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Bishop Peter Houhou

TOGETHER LET US JOURNEY WITH OUR BELOVED PRIESTS OF OUR DIOCESE OF GIZO IN THEIR MINISTRY AS PRIESTS .

Dear Beloved Brothers and Sisters from the four corners of our Diocese of Gizo, Grace and Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love God, and communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

As Bishop shepherding our Diocese, before we enter into the 8th month of our journey in the year 2024, I want to say thank you for the journey that we have

the litany of Saints and Feast Days in this month of August will be with you, to give you courage, to give you the strength, so to be faithful in your ministry as priests and in your teaching profession as teachers and as laity in our homes.

In my last month pastoral message, I encouraged different groups working in our Diocese to choose their patron saint. If you have not yet chosen one, I humbly ask you to choose one.

For this month of August, we will begin our journey with all our beloved Diocesan and Religious Priests who are currently working in our parishes throughout the Diocese. Let us thank them for the sacrifice they have made to answer God's call to be a priest to serve in the Church, especially in our Diocese. Without priests there will be no sacraments.

Allow me to take our minds back to the great event ever took place 2,000 years ago, when Jesus ate the Passover Meal with his disciples. During that night Jesus Instituted the Eucharist and ordained the first priests in the Church. Jesus took bread, gave thanks to God, bless it, broke it and said; "Take and eat it, THIS IS MY BODY" Mathew (26: 26) Again Jesus took a cup, gave thanks to God, and gave it to them "Drink it all of you," he said; "THIS IS MY BLOOD..." (Mathew: 26: 27-28). "...Do this in memory of me." (Luke 22: 19).

On the 4th day of this month of August, Priests throughout the Universal Church are celebrating the Feast of St. John Mary Vianney. You may wonder, WHO is John Mary Vianney? St. John Mary Vianney, the Patron of Priests, was born to a poor family in Dardilly, France on May 8, 1786. He entered the Seminary of Lyon at 20, but found philosophical and theological studies very hard. When his rector expressed to dismiss him, his Bishop replied: "The Church wants not only learned priests but, even more holy ones." After his ordination in 1815, John Mary Vianney was made parish priest of Ars, a remote village of 230 people. He led a life of extreme mortification, and many times he himself did the

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taken together as a family in building and making visible the mystical Body of Christ in our Diocese.

Special thank you for all our Diocesan and Religious Priests who has been serving and caring for the spiritual wellbeing of our beloved Brothers and Sisters (Parishioners) in all our Parishes.

Also I want to thank the Teaching Staff and those who looked after Administration in all our schools, for the job well done making sure that all our Schools under different sectors: Kindergarten, Primary, Secondary, Rural Training Center (RTC), Urban Training Center (UTC) and Teachers Collage (TC), are being cared for academically and also for the skills our students received.

Not forgetting the Laity of our Diocese, (Catechists, Parents, Chief, Church Ministries and Prayer Groups), they are very ones who upholds the basic teachings of the Church, Culture and Custom and many more in all aspects of life.

In addition to that, I want to encourage you all, to continue working together as a team, and not as an individual so to build a good working relationship with one another, to train Better Leaders for Brighter Future in our Diocese, and Nation Solomon Islands.

As you are preparing yourself for action in this month of August, I pray that the Holy Spirit and the spirit of all

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BPM CONTINUE & POPES VISIT PNG

Bishop's Pastoral Message continue

.....penance he had given to his penitents. His reputation as a confessor, supported by his power of reading souls, attracted countless crowds. After spending 14 hours a day in the confessional, he provided catechism classes for the children and moving sermons for the adults. During those days the persecution of the Devil began in 1824, and lasted over 30 years. The diabolical infestation ranged from horrible voices to personal violence and the burning of furniture. The cure of Ars, as he was called, also suffered persecution from other priests who considered him ignorant and an impostor. At the annual retreat of the clergy a priest called him mad. But his Bishop replied: "I wish that all my clergy had a small grain of the same madness." He refused any sort of honorific title. In 1852, when he was made monsignor, he sold the cap and cloak and gave the proceeds to the poor. He also refused to accept the imperial cross of the Legion of honor and an assignment to a bigger parish. John Vianney died 1859, and remains to this day the model of all parochial clergy.

