



MONTH OF JUNE 2022

Dear Collaborators and faithful of the Gizo Diocesan Family

The month of June is the month of the heart, the Sacred Heart, the Good Shepherd's heart. We have a very rich pastoral letter from the recently concluded Bishops' Conference. It contains the two aspects of Pastoral love: pastoral passion and pastoral ability (logistics). On one hand, the Bishops appeal to us to dream of communion and commit to the mission of shepherding our families and secondly they appeal to us to organize formation activities and family gatherings. Can we dream God's dream for our families and give it a good try to get the children, youth, married couples, and grandparents involved in this pastoral journey? I ask all diocesan and parish, pastoral teams, to be the animating spirit in this journey of faith to discover God's plan for each individual family and larger community so as to be the salt and the light of the world. Please bring a copy of your parish plan by June 20 during your retreat. Here below is the Pastoral letter of the bishops with the pastoral plan for this year focused on the family. Enjoy reading, reflecting, and planning together in a synodal way.

With my blessings and prayerful wishes. Bp Luciano Capelli, sdb, Gizo Diocese

EVANGELIZED AND EVANGELIZING FAMILIES: LIGHT AND SALT OF SOCIETY

In union with the Holy Father, we join the whole Church in praising and thanking God for the great gift of the family.

- **We pray** for Christian families, consecrated in Matrimony, that each day they might rediscover the extraordinary grace they have received through this sacrament. As small domestic Churches may they be salt and light of the society, shining witnesses to God's Presence and the love with which Christ loves the Church.
- **We pray** for families going through difficulty and suffering, from illness and various problems. May the Lord sustain them with His infinite mercy and make them holy.
- **As we implement the new Conference Pastoral Plan of Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands,**
- **we encourage you to make the family an integral part of your local pastoral plans.**
- **We appeal** to all in the spirit of synodality to do more in the way of renewing in creative and dynamic ways the pastoral care of the family. As part of the laity, the Christian family has a primordial role to be light and salt of the Church in society. Much of the blessings that God bestows ultimately comes from the family.
- **Let us dream** to make the Church a family of evangelized and evangelizing families: holy, formed and sent to be light and salt of the earth.
- **Let us commit ourselves** to a new evangelization – to catechize and accompany families and couples to live love as a vocation and a path to holiness and mission.
- **We shall double our efforts** to reach out to families, proclaim Christ and promote the beauty and the joy of marriage.
- **We shall provide** Christian and human formation, counseling and spirituality, and empower families and couples to become missionary disciples to other families.
- **We appeal** to every community and parish to renew the family and make the Church shine as true light and salt in the world

We invite all to read, reflect and dialogue on this post-synodal document of Pope Francis: Amoris Laetitia (AL).

With the Holy Father, we invite the entire Church and every family to enter more deeply into the beauty of marriage based on Christ's teaching and the sacred tradition of the Church.

- ◇ At the