



Bishop Monthly Message

DECEMBER 2021



A God who becomes man, so that man can make himself God

For the immense gift of your incarnation, passion, death and resurrection, we contemplate you, adore you and pray. Let us stop and think, reflect, contemplate, pray. From eternity, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit have foreseen and desired with infinite Mercy that all of us, simple creatures, could become part of the relationship of love that unites the three persons of the Trinity, forever. The path they have chosen to carry out this project is the simplest and the most human, the one we have all gone through: the womb of a woman, the womb of Mary.

From eternity Mary was wanted, loved, prepared as a perfect masterpiece so that she could give flesh and blood to the Son of God. The living heart of this project is Jesus, the Son who becomes man, perfect man and therefore is the new Adam, and gives rise to a new humanity. Precisely for this reason, Mary, chosen to generate him, is truly the new Eve, the perfect woman, as God has always dreamed of her.

The Trinity created a masterpiece in her by filling her with their love, so she was able to collaborate fully in this wonderful project that opens the doors of definitive life to all of us. To sing the beauty of Mary, full of grace, full of love, her Church celebrates her Immaculate. And we admire her as she holds in her arms that tender child in whom the Holy Trinity is present in her Son incarnate of her and we proclaim her Mother of God.

Let's listen to a French philosopher, Jean-Paul Sartre, who, while he was a prisoner in Trier in 1941, had a real enlightenment and expressed himself thus:

"An amazement appeared on Mary's face which will never again appear on the face of a creature. In fact,

Mary is the only creature who, holding her Son to her breast, can say to him: "My God!"

She and she is the only creature who, praying to her God, can say to him: My son!

She has taken her for nine months and gives him her breast and her milk will become the blood of God. Christ is her child.

Mary feels at the same time that Jesus is her son, her little one, and that she is God.

She looks at him and thinks: This God is my son. This divine flesh is my flesh.

It is made of me, it has my eyes and the shape of its mouth is the shape of mine.

He looks like me. He is God and he looks like me! .

A little God who can be taken in his arms and covered with kisses, a warm God who breathes and smiles "

Congratulations!

I hope that by meditating on the Immaculate

Conception and on

Christmas our heart will explode in a hymn of praise and thanksgiving to the infinite Mercy of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit who in the new woman, Mary, and above all in the new man, Jesus,

concretely show what they have prepared for you, for me, for everyone

A HOLY AND JOYFUL CHRISTMAS

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About 300 Students from the Diocese of Gizo were Graduated this year 2021

About 300 students from our Diocese were graduated from the 15 schools run by the church this year 2021.

Out of these five schools (Vanga, Gizo, Moli, and Noro), which include PPYs, primaries, secondary's, vocational and technical schools, leaving out Sirovanga, Voruvoru, Wagina which are run by the Choiseul province.

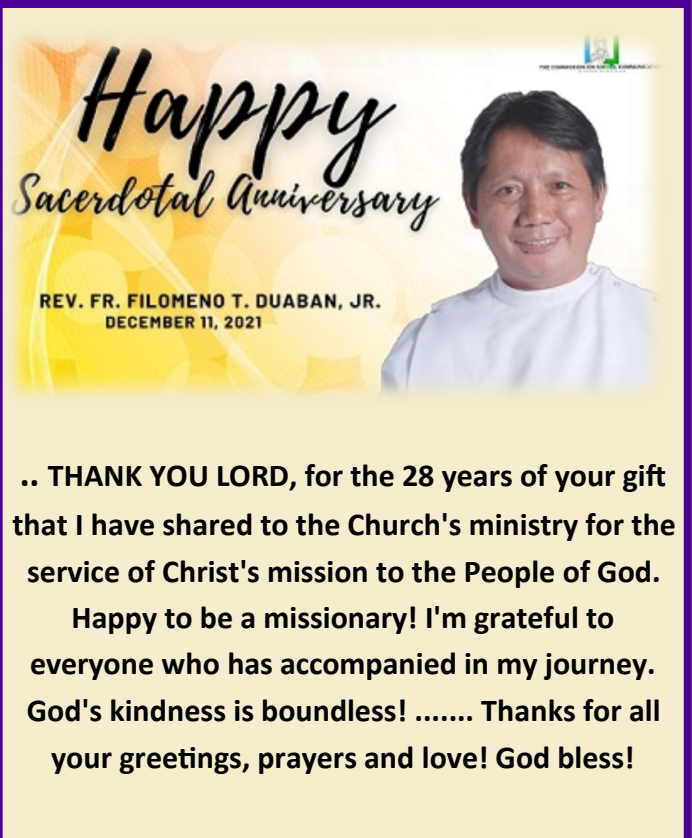
The exact number of students who graduated this year, data collected for the end of the year have not yet been received.

This makes it challenging for the diocese education office to update the ministry responsible for education in our country.

A total of 79 teachers are teaching in our 15 schools, 70 were on government payroll which 9 under the diocese.

