

A Poem for the Right Honourable Perry G. Christie, M.P.,  
3rd Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas,  
Entitled, "A Familiar Walk",  
Written By Mr. Mario A. Newry Jr.,  
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I took A Familiar Walk today... a walk in the footsteps of the Third Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas; A journey that began after having assumed the mantle of leadership of the Progressive Liberal Party from the Late Sir Lynden Pindling a decade ago...A walk that I am privileged to take.

I took A Familiar Walk today... and I recall to mind May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2002, when The Right Hon. Perry Christie was sworn in as the third Prime Minister of our great Country; following His Progressive Liberal Party's triumph over the Free National Movement in a general election held on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2002.

I took A Familiar Walk today... and reflect on the 30 years in front line politics of the Right Hon. Perry Christie. On this journey, I truly believe that after Our Heavenly Father made Perry Gladstone Christie, He destroyed the mould, thereby ensuring that there would never be another mortal possessing the rectitude's as did the third Prime Minister of the Bahamas.

I took A Familiar Walk today...A reminiscent walk. During my documentary with the Right Honourable Perry Christie, I quoted the words of Abraham Lincoln, the 16<sup>th</sup> President of the United States of America; during his first inaugural address, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1861, he stated... "The legitimate object of government is to do for a community of people whatever they need to have done, but cannot do at all in their separate and individual capacities." This was linked with The Right Honourable Christie's vision which was..."His government will not only build new hospitals, schools, bridges, and roads, but a Progressive Liberal Party that will build up patriotism, optimism and hope." These values, he said, "must be brought to full flowering; otherwise, we labour in vain".

I took A Familiar Walk today... in tracing the line of memory, on Grateful Boulevard, I thank the beloved Lady Bernadette Christie, Steffan, Alex and Adam Christie for allowing our Country the privilege to be governed by a man for all seasons.