As the shepherd of the Diocese, beloved brothers and sisters in Christ whichever parish you belong, work together with your priest, support him in whatever way you can, encourage him to keep carrying his Cross of priesthood and no turning back. By doing that you are carrying his priesthood cross with him to Calvary.

Above all, let us united in praying together with St. John Mary Vianney for our Beloved Diocesan and Religious Priests in our Diocese of Gizo.

Prayer for—PRIESTS

BY ST. JOHN VIANNEY

God, please give to your Church today many more priests after your own heart.

May they be worthy representatives of Christ the Good Shepherd. May they wholeheartedly devote themselves to prayer and penance; be example of humility and poverty; shining models of holiness; tireless and powerful preachers of the Word of God; zealous dispensers of grace in the sacraments.

May their loving devotion to your Son Jesus in the Eucharist and to Mary his Mother be the twin fountains of the fruitfulness for their ministry.

Amen.

PRAYER TO ST. JOHN MARY VIANNEY

Almighty and merciful God, you made St. John Vianney Wonderful by his pastoral zeal and constant prayer and penance.

Grant we beseech Thee, that by his example and intercession we may be able to win the souls of our brethren for Christ, and together with them attain to everlasting glory.

Through Christ our Lord,

Amen.

Pope Frances Visit to PNG



Rellysdom A Malakana
Catholic Media Office

The itinerary for Pope Francis's travels to Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste, and Singapore, which will begin on September 2, 2024, has been made public by the Vatican.

In September, he will travel to four nations in less than two weeks.

Millions of faithful are preparing to welcome him on his 45th Apostolic Journey abroad, which will take him first to Indonesia, then to Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste, and finally to Singapore.

Pope Francis will depart Rome on September 2nd and travel first to Jakarta, Indonesia. Indonesia is the world's largest Muslim-majority country, with over 8 million Catholics, or 3.1% of the population.

Then, on September 6, he will travel to Port Moresby to greet the faithful of Papua New Guinea and other Pacific nations, where he will remain until September 9.

According to the Post Courier online news, PNG is the only country on the four-nation tour where he will visit two provinces; this will be his longest tour as Pope. He will spend only three hours in Vanimo and the remaining three days in the capital, Port Moresby.

The post courier said about 2 million people, or 32% of PNG's population, identify as Catholic and Catholics in and around PNG and other Pacific Island nations were already getting ready to travel to Port Moresby for the Pontiff program.

He's going to fly from PNG to Timor-Leste's capital, Dili. The news said, Pope Francis will next make his last leg of travel from Dili to Singapore on September 11–13 before continuing on to Rome.

About 3 percent of Singaporeans are Catholic, and approximately 395,000 live in Timor-Leste, where Catholics make up 96% of the population.

ALVERIO FAREWELL & 50 CONFIRMATION AT NORO

Italian Power-man Farewell

On July 27, an Italian volunteer bids the diocese farewell here at the St. Peter compound in Gizo



after helping to restore a solar power system.

He's Mr. Alverio, and he works really hard, day and night, getting data by communicating with the boys from Solomon to Italy. During his three weeks here, he was able to fix the pastoral center and Moli School's electricity. Noro Parish also had the benefit of

having him twice for their solar system.

During the farewell dinner, Fr. Dominic Soloko expressed gratitude for his availability and a gift from Italy for the diocese.

He stated that while bishop emeritus had accomplished many things for our diocese, sustaining them was the other concern. He stated that after the system failed, we were required to pay a high-priced Solomon Power bill. With Averio we shift to lower cost.

He adds that we will continue to pray for you, bishop emeritus, Paola, and the other Italian volunteers and benefactors.

