

CATHOLIC MISSION TCI NEWSLETTER

~ Turks & Caicos Islands, B.W.I. ~

**"Go, therefore,
make disciples of
all nations..."**

(Mt. 28:19)

Volume 10, Issue 1

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2009

Winter 2008

Priests in the Mission

Fr. Peter Baldacchino, *Pastor of Our Lady of Divine Providence Church, Providenciales*

Chancellor
ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSION,
Turks and Caicos Islands

Fr. George Klybus,
Fr. Bruno Sammarco,
*Parochial Vicars,
Our Lady of Divine Providence Church,
Providenciales*

Fr. José Amante Abalon
*Pastor of Church of the Holy Cross,
Grand Turk*

Fr. Basil Lek
Parrochial Vicar, Grand Turk

**Thank you
for your continued
prayers and support!**

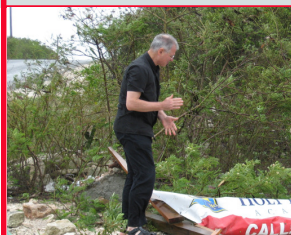


World Youth Day 2008 in Sydney, Australia.



Bottom Right: His Eminence Paul Josef Cardinal Cordes, President of the Pontifical Council *Cor Unum* welcomes TCI pilgrims at his offices in Rome on their way to Sydney.
His message can be summarized thus: **"GOD IS FAITHFUL."**

Category 4 Hurricane Ike Devastates Grand Turk



Fr. Bruno Sammarco starts picking up the pieces



Part of Airport in Grand Turk inaugurated in 2005



Fr. Basil shows what remains of rectory kitchen

Fr. Bruno Sammarco, recently ordained priest from the Archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey, U.S.A., arrived at the Mission in June and very soon had his first-hand experience of our hurricane prone region.

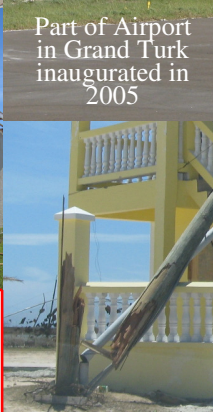
Forty-eight years ago to the day since a hurricane of this magnitude had struck Turks and Caicos Islands, hurricane Ike made landfall on Grand Turk on Sunday, September 7, at 135mph winds.

It left behind complete devastation, especially on Grand Turk where eighty-five per cent of the homes lost their roofs.



No deaths. No casualties. Truly a miracle!

However, Ike caused lots of damage and it will take much hard work and generous outreach to rebuild. It has been estimated that it will take 6 months to repair damages made to the power plant. Grand Turk continues without electricity.



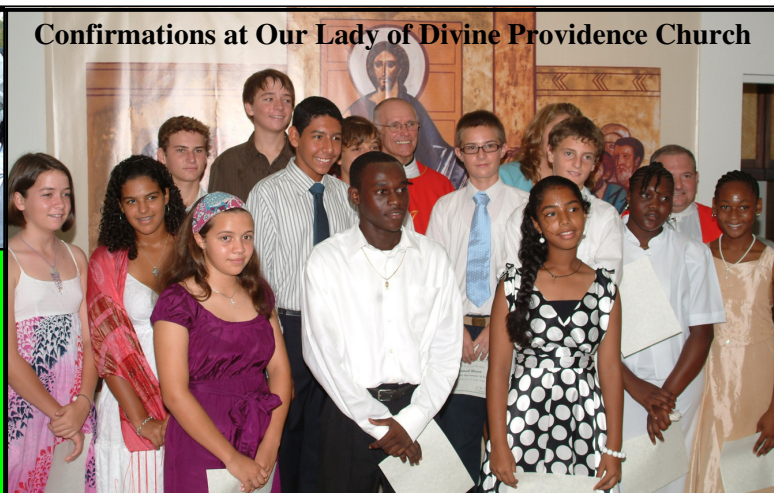
Electricity and Telephone lines are down



Strong winds peel off zinc corrugated sheets from homes

We are grateful to all who tried to phone and check on our well being immediately after Ike had hit. We are thankful to benefactors for contributions already made and, **considering the magnitude of damages incurred, we continue to make an appeal to all people of good will to consider helping us respond to many who are still in need.**

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First Communions**Highlights
from
2008****Confirmations at Our Lady of Divine Providence Church****Holy Family Academy****New building with four classrooms built in 2008**

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