However, the teaching sector has the fortune to maximize into getting teachers into their Jap (Covid19 vaccine).

92% of our teachers are getting their immunizations while others are yet to immunize.



Happy Sacerdotal Anniversary

REV. FR. FILOMENO T. DUABAN, JR.
DECEMBER 11, 2021

.. THANK YOU LORD, for the 28 years of your gift that I have shared to the Church's ministry for the service of Christ's mission to the People of God.

Happy to be a missionary! I'm grateful to everyone who has accompanied in my journey. God's kindness is boundless! Thanks for all your greetings, prayers and love! God bless!

Love from Nusabaruku

(Francisca Paul)

Renewal vows for our two beautiful young sisters from Nusabaruku Big congrat to both,

Nei Sister Janaina & Nei Sister loreth.



A SYNODAL MEETING



DECEMBER 14-17 2021



**HAPPY, HOLY AND JOYFUL
“SYNODAL” CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE
IN COMMUNION OF HEARTS AND MINDS
WITH YOUR PEOPLE
IN FULL PARTICIPATION IN THE MISSION
OF THE DIOCESE AND UNIVERSAL CHURCH**

X-Mas Greetings to All of you DIOCESE OF GIZO

Recalling on the journey we all have been through we may say that it was exciting, adventures and challenging. The journey of 2021 have been a busy year for all of us, the first of the five years the diocesan plan of celebrating our diamond Jubilee commenced. The success we have endure this year 2021 in the parish, denary and diocesan level is a sparkling light for our diocesan pastoral team and pastoral teams else where in our parishes to keep burnung brightly to be on fire or a wake and active. It is also a message to all our parishioners, children, youths, men and women to be ready for another four years of celebrating our diocesan diamond Jubilee.

Our means of celebrating our diamond Jubilee last year have been highlighted with the program of the candle and cross pilgrimage. Your participation and contributions towards the diocesan pastoral programs, in all areas have been a sign of our love for our diocese, our faith and hope in Christ. It has been a prove of a living faith in Christ among the people of the diocese of Gizo. St Paul would say that the greatest of all is love, which should sustain us in our good deeds, for he also says that without action faith dies. Be prepared for the upcoming years to put more effort and involve more in our diocesan pastoral activities with a loving heart.

In our next year preparation, let us try to involve those who have never take part in what is happening in the parish or in the diocese. It is good to be updated in our diocesan activities.

We are not perfect and no one is, but we have been through and successful in many good and difficult moments, travelling rough and fine weather, going through pleasant and unpleasant times, and for this we must thank God. Our prayers for the lost ones in our communities should continue. It should be our prayers too that our communities our elders, leaders, chiefs, catechist, priests and our Bishop Luciano Capelli to remain loving and faithful to their duties and be kept healthy in mind, body and soul.

May God blessed us in this Christmas 2021 and New Year 2022.

Media office, Catholic diocese of Gizo



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JUSTICE 4 MARY

Gizo Town Witness the Condemnation of Brutal Killing.

A Protesting Marches here in Gizo Township, Monday 6 December 2021. Time 3:30pm to 5:00pm

Slogans during the protest marches to condemn the brutal killing of a 7-year-old girl were highlighted calling the nation to do more to prevent another happening.

Slogans like “Justice for Mary!!” “Stop rape culture!” etc., was shouted out repetitively during the protest March by the three groups from top hill, Western and Eastern side of Gizo Township.

How many more children that are innocent will suffer before leaders realize this issue! How many more mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, and relatives will mourn before leaders address this issue!

Stop violence against women and girls now!

These are the words uttered by activists during the parade to remember the late Mary who was brutally murdered months ago on the island of Kolombangara.

A very meaningful protest as everyone talked about the children of Mary’s age whom they have shown up to condemn the barbarian unusual killing. With them also relatives of late Mary, organizations, Churches, the public, and other co-coordinators who gave supports for the success of the activities.

The protest marches from these three groups ended at the MSG building, where guests and honors of the Western executives and other representatives awaited them for the opening ceremony.

The opening was devotion, a consecration for everyone from a Catholic parish priest Fr. L. Kimaere, and a Bible quotation taken from the story of Ken and his brother Abel.

His message focuses on the killing of Abel in the Book of Genesis, where he based his message on “LIFE”. He called upon everyone to respect life, starting from the womb until God calls us. He reminds everyone that life is a gift from God that He can take away that life.

He said that the only way to respect life is to love each other and urges everyone to value that life, a gift from God.

Newly elected Premier, Deputy Premier, and other executive members were also part of the parade to show their support towards the elimination of sexual violence and rape against women and girls.

A Series of protests have taken place in Honiara and Munda to give justice for innocent child late Mary.



Peace and Justice Workshop Complete Successfully (Fr. Dominic Soloko)



The Catholic Diocese of Gizo, Western Province held a workshop on Peace and Justice at Moli pastoral center, Choiseul province from 15th to 19th November 2021.