Finally, everyone thanked him for his safe travels to Italy.



50 Receive Sacrament of Confirmation, Noro.



Fifty youths and elders received their Sacrament of Confirmation at Saint Eusebius parish Noro while they celebrated their feast day on the 4th of August this month.

The event, which featured processions, youth liturgy, and the bishop's sermon, was a great success, bringing together candidates from Noro, Cannaan, Rawaki, Ringi, Rarumana, and Munda.

Fifty of them were concentrated while Bishop Peter Houhou reminded them of the Heavenly Gift they had received from God. He reminded them that they are now full members of the church, contributing to its mission of spreading the Gospel and serving their community and others.

Following the Eucharistic celebration, everyone gathered for a feast, speeches, entertainment, and the final blessing.



CHRIST THE KING PARISH NEWS IN BITS

Fundraising Success for Voruvoru Parish.



Fundraising for the Christ the King parish Voruvoru has raised sufficient funding to sustain their church building and other parish programs, reported Fr. Tomas Patavolomo.



He confirmed they have scheduled separate dates for each zone to engage in harvest fundraising, with Tutu and Sariana on July 13th and Katazi the following day.

The fundraising efforts included the sale of cooked and uncooked food, card games for good luck, donations, and contributions, which resulted in a total of more than \$142,000.

The church fundraising included the parish members in Honiara, who they raised a total of \$15,000 upwards.

Patere Tomas stated that they thanked God for everyone's donations, and the money was handed over to the treasurer during their Thanksgiving Mass on July 14th.

"I want to thank every parishioner and other friends from our sister denomination for their support in this harvest festival," said the parish priest.

Peace & Reconcile Awareness, Voruvoru.

The Peace and Reconciliation Committee held an awareness day at Christ the King Parish Voruvoru on Friday, July 26th.

The program was coordinated and facilitated by Mr. Domisiano Soqamule, with the support of elders and their priest.

They have received more applause and congratulations from their parish for facilitating the program.



Mr. Martin Joe thanked them and stated that it is a critical component of their local society, potentially assisting local chiefs and community leaders in improving peace and security in their parish zones.

The mission of Peace and Reconciliation in our country is to recognize, strengthen, and empower traditional governance systems and structures to protect and preserve the diversity of the Solomon Islands' organic traditions and cultures.

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

(Thursday, August 15, 2024)

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in 2024 will be celebrated on Thursday, August. This feast day commemorates the day the Blessed Virgin Mary was assumed into heaven.



TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD (Tuesday, August 6, 2024)



The Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord recalls the revelation of Christ's glory on Mount Tabor in the presence of three of His disciples, Peter, James, and John. Christ was transfigured before their eyes, shining with divine light, and He was joined by Moses and Elijah.

MOLI, TARO, VORUVORU NEWS IN BITS

Moli, Parish Council Meeting Success.



The St. Joseph Moli parish council meeting determined that the committee had met some of the goals established at their first meeting earlier this year. As part of their ongoing planning and review.

According to Anthony, a media volunteer at the parish said that the team is working exceptionally hard, embracing their accomplishments and challenges as sources of strength to keep the parish going.

He thanked their parish priest, Fr. Timothy OP, who was always accessible for discussions.

They're looking forward to their third meeting in November.

The meeting was completed successfully on that same day Tuesday 9th July.

Day Reflection for Youths Continue for Taro.



A one-day reflection for youths at St. John Bosco Taro has continued on the community level.

Fr. Jacob reports from that parish said that the participants are from Rabakela and Subesube, and they gathered at St. Albert's Local Chapel Subesube.

Highlights included talks on WHO AM I, LEADING MY LIFE, and BIBLE QUIZ.

And during closing they celebrated Holy Mass and their meal.

The program were facilitated by their parish priest Fr. Jacob and Kevin Velo.



Ecumenical Gathering Success for Kolaba Varisi.



The Ecumenical gathering was successfully held at Bobokuana village in North Choiseul from July 15th to 17th to commemorate the Solomon Islands Christian Churches Association (SICCA).

Fr. Tomas Pata reported, expressing gratitude for the opportunity to be a part of the program and stating that they had been blessed with the participation of youths, women, and men. He said that they came from three different churches: Catholic Voruvoru, United Church Ogho and Bobokuana, and SDA Church Borokuni.

He stated that they are fortunate to have the pastors, ministers, catechists, and other advocates who are so committed to making the program meaningful.

They are there to thank God by leading educational and inspiring talks, and a Thanksgiving Mass was held to commemorate SICCA Day.

The Solomon Islands Christian Churches Association (SICCA) is an ecumenical Christian non-governmental organization based in the Solomon Islands. The Anglican Church of Melanesia, the Roman Catholic Church, the South Seas Evangelical Church, the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and the United Church are all members of the association.



HEALTH TIPS & NEXT EVENTS.

MALARIA

Overview

Malaria is a disease caused by a parasite. The parasite is spread to humans through the bites of infected mosquitoes. People who have malaria usually feel very sick with a high fever and shaking chills.

While the disease is uncommon in temperate climates, malaria is still common in tropical and subtropical countries. Each year nearly 290 million people are infected with malaria, and more than 400,000 people die of the disease.

To reduce malaria infections, world health programs distribute preventive drugs and insecticide-treated bed nets to protect people from mosquito bites.

The World Health Organization has recommended a malaria vaccine for use in children who live in countries with high numbers of malaria cases. (?Solomon Island)

Protective clothing, bed nets and insecticides can protect you while traveling. You also can take preventive medicine before, during and after a trip to a high-risk area. Many malaria parasites have developed resistance to common drugs used to treat the disease.

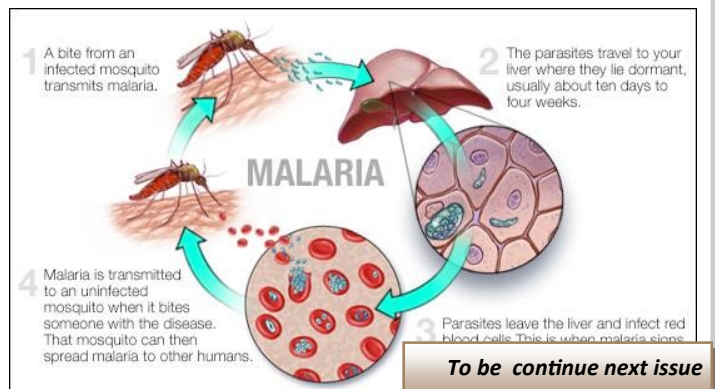
Symptoms

Signs and symptoms of malaria may include:

- . Fever
- . Chills
- . General feeling of discomfort
- . Headache
- . Nausea and vomiting
- . Diarrhea
- . Abdominal pain
- . Muscle or joint pain
- . Fatigue
- . Rapid breathing
- . Rapid heart rate
- Cough
-

Some people who have malaria experience cycles of malaria "attacks." An attack usually starts with shivering and chills, followed by a high fever, followed by sweating and a return to normal temperature.

Malaria signs and symptoms typically begin within a few weeks after being bitten by an infected mosquito. However, some types of malaria parasites can lie dormant in your body for up to a year.



▪ UPCOMMING FEAST DAYS FOR SEPTEMBER 2024 ▪

The Most Holy Name of Mary

(Tuesday 12th September)

The name of Mary is holy because she is the Mother of God and the Mother of Mercy. There is a feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary, which commemorates the victory of Christian Europe over the Turkish Muslim army in 1683.



The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

(Saturday 14th September)

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross also commemorates the discovery of the True Cross. Legend holds that the relic was found by St. Helena, mother of Constantine the Great, during her pilgrimage to the Holy Land about 326. Feast day is celebrate on September 14 to honor the cross on which Jesus Christ was crucified.

