

'Prayer was the Rudder that Guides Jesus' Course'

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

Unfortunately we have had to return to holding this audience in the library, to defend ourselves against contagion by Covid. This also teaches us that we must be very attentive to the prescriptions of the authorities, both the political authorities and the health authorities, to defend ourselves against this pandemic. Let us offer to the Lord this distance between us, for the good of all, and let us think, let us think a lot about the sick, about those who are already marginalised when they enter the hospitals, let us think of the doctors, the nurses, the volunteers, the many people who work with the sick at this time: they risk their life but they do so out of love for their neighbour, as a vocation. Let us pray for them.

During His public life, Jesus constantly availed himself of the power of prayer. The Gospels show this to us when He retired to secluded places to pray. These are sober and discreet observations, that allow us only to imagine those prayerful dialogues. They clearly demonstrate, however, that even at times of greater dedication to the poor and the sick, Jesus never neglected His intimate dialogue with the Father. The more He was immersed in the needs of the people, the more He felt the need to repose in the Trinitarian Communion, to return to the Father and the Spirit.

There is, therefore, a secret in Jesus' life, hidden from human eyes, which is the fulcrum of everything else. Jesus' prayer is a mysterious reality, of which we have a slight intuition, but which allows us to interpret His entire mission from the right perspective. In those solitary hours – before dawn or at night – Jesus immersed Himself in intimacy with the Father, that is, in the Love that every soul thirsts for. This is what emerges from the very first days of His public ministry.

One Sabbath, for example, the town of Capernaum was transformed into a "field hospital": after sunset they brought all the sick to Jesus, and He healed them. Before dawn, however, Jesus disappeared: He withdrew to a solitary place and prayed. Simon and the others looked for Him and when they found Him they said: "Everyone is searching for you!" How does Jesus reply? "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also; for that is why I came out" (see *Mk* 1:35-38). Jesus always goes a bit further, further in prayer with the Father, and beyond, to other villages, other horizons, to go and preach to other peoples.

Prayer was the *rudder that guides Jesus' course*. It was not success, it was not consensus, it was not the seductive phrase "everyone is searching for you", that dictated the stages of His mission. The path Jesus charted was the least comfortable one, but it was the one by which He obeyed the Father's inspiration, which Jesus heard and welcomed in His solitary prayer.

The Catechism states that "When Jesus prays He is already teaching us how to pray" (no. 2607). Therefore, from Jesus' example we can derive some *characteristics of Christian prayer*.

First and foremost, it possesses primacy: it is *the first desire of the day*, something that is practised at dawn, before the world awakens. It restores a soul to that which otherwise would be without breath. A day lived without prayer risks being transformed into a bothersome or tedious experience: all that happens to us could turn into a badly endured and blind fate. Jesus instead teaches an obedience to reality and, therefore, to listening. Prayer is primarily listening and encountering God. The problems of everyday life, then, do not become obstacles, but appeals from God Himself to listen to and encounter those who are in front of us. The trials of life thus change into opportunities to grow in faith and charity. The daily journey, including hardships, acquires the perspective of a "vocation". Prayer has the power to transform into good what in life could otherwise be condemnation; prayer has the power to open the mind and broaden the heart to a great horizon.

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, Church.
(*Except Wednesdays*)

Fridays:
05:30pm Church.
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: Sep. 27, 2020 Sunday

Confirmation: Date to be confirmed.

It is true, that the Lord gives every person some gifts or talents. It is also true that many of you do not use these gifts. You can see this clearly in today's Gospel. The men who were given five and two talents traded with them and doubled their number. The man with only one talent buried it and got punished.

Every grace/gift is never just for that particular person; it is meant to be shared or put at the service of other people, but you hide it or resist to use it and why? Sometimes because of fear, or appearing to be someone important, or 'what will people think of me?' 'Am I not being overbearing and forcing my self on others?' It can also be that you belittle yourself and do not think you have anything to offer, which is in effect to deny the grace of God, through pride. In other words, 'the Lord cannot work through a poor person like me'. Well, Jesus in today's Gospel is talking about using the gift he has given us. This gift is Jesus, himself. He is the real and only talent. How can you 'trade' with this talent? By speaking about what difference Jesus has made in your life. This is not to impose on anyone, but an opportunity to bear witness to Jesus Christ and what He has done in your life, presuming you can see that He has done something in your life!

Gifts/graces/talents, when used according to the will of the Lord, always bear fruit, and ultimately, this fruit leads to eternal life and salvation.

Let us ask the Lord for the courage to announce what He has done in our lives, for His greater glory. May the Lord enlighten you as to the talents He has given you and give you the grace to know how to use them.

Fr. Paul



PARISH FEAST

OUR LADY OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE

Sunday, November 22 , 2020.

Friday, Nov. 13: Novena to Our Lady of Divine Providence will start on Friday immediately after 5:30 p.m. Mass.

Saturday, Nov. 21: 5:30 a.m. Procession and Rosary from the school to the parish.

Sunday, Nov. 22: There will be only two multilingual Masses: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Food will be distributed for all the families between 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. after the Mass.

Remember:

- Masks are required **ALL TIME** while being inside and in public covering the nose and mouth. (Attendees, choir and lectors as well.)
- Keep 2mts / 6ft of physical distance.
- Attendees must register at the entrance.
- Sanitize your hands.

If you feel sick or can't attend Mass, you can follow our online Sunday Mass at our **YouTube** channel below:

**Our Lady of Divine Providence
Roman Catholic Church**

Parish Events Nov 15— Nov 22

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 Fraternityé, 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.

06:30pm 2nd English: Blue Chapel.
 07:00pm Spanish: S.M. Goretti.
 07:00pm 2nd Spanish BS Chapel:

Wednesday: 6:30pm Creole: Parish Hall
 06:30pm 3rd English: Blue Chapel
 06:30pm 1st English: S. M. Goretti.

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

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

Saturday: 05:30pm Mass, Church.

Liturgy of the Eucharist NCW
 05:00pm 2nd English: SM. Goretti.
 05:00pm 3rd English: Blue Chapel.
 06:30pm Spanish: SM. Goretti.
 06:30pm Creole. Blue Chapel
 06:30pm 1st English. Red Room



School Notes

Holy Family Academy
 Tel: +1(649)941-7875

It was wonderful to receive 5th and 6th grade on campus this week as we continue the reopening of the school.

Though Holy Family Academy will not be participating in the parish feast this year, students will pray the rosary with their families to bring the celebration home.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 13-16 Mid-Term Break.
 School Closed
Nov 22 Parish Feast

Contact us at 941-7875 from 9:00 am to 1:00 p.m. or send an email to holyfamilytci@gmail.com.

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

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
- Printing paper
- Tonner Canon ImageRunner ADVANCE C5255

Thank you!