



MONTH OF APRIL 2022

Dear People of God of the Gizo Diocese, First of all allow me to greet you individually your families and communities a very PEACEFUL EASTER SEASON. Is it possible to have a peaceful Easter in time of pandemic, wars and sufferings? If by peace we mean having no problems, no enemies and no hardships to endure... then this kind of peace it not possible. Actually this is not true peace at all. We believe in an EASTER PEACE HIS peace, the one of the Risen Lord:

This kind of peace is not of this world:

- the fruit of the struggle of the paschal mystery: dying to self to build up the others
- born of the victory over all wars and pandemics in the good Friday pains of our lives
- the peace which is a gift for conversion in the struggle against our sinfulness
- a peace which is both the fruit of forgiveness and a challenge to a Mission
- a peace which is not defeating the enemy but converting him into a friend
- this peace has a name: Jesus himself,
- His priority the Kingdom of peace, His style of life: his mission of service

St Francis of Assisi understood the peace of Jesus and applied it to solve the problem of the violent, bad wolf killing the sheep... The wolf was not bad...he was hungry. The solution was not stoning the wolf but in feeding him, peace was not in destroying the wolf but in liberating the wolf from his hunger and that is what made him a friend. After that St Francis could sing "Make me a channel of your peace..."

This is what Pope Francis keep saying about the horror of war. There is no good war, especially if God is brought in to justify it. All wars are horrible, bad, evil. They do not solve problems, they just make victims of both sides. There is no winner in a war... only losers and among them especially the innocent people. The women and the children. Bombs are costly, money and wealth meant for the people is being used to devastate cities and destroy properties, kill innocent people. We are witnessing the unbelievable horror and destruction of the war in Ukraine. We are one in condemning it with all our strength. This must create in us a conviction and a commitment to avoid what brings to violence and war and to use all the peaceful means of the Easter way to solve our family, tribal community issues. No to violence, yes to the struggle of building the peace of the Kingdom. Is building HIS kingdom of peace the real priority of our lives? "seek ye first the kingdom of God..." Is that the priority of our communities in conflict resolution? We joined our Holy Father in entrusting and consecrating all Humanity (Russia and Ukraine too) to the Immaculate heart of Mary. "Mary tell your son that we, his people, run out of the wine of peace... hope... love" "woman behold your son" Mary be a mother

M. GANDHI; THOUGHTS FROM A LETTER TO ADOLPH HITLER, DEC 24, 1940

- "My business in life has been for the past 33 years to enlist the friendship of the whole of humanity by befriending mankind, irrespective of race, color or creed
- We seek to convert the British, not to defeat them on the battle-field
- Ours is an unarmed revolt... there is no such thing as defeat
- Our rulers may have our land and bodies but not our souls
- Some power will improve upon your method and beat you with your own weapon
- I, therefore, appeal to you in the name of humanity to

Please turn over

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stop the war

- If you attain success in the war, it will not prove that you were in the right
- It will only prove that your power of destruction was greater”
- You are leaving no legacy to your people of which they would feel proud
- They cannot take pride in a recital of cruel deed, however skillfully planned “ (M Gandhi)

“What you are at birth is God’s gift to you... what you are now is your gift to God...”

Let us not give God rubbish...let’s go back to him with all our heart, He will put us back on our feet...and with Him will build a better world of truth, peace, justice, love

With you a friend for you a Bishop who loves you with a Solo Heart made in Italy

# Coming..UP

10 April 2022

Happy Palm Sunday

EASTER SUNDAY 17 APRIL 2022

## Altar Servant Program.

Visit the sick and needy.

To bring to them the love and the presence of the Lord.

And the firewood work of their hands.

As their own gift for them.

Indeed a wonderful day.

Thank you to each of you dear altar servants, for your self giving, your enthusiasm and your love.

### May God bless you all.



**— THE POPE AND THE YOUNG PEOPLE**

**Pope to WYD 2023 volunteers:  
"Take courage and strive ahead!"**

**Vatica NEWS**

Pope Francis has sent a video message in Spanish to young people involved in preparations for World Youth Day 2023, which will take place from 1-6 August in Lisbon, Portugal.



He called on them to be creative like poets to dream up a new experience that will be remembered and not just a repeat of previous WYD gatherings. Everyone can contribute here, the Pope said, saying, "Take courage and strive ahead!"

The Pope said he looks forward to meeting young people for the celebrations just as they do in gathering together from around the globe for the international celebrations.

**Instill hope and be creative**

The Pope acknowledged the difficult context that we are living today, coming out of the pandemic crisis and now faced with a new war crisis.

Despite these great challenges, he encouraged the volunteers to use all

their creative energy to ensure that WYD 2023 will be a youthful, joyful, lively, and memorable experience for all, offering the joyful hope that faith in God brings.

**"....ensure that WYD 2023 will be a youthful, joyful, lively, and memorable experience for all, offering the joyful hope that faith in God brings"**

**Crises overcome together**

The Pope called on them to see how we can address and overcome the crises the world faces today with the witness of hope that comes from faith.

The crises offer us an opportunity to work for the better and to come out of them better, he underscored, reminding them to unleash their creative zeal in looking ahead to WYD 2023.

The Pope assured them of his prayers and requested their prayers for him and his ministry, asking the Lord to bless them and the Virgin Mary to protect them.

### No signs of lockdown yet Restriction Uplifted.



No further lockdown was heard from the Oversight Committee here in our provincial capital Taro, but there are covid-19 restrictions concerning marketing and the movement of the people.

The priest said that there are no quarantine stations to keep the people who are tested positive here in Taro Island.

“.... Positive and negative cases in Taro are intermingled, most people are afraid but seen the movement of people in this island is like nothing to most people, and no care attitude is very high...”

“Confirmed positive cases only in Taro Island - more or less 109, most of them are recovered and no death” The people in Taro are usually about 600

He said that most villagers realized that processing foods are not enough during this time of the outbreak, while others are awaiting the next shipment. But Fr. Qelo said that nearby communities

like Subesube, Rabakela, and Sipokana are having their lockdown while continuing working in their garden to sustain them.

Fr. Benedict Qelo who keeps the church alive in St. Don Bosco parish Taro said that due to Covid-19 restriction, and in the previous weeks, churches were closed, “But for us Catholics, we continue celebrating the mass every day including Sunday”

He said that their pastoral activities for the year have to be delayed and church attendances decreased, and most fled for safety in the bush and sustained their living in gardens.

“But now ..... we continue having our morning and evening prayer, especially on Sunday there are a good number of people came for the mass and for the confession in this time of Lent”.

## MOLI / SIROVANGA PARISH – NEWS IN BITS

### Pray for Peace in Ukraine.

Now that we are in Lenten session, despite the current pandemic, and the war happening in Ukraine, today Mass celebrations was to fast and pray for peace in Europe.

Our Parish priest Fr Jacob continues his pastoral visitation to villages celebrating Holy Eucharistic Mass commemorating Ash Wednesday for 10 villages here in the parish.

A special visitation to enlighten parishioners to be attached close to God during this pandemic, which affecting us and to pray for PEACE for the people of Ukraine and Russia, which was requested by our holy father Pope Francis.



### PP for St. Dominic Parish continue his Dedication.

Despite Coronavirus here at Sirovanga getting things fresh from gardens and being lucky to have fresh fish for meals is a good sign to stay fit

during Covid-19.

Fr. Simon Suvenava OP still continues his dedication as Parish Priest for St. Dominic parish Sirovanga giving out first Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Baptism.

He thanked and pray for those parents who brought their children into the church of God.

Many Relatives, family members, and friends turn to congratulate them.





**Mary Rino (St. Peter Youth member)**

I was in school (Goldie) when the first case of coronavirus was, and we were told to follow certain protocols or guidelines. As time goes by these guidelines were not tolerated. And we have no idea of what exactly is the virus, but since the community outbreak, early this year awarenesses have been carryout at the Gizo market.

We are confused, afraid even panicked which leads us unprepared expecting our provincial Government to give us support during the lockdown.

time others are still on home therapies.

More of the safety measures issued by the Oversight Committee were not tolerated. So when it comes to home isolation it's not working, it's like welcoming the virus at home.

**Charles M. (Nusa Baruku Committee)**

We have our committee and a good network with our members, provincial disaster, and the Gizo hospital. We have securities who are working along with the Covid-19 committee.



But, suddenly everything collapses due to no allowances for security, no food, and daddies were out diving or fishing.

Suddenly the Covid-19 committee vanishes.

This allows the community to come back to their normal activities like video night, valley ball, karaoke night, etc.

Now the virus is here in our community, and it seems that people turn to adopt the virus.



**Ellen H (waterpump area)**

We were afraid and confused.

Since more have experienced the illness like the common flue while others who were positive with an asymptomatic cases

as more turn to have no care behavior. In the mean



**Sr. Alice Salas (Health Worker Nusabosco Clinic)**

The community is decided to re-open the valley ball, betelnut sales, karaoke (singing and dancing), and the video (Show).

So here in Nusa baruku the community is welcoming the Coronavirus.

It is very very sad..... they are coming with their

kids with a symptom-like illness to this clinic.

..... They don't like listening and we cannot control them and they like playing.

But we have strict measures in our Catholic compound. We told them to wear a mask when attending clinics and church services.

..... We are fortunate to have Red Cross and Gizo hospital were continue giving enough support during the outbreak.

## Shortage of Food Supply still Alarming.



Since the shortage of food supply to the Shortland Island MV Galilee (Diocesan Ship) has loaded food supply to Nila mission station last following weeks to keep the islanders from starving .

A few weeks ago, Southern Police commander and Migration officers intercepted more than fifty fishermen who crossed the redline border into the Bougainville Territory while the Border is still closed as predicted.

This was after the chief of the Bougainville Police Service, Deputy Commissioner Francis Tokura, has issued directions to the Southern Command, to stop people from the Shortland Islands crossing over into Bougainville.

The spokesperson for the group told police and Migrations that for 3 years they have suffered from no garden foods. They said they were living on dry coconuts that's why they needed to come to the Buin market to sell and buy food and return home.

(Food shortage has been, also experienced by St. Don Bosco parish Taro, who share the same border. But most villagers realized that food is not enough during this time of the outbreak, while others are awaiting the next shipment. But other nearby communities like Subesube, Rabakela, and Sipokana are having their lockdown while continuing working in their garden to sustain them).

According to a report published in the Post Courier in Arawa, Bougainville, a spokesperson for the chiefs on the Bougainville said that the Solomon Island Government needs to review its PNG/Solomon Islands border based on humanitarian grounds.

Recently, the PM Soqavare has announced six short to Medium-term measures and the National Government is proposing to

mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on Government finances.

Including is the Government's intention to reopen the country's borders by 1 July 2022 depending on achieving an effective and efficient vaccination roll-out.

Last week the MV Galilee was loaded with food supply to the parts of Shortland, Mono (Treasury Island) and parts of Fauro Island.

..... A report from Nila Good Samaritan AHC Emergency Operation Center stated the five positive cases from Nila are now negative, yet new cases still coming from Gaomai, Kulitanai, and Korovou; another 6 cases which they are awaiting their follow-up swap this week.

Main while, the church is into Lenten session preparing how best they could celebrate the Holy week.

## THE COVID 19 (THE OMICRON & DELTA VIRUS )

### MORE ON VIRUS.

(Is it safe to be vaccinated? *continue.*)

### Vaccines

#### 1. Pfizer vaccine (mRNA Vaccine)

- The vaccine was developed which contains the information of coronavirus spike protein.
- While the vaccine was inserted into our body, it finds its way to our body cells and enters the ribosome. The ribosome reads the information of the vaccine and produces more spike proteins.
- The output of the process is; more spike proteins that contain exact information of the coronavirus spike protein are released, and they were attached and surrounded our body cells.
- Our body started to produce more body soldiers to attack these spike proteins. But actually not, but they did aware, recognized, and remember it, and it is harmless
- When the actual coronaviruses are invading they are now able to recognize, remember them and have the capacity to fight. In that way, the vaccine is protecting us.
- All this action did not take place in our DNA or nucleus (Response for our color, shape, or who we are). Our DNA is centered in the heart of our

body cells. The vaccine cannot even be getting closer or change or destroy our body cells. The process happens in the covering of our body cells called the cytoplasm, which is away from our



DNA.

To be continue next issue

## THE DIOCESE OF GIZO UPCOMING EVENTS 2022

### For the Month of May

We invite all our Catholic people to request your Diocesan Caritas Coordinator to provide some training on the social teaching of the Catholic Church and apply it to the real life situation in which you find yourselves.

**12th to 14—Liturgy Training Southern Deanary Parishes. (CATECHISTS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL REP).**

**15 to 18—SCC , YE and MEDIA Training — Sacred Heart Parish**

**VEUNUE—Wagina.**