench others’ thirst, giving meaning to someone else’s life, not as masters, but as servants of that Word of God who has thirsted for us, who continually thirsts for us. We will understand their thirst and share the love he has given to us. A question to ask myself and all of you is coming to: Are we able to understand the thirst of others, the thirst people have, the thirst so many in my family, in my neighbourhood have? Today, we can ask ourselves: Do I thirst for God? Am I aware that I need his love like water to live? And then: I who am thirsty, am I concerned about the thirst of others, their spiritual thirst, their material thirst?

# 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 1105, Turks & Caicos Islands.  
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### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



#### 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.**

**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: 11 June, 2023.**

Today's Gospel of the blind man, is more than a story of one of Jesus' cures. It is also about spiritual blindness. What are you blind to? Not only to the problems of others but also to yourself. Most people do not know themselves and exactly what they are capable of. All the saints tell us that they are capable of doing any of the major sins, if it were not for the Lord. Also, on a day to day basis, I am sure, that you do not know how to deal with the different situations that arise, for example in your family or at work or the people you have to meet. Even deeper can be the blindness about what you are called to be in life. Finally all of us can be blind to the love of God for us, particularly when sufferings and difficulties overwhelm us. So how does this Gospel help. Jesus wants to put mud in your eyes, which means to begin to see yourself and just what you are capable of.

This means, that in this Lent it is very beneficial for you to discover the depth of your sins. Strangely enough this will help you to begin to see, even though it is a very painful process. Then when you see yourself, a little bit, then you can go to the waters to be washed, for most of us this means to go to confession. If it has been a while or even a long while, do not be afraid, you can experience the immense love of God in the sacrament. Any day any time you can come to one of the priests and ask for confession. Usually, one of us is around every day. Secondly, there will be a parish celebration of the sacrament this Wednesday at 7pm in the Church

May the Lord give us all the grace to see His great love and mercy.

Fr. Paul


**LENTEN SCHEDULE**

**MORNING PRAYER**  
Monday to Friday at 6:20am  
Blue Chapel

**STATION OF THE CROSS AND CONFESSIONS**  
Every Friday of Lent from 6:00pm to 7:00pm in the church

**HOLY HOUR FRIDAYS**  
4:00PM—5:00pm

**PENITENTIAL CELEBRATION**  
MARCH 22nd 7:00pm



**World**

**Youth Day**

**The youth of our parish is looking forward to meet the Pope and have an encounter with Christ, this coming summer.**

**We invite you to visit our stands. Your contributions will go to the fund that will help them travel all together.**

**We have snacks, bake goods, refreshments, island souvenirs and some more!**

**Parish Events Feb. Mar.19-26**

**Sunday Holy Mass: 09:00 am,10:30am, 12:30pm**

04:00 pm Coeur de Marie Children's group.  
05:00 pm Fraternitey, 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 Solemnity of St. Joseph**

05:30 pm D. and Mass Chapel  
Catechesis SMG  
AA Parish Hall.

**Tuesday**

05:30 pm D. Mass Chapel  
07:00pm First English, Parish Hall  
07:00pm First Spanish Blue Chapel  
07:00pm Second Spanish, red room

**Wednesday**

05:30 pm D. Mass Chapel  
07:00pm **PARISH CELEBRATION OF PENANCE. CHURCH**

**Thursday St. Turibius**

05:30 pm D. Mass Chapel  
07:00pm Catechesis SMG

**Friday**

04:00pm Adoration  
5:30pm Daily Mass, Blue Chapel .  
06:00pm Stations of the cross, Church  
07:30pm AA Parish Hall

**Saturday Solemnity of Annunciation**

05:30 pm Mass, Church  
07:00pm NCW Eucharist



**School Notes**

**Holy Family Academy**  
Tel: (+1649) 941, 7875



We give thanks to God for all the graces the Lord granted us in this year's National Science Fair. First place for Graphic Arts - Kriszia Gaspar from HFA's 8th Grade President's award/ 3rd Place in the National Science Fair Project- Aeron, Saul, Juan Pablo, Deyondre from HFA's 11th Grade also the 11th Grade Competitors that participated in the National Science debate that won 2nd place! Second Place in the Fortis Science Debate- Nahysha H. -11th Grade, Aeron A.- 11th Grade, and Mateo P.-10th Grade.

[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:

- Automatic hand dryers
- Microwave x 3
- Walkie-Talkie Radios
- Electric pencil sharpeners
- Sound / Speaker System
- Ping Pong table.
- Tonner Canon ImageRunner ADVANCE C5255