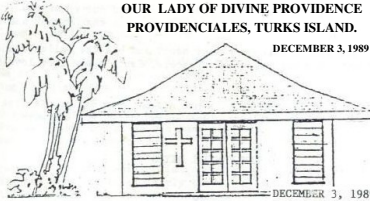




ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSION
P.O. Box 340, Leeward Highway
Providenciales
Turks and Caicos Islands
British West Indies.

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Priests in the Mission Rev. Msgr. Peter Baldacchino, <i>Chancellor</i> ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSION 'SUI IURIS' Turks and Caicos Islands; <i>Pastor of Our Lady of Divine Providence Church, Providenciales</i> Rev. George Klybus, Rev. Bruno Sammarco, <i>Parochial Vicars,</i> <i>Our Lady of Divine Providence Church, Providenciales</i> Rev. José Amante Abalon <i>Pastor of Church of the Holy Cross, Grand Turk</i> Rev. Giuseppe Fedele <i>Parochial Vicar, Grand Turk</i>	ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSION TCI NEWSLETTER <i>~ Turks & Caicos Islands, B.W.I. ~</i>		“Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations...” <i>(Mt. 28:19)</i>
Volume 13 Issue 2	SPECIAL EDITION		February 2012
BLESSING OF THE WORSHIP CENTER OUR LADY OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE PROVIDENCIALES, TURKS ISLAND. DECEMBER 3, 1989  PROVIDENCIALES: Our Lady of Divine Providence Worship Center was inaugurated in 1989 and the reality of the Mission started to blossom. The first time the sacrament of Confirmation was conferred was on 13th July 1998. But more impressive was the fact that in spite of the expansion of the original structure from a seating capacity of 75 to 180 in 2004, the amount of people doubled by 2009 such that half of the congregation was obliged to sit on wooden benches outdoors, exposed to the sun and occasional sudden downpours of rain. Since the arrival of the first priests from Newark in 1998 it became clear that it was essential to start a pastoral activity with the youth, not only because of the manner in which young people were completely abandoned, but also seeing in them the future of the Church. The priests sought to attract young people through recreational activities, mainly sports. Many of them had not yet received First Holy Communion, and there were even a few who had not yet been baptized. Subsequently, a CCD program was put in place at the Church and after several years of plowing and sowing we are harvesting the fruits, two of our young boys have entered the Seminary.  HOLY FAMILY ACADEMY: Among the many other activities that have enriched the Mission we would like to mention the opening of Holy Family Academy Catholic School for the care of the young, one of the principal objectives of the Mission. Holy Family Academy opened its doors on 26th August 2006 with a handful of students. Today it serves a student body of 75, starting from Kindergarten through 8th Grade. We see the need to go further by opening the High School level and not abandon our students at mid-crossing. GRAND TURK: Fr. Gerry Prindiville from Newark was the first Pastor of Holy Cross Church in 1999. He soon realized the need to reach out to the neighboring South Caicos Island, and when a second priest arrived in 2004 the Mission in South Caicos began to take root. In the beginning Mass was celebrated in the Anglican Church and consequently the need arose to build a Catholic presence. St. Lucy chapel was built and completed for use on Easter Sunday 2011.  In September 2008, hurricane Ike destroyed 90% of the island including the parish houses and the priests were compelled to live in trailers. It became necessary to build a new rectory that was completed in April 2011. PASTORAL VISIT OF ARCHBISHOP JOHN J. MYERS OF NEWARK, 3RD TO 6TH FEBRUARY 2012 On 4th February Archbishop Myers blessed the new St. Lucy Chapel, a historical event in the life of South Caicos Island. On 5th February His Grace presided the dedication liturgy of Our Lady of Divine Providence Church in Providenciales. At the ceremony, an unforgettable event for the islands, along with His Excellency, Governor Damian Roderic Todd, there gathered some 700 persons. Although the church is now in regular use, many things still need to be done. Understandably, the completion of the furnishings of the church cannot be scheduled in the same way as was the construction of the first phase, since all depends upon available funding which we will be able to raise. The flooring, pews, bells, paintings, statues, etc... await funding in order to attain completion (<i>Cfr.</i> http://www.catholic.tc/donate.html). We are thankful to almighty God for having called us to be active participants in this noble adventure that He has set afloat in these Caribbean waters. <i>fr. Peter</i> ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSION, P.O. Box 340, Leeward Highway, Providenciales, TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS, British West Indies; Phone / Fax: (649) 941-5136; E-mail: RCMission@catholic.tc; Web Site: www.CATHOLIC.tc			



PROVIDENCIALES



SOUTH CAICOS ISLAND

