

# Our Lady of Divine Providence

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Dear brothers and sisters, *buongiorno!*

On this Fourth Sunday of Easter, called Good Shepherd Sunday, the Gospel (*Jn 10:11-18*) presents Jesus as the true shepherd who defends, knows and loves his sheep.

The “mercenary” is the opposite of the Good Shepherd, the one who does not care about the sheep because they are not his. He does the job only for pay and is not concerned about defending them: when a wolf arrives, he flees and abandons them (cf vv. 12-13). Instead, Jesus, the true shepherd, *defends us always and saves us from so many difficult situations, dangerous situations through the light of his word and the strength of his presence that we always experience if we want to listen, every day.*

The second aspect is that Jesus, the good shepherd, *knows – the first aspect: defend; the second: he knows his sheep and the sheep know Him (v. 14). How beautiful and consoling it is to know that Jesus knows us one by one, that we are not unknown to Him, that our name is known to him! We are not a “mass”, a “multitude” for Him, no. We are unique individuals, each with his or her own story, he knows us with our own story, each with his or her own value, both because they have been created and have been redeemed by Christ. Each of us can say: Jesus, knows me! Each one of us: Jesus knows me! It is true, it is like this: He knows us like no other. Only He knows what is in our hearts, our intentions, our most hidden feelings. Jesus knows our strengths and our defects, and is always ready to care for us, to heal the wounds of our errors with the abundance of his mercy. In Him, the image the prophets had provided of the shepherd of the people of God is completely fulfilled: Jesus is concerned about his sheep, he gathers them, he binds their wounds, he heals their ailments. We can read this in Book of the Prophet Ezekiel (cf Ez 34:11-16).*

Therefore, Jesus the Good Shepherd defends, knows, and above all *loves his sheep. And this is why He gives His life for them (cf Jn 10:15). Love for his sheep, that is, for each one of us, would lead him to die on the cross. For this is the Father’s will – that no one should be lost. Christ’s love is not selective; it embraces everyone. He Himself reminds us of this in today’s Gospel when he says: “And I have other sheep, that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So there shall be one flock, one shepherd” (Jn 10:16). These words testify to his universal concern: He is everyone’s shepherd. Jesus wants everyone to be able to receive the Father’s love and encounter God.*

And the Church is called to carry on this mission of Christ. Beyond those who participate in our communities, there is the majority, many people, who do so only at particular moments or never. But this does not mean they are not God’s children: the Father entrusts everyone to Jesus the Good Shepherd, and he gave his life for everyone.

Brothers and sisters, Jesus *defends, knows and loves us, everyone. May Mary Most Holy help us to be the first to welcome and follow the Good Shepherd, to cooperate in the joy of his mission.*

Pastor: Rev. Luis Orlando González  
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### V SUNDAY OF EASTER



#### 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.  
05:00pm 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:** June 6, 2021.

**Confirmation:** Fall 2021.

In Today's Gospel Jesus says that He is the vine and the disciples are the branches. What does this mean for you? It means that without the Lord you cannot do a thing! The things you do without the Lord do not bear any fruit. Jesus, one could say, is the sap that runs through our spiritual veins. You receive this through the sacraments, particularly the Eucharist. Any good that you do is not because of you, it is the Lord's work. Unfortunately, everyone wants to claim it as his or her own work. "I achieved this" or, "I did this." Without the Lord nothing can be achieved that will bear fruit for eternal life. So, it is surely needed that you give the Lord His due when something comes out well. Sometimes the result of our work does not seem too successful or, in fact, it seems a downright failure, but with the passage of time often things that you counted as successes diminish whilst the good that came from your failures increases. It is also true that, as St. Paul says, "I do not even judge myself." He means that you cannot easily determine whether your actions have born fruit or not. It may seem that you have not achieved much in life and yet in the eyes of the Lord, you have and vice versa. You may be very proud of all your achievements and yet God is not. Only on the day of Judgment will you know for sure.

Jesus also says, "Remain in me as I in you." What does He mean? Well, first of all to pray is to remain in Him. If you dialogue with the Lord about everything you do you will remain in Him. "Is this the right thing to do Lord?" sometimes you may be clueless about the will of God but you may be forced into a decision. You can always say to the Lord, "I do not know if this is the best thing to do in this case but it seems it is, Lord so here goes." If you place each event or decision or problem in the Lord's hands and leave it up to Him you will see that it will work out.

Jesus appeared to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, who began the devotion to His Sacred Heart, and said, "When will you let me do it, Margaret Mary?" When will you allow the Lord to do it, in your life just as St. Margaret Mary did.

Finally let us pray that we all can remain in the Lord, which is most of all to remain in the knowledge of the certainty of His love. He cannot stop himself from loving you and me.

Fr. Paul

## BLESSING OF THE HOUSES

During this Easter Season the priests of the parish will be blessing the houses in the island, if you are interested, please contact the church to schedule the visit.

***"Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened and I will give you rest". (Mt. 11:28)***

God's mercy is greater than  
our weaknesses.  
He Loves you as you are.



**Come and listen!**

**Catechesis for adults**

**Starting: Monday, April 12th.**

**Monday and Thursday**

**7:00 - 8:00 PM**

**Our Lady of Divine Providence, Parish Hall.**

Everyone 13 & older is invited

## Parish Events May 2—May 9

**Sunday:** Holy Mass: 09:00am, 10:30am and 12:30pm  
05:00pm Coeur de Marie: Children's group.  
05:30pm Sacre Coeur de Jesus, P. Hall.  
05:00pm Fraternité, Red Room.  
05:00pm Creole Youth Choir Practice  
05:00pm Choeur D'hommes 1st and 3rd Sunday at church.

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

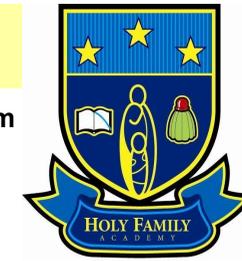
**Tuesday:** 05:30pm Mass, Church.  
**Liturgy of the Word, NCW.**  
1<sup>st</sup> English Community, S.M.Goretti  
2<sup>nd</sup> Spanish Community, B.S. Chap

**Wednesday:** Liturgy of the Word, NCW.  
1<sup>st</sup> Spanish Community, Red Room.  
1<sup>st</sup> Creole Community, Red Room.  
2<sup>nd</sup> English Community, Blue Chapel.  
3<sup>rd</sup> English Communities, Blue Chap.

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

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

**Saturday:** 05:30pm Mass Church.



## School Notes

**Holy Family Academy**

**Tel: +1(649) 941-7875**

During this **Easter** season the Lord has given us many opportunities to live the hope of the resurrection through the sickness and deaths of the family members of both students and staff. We see the importance of the intercession of Mary as we continue to pray for each other through our weekly rosary.

**11th grade** exposed this week to both the Fortis TCI National HS Debate, where our students advanced to the semi finals, and the Seton Hall University (NJ) Petersheim Exposition for the science project: Archipelago Bridge.

**For more information visit**

[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:

- Moving Outdoor planters and gardening material
- Heavy Duty Sun Shade Sail Canopy
- Tablets
- Hand Sanitizer / alcohol
- Paper hand towels
- Tonner Canon ImageRunner ADVANCE C5255

**Thank you!**