The workshop was facilitated by Fr. Henry Paroi op. an anthropologist by profession and was attended by parish representatives of Voruvoru, Sirovanga, Taro, and Moli altogether the participants were 33 including the diocesan pastoral team that came from Gizo.

Sr, Rita Pitavavini op and Mr. Jerome Quibatu from the pastoral team, gave welcome remarks and introduction.

The workshop draws its theme from the Bible, the book of prophet Micah that reads "This is what the Lord asks of you; only this to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk with your God. "Micah: six.

The workshop enabled the participants to learn about human dignity, human rights, traditional and Biblical understanding of peace and justice, kinds of justice and even the definition of a human being from a theological point of view.

Most of the participants come to realize a lot of injustice happening in family, society and in the country as a whole.

The participants see the importance of having an office in the diocese and in parishes on peace and justice.

From the first day of the workshop Fr Henry, strongly inform the participants that failing in promoting justice and peace means, we only do half a parts of the Gospel or we fail the Gospel message in other words we do injustice to the Gospel.

Why, because as human beings we are not merely religious beings, we are social, political, economic, sexual, rational beings. A human person should be covered in all its aspect when one addressed human issues.

Many questions were posed, few of many questions were:

How human rights and the common good be, understand correctly? What is just wage? What are the trustees?

What is the country's policy on private business and foreigners? etc.

Along with these questions comes lengthy discussions on land issues, logging and business in the country and the injustice taking place to all citizens.

Participants were able to understand the need to amend parts of their culture. "To change parts of culture is not an easy task and it will take years" Fr. Henry reminds his participants.

During the night, a video show on Bishop Romero and St Augustine was shown which helped the participants capture the reality and the consequences that happen when fighting for peace and justice.

This workshop could be a way forward to transforming the people of society. Participants understand well the challenges and the benefit they will encounter and receive if they really put their effort to work for the promotion of justice and peace.

At the end of the workshop Fr Henry, remind the participants to be strong and to make use of what they have learned.

The diocesans pastoral team representative Mr. Jerome thanked the bishop of the diocese most Revered Luciano Capelli for supporting the workshop.

He also thanked Fr Henry and all the participants for their time and effort.

The workshop was concluded with Holy Mass and a community meal.

MOLI PARISH – SOUTHERN DEANERY NEWS IN BITS

Men's Group Moli on the Move.

(Information, Anthony Telovai)

Last Month they have their ecumenical program at Boroboro village and they are proud of their program, which was a successful one.

The Catholic men's group from Moli is gearing up to motivate more daddies to involve.

Now their program will end at the last week of Advent.



Lastly, the group wants to acknowledge the communities especially the women for providing meals while the program is hosted in their communities.

This has been a good sign since the program adopted some motivated activities.

Their program continues to this Advent, which involves other men to attend.

In this Advent session, they have their gathering at Magatara (Leveleva) village, which they have their fellowship and share together.

During their sharing, men look at their failures, challenges and strengths which they need to work on them for this Advent season.

The theme of the program is "Men's are the strength of the living", which is stressed from the scriptures of Genesis and the gospel in which Jesus washed the feet of His disciples.

Love in action is one of the activities that really motivated, which men did during their spiritual gathering.

Covid 19 update in Solomon

In Solomon Islands, from 3 January 2020 to 5:02pm CET, 14 December 2021, there have been 20 confirmed cases of COVID-19 with 0 deaths, reported to WHO.

As of 2 December 2021, a total of 228,912 vaccine doses have been administered.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM POPE FRANCIS

Pope Francis said Wednesday that Christmas brings joy and strength that can remove the pessimism that has spread in human hearts as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. Pope Francis said Dec. 23.

"Christmas is the feast of love incarnate and born for us in Jesus Christ. He is the light of mankind shining in the darkness, giving meaning to human existence and to the whole of history,"

"Christmas invites us to reflect, on the one hand, on the drama of history, in which men and women, wounded by sin, ceaselessly search for truth, search for mercy and search for redemption; and, on the other hand, on the goodness of God, who has come towards us to communicate to us the truth that saves and to make us sharers in His friendship and His life"

**THE DIOCESE OF GIZO
UPCOMING EVENTS 2021**

September

- 3—5 YE Holy Rosary, Nila (Postpone)
- 13—17 Priest Meeting, Gizo (Postpone)
- 17—19 YE St Peter, Gizo (Done)
- 24—26 YE St Eusibius, Noro (Done)

- 4—6 Media Training northern deanery, Moli (Postpone)
- 11—13 Media Training southern deanery, Noro (Postpone)
- 15—19 DTPA evaluation and plannin Gizo (Done at Moli)

October

- 1—3 YE, Sacred Heart, Wagina (Postpone)
- 11—15 Justice and Peace Workshop, Nila (Done at Moli on November)

December

- 13—17 Bishops cup northern deanery parishes, Moli (Postpone)
- 27—31 Bishops cup southern deanery parishes, Vanga (Postpone)

November