2020 Vol. 1

# ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSION 'SUI IURIS' NEWSLETTER

— Turks & Caicos Islands, B.W.I. —

"Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations..." (Mt. 28:19)

#### **Priests in the Mission**

Rev. Luis Orlando González Roman Catholic Mission 'Sui Iuris' Turks and Caicos Islands Chancellor

Pastor Our Lady of Divine Providence Church Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands

Rev. Rafael Velázquez Our Lady of Divine Providence Church. Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands Parochial Vicar

Rev. Paul Passant Our Lady of Divine Providence Church. Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands Parochial Vicar



### New Priest appointed to the Mission

In September 2020, we welcomed Rev. Paul Passant, a priest from the Archdiocese of Newark, N.J. Fr. Paul has been assigned by Cardinal Tobin to work with us in this mission in TCI. We are very glad to have Fr. Paul with us to serve better the Catholic population of these islands. Back in 1993, in Kearny, N.J. U.S.A., Fr. Paul together with Bishop Peter Baldacchino and Fr. Luis Orlando González were in the seminary.



# **New Evangelization Team**

A new group of missionaries and a family in mission with six children have been sent to the Turks and Caicos Islands as part of the evangelization team and school staff. The missionaries, together with some catechists of the Islands have been giving catechesis for adults during two months, three times a year in three different languages; English, Spanish and Creole.

In May, after overcoming the difficulties of the pandemic, we concluded the catecheses with 16 new brothers and siters, following all safety protocols issued by the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands.



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#### **CCD Classes**

CCD is our religious education program for the children of our parish not attending Holy Family Academy Catholic School. They meet Saturday mornings, while children attending school are prepared during their Religion class. Both groups receive the Sacraments together.

Our CCD Program is broken into three different courses; First Penance, First Communion and Confirmation.

Throughout the year, the children learn about the creation, good angels vs bad angels, Original Sin, the history of Jesus, the main prayers and the sacrament of the Eucharist. It is also the time, when they prepare themselves through prayer, to make a good confession.

In our Confirmation course, the children learn more about the Sacraments and History of Salvation, and reflect on the Catholic faith, the role of the Family of Nazareth, the Virgin Mary, the mission of the Church and the human family as "Domestic Church".

During this past year, due to COVID-19, we had to stop our CCD Program face-to-face; but conscious of the need to continue the Christian formation for these students, we continued our classes virtually.

Finally, after postponing the dates twice, children attending CCD, together with the students of Holy Family Academy received the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Sept. 18, 2020 and their First Communion on Sept. 27, 2020.

On October 2020, we started the virtual classes of this new academic year, hoping we will be able to meet together with the children soon.

## Back to School during pandemic time.

Our official 1st day of school was Sept. 7 in this new modality of online classes. We give thanks to God for his blessings in spite of all the challenges, many students lacking technology and devices. On Oct. 5, 10th-12th grade students came back to the school for classes according to the reopening plan of the Department of Education.

We were so happy to see the faces of students, even through the screen. Through listening to the children, we are reminded of the mission to be at the service of these children to bring them close to God.



A SCHOLARSHIP FUND is in place at Holy Family Academy Catholic School to help families in need provide an education to their children.

You can donate through

- Direct Wire Transfer: Instructions can be provided upon request.
- Checks: Make checks payable to Holy Family Academy.

For more information, please contact us at holyfamilytci@gmail.com.

**Thank You!** Our mission would not be possible without generous donations. A big thank you to all our benefactors this year. May the Lord reward you a hundred fold with blessings on you and your family.