

The Gospel of this first Sunday of Lent presents to us Jesus in the desert, tempted by the devil (cf. *Mt* 4:1-11). “Devil” means “divider”. The devil always wants to create division, and it is what he sets out to do by tempting Jesus. Let us see, then, *from whom* he wants to divide him, and *how* he tempts him.

*From whom* does the devil want to divide Jesus? After receiving Baptism from John in the Jordan, Jesus was called by the Father “my beloved Son” (*Mt* 3:17), and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in the form of a dove (cf. v. 16). The Gospel thus presents us the three divine Persons joined in love. Then Jesus himself will say that he came into the world to make us, too, partake in the unity between him and the Father (cf. *Jn* 17:11). The devil, instead, does the opposite: he enters the scene to divide Jesus from the Father and to distract him from his mission of unity for us. He always divides.

Let us now see *how* he tries to do it. The devil wants to take advantage of the human condition of Jesus, who is weak as he has fasted for forty days and is hungry (cf. *Mt* 4:2). The evil one then tries to instil in him three powerful “poisons”, to paralyse his mission of unity. These poisons are *attachment*, *mistrust*, and *power*. First and foremost, the poison of attachment to material goods, to needs; with persuasive arguments the devil tries to convince Jesus: “You are hungry, why must you fast? Listen to your need and satisfy it, you have the right and the power: transform the stones into bread”. Then the second poison, *mistrust*: “Are you sure the Father wants what is good for you? Test him, blackmail him! Throw yourself down from the highest point of the temple and make him do what you want”. Finally, *power*: “You have no need for your Father! Why wait for his gifts? Follow the criteria of the world, take everything for yourself, and you will be powerful!”. The three temptations of Jesus. And we too live among these temptations, always. It is terrible, but that is just how it is, for us too: attachment to material things, mistrust and the thirst for power are three widespread and dangerous temptations, which the devil uses to divide us from the Father and to make us no longer feel like brothers and sisters among ourselves, to lead us to solitude and desperation. He wanted to do this to Jesus, he wants to do it to us: to lead us to desperation. But Jesus defeats the temptations. And how does he defeat them? By avoiding discussion with the devil and answering with the Word of God. This is important: you cannot argue with the devil, you cannot converse with the devil! Jesus confronts him with the Word of God. He quotes three phrases from the Scripture that speak of freedom from goods (cf. *Dt* 8:3), trust (cf. *Dt* 6:16), and service to God (cf. *Dt* 6:13), three phrases that are opposed to temptation. He never enters into dialogue with the devil, he does not negotiate with him, but he repels his insinuations with the beneficent Words of the Scripture. It is an invitation to us too; one cannot defeat him by negotiating with him, he is stronger than us. We defeat the devil by countering him in faith with the divine Word. In this way, Jesus teaches us to defend unity with God and among ourselves from the attacks of the divider. The divine Word that is Jesus’ answer to the temptation of the devil. And we ask ourselves: what place does the Word of God have in my life? Do I turn to it in my spiritual struggles? If I have a vice or a recurrent temptation, why do I not obtain help by seeking out a verse of the Word of God that responds to that vice? Then, when temptation comes, I recite it, I pray it, trusting in the grace of Christ. Let us try, it will help us in temptation, it will help us a great deal, so that, amid the voices that stir within us, the beneficent one of the Word of God will resound. May Mary, who welcomed the Word of God and with her humility defeated the pride of the divider, accompany us in the spiritual struggle of Lent.

# Our Lady of Divine Providence

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Pastor: Rev. Luis Orlando González**  
**P. Vicar: Rev. Rafael Velázquez**  
**P. Vicar: Rev. Paul Passant**

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## SECOND 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.**

In today's Gospel, Jesus takes Peter, James and John with Him up the Mountain and is transfigured there. Why this vision of who Jesus really is? Jesus knew that his dying on the cross would scandalize everyone, even His most trusted companions, That is why they are witnesses to seeing Jesus in His glory so that when the cross comes they will not be totally overcome. This can help you today, either because things are going well or you are submerged under the weight of your sufferings. If things are fine then this is for the future when things will not be so good. They are there to hold you over in the bad times when things look overwhelming or even hopeless. If, on the other hand the cross is almost destroying you, today, then take comfort as the Resurrection is coming. This is the time to remember the times when things went well and not to lose hope. Lent is a time to prepare for Easter and to experience the Resurrection that is coming.

Secondly, The voice of the Father says, "Listen to Him". This sounds easy but it definitely is not. There is so much noise around us and also within us that there is no time to listen to the voice of the Lord. That can be why the Lord allows the cross, so that you may be forced to listen to Him, by getting on your knees in prayer and just spending time with Him to refresh your soul so that you can face the difficulties that life throws at you.

This Gospel is also a promise and that is that one day we can be transfigured. And see the radiant face of our Lord.

May the Lord grant us all to see the Lord's blessings in our lives so that we can carry each their own cross.

Fr. Paul



Catechesis for adults and youth

**Have you found what you are looking for in life?**

**Are you suffering?**

**Do you find it difficult to be happy?**

**COME AND LISTEN**

**Mondays and Thursdays  
7 – 8 PM.**

**Everyone 13 & older  
Free babysitting**



**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. 5-12

**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**  
05:30 pm D. and Mass Chapel  
Catechesis SMG

07:00pm AA Parish Hall.  
07:30pm

**Tuesday St.s Perpetua & Felicity**

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 St. John of God**  
05:30 pm D. Mass Chapel  
07:00pm First Creole, Red Room  
07:00pm Second Creole. Bl. Sac. Chapel  
07:00pm Third English SMG  
07:00pm Fourth English, Blue Chapel  
07:00pm Second English, Church

**Thursday St. Frances of Rome**

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**

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



## School Notes

Holy Family Academy

Tel: (+1649) 941, 7875



HFA is proud of all the work our 11th graders have done in serving their community. They presented their first Mock Presentations for their projects where they introduced all their contributions to the community this year. The students of HFA continue this season of Lent by reciting the stations of the cross to remind them of the meaning of this time. They are recognizing that through this act of sacrifice, Jesus died for our salvation.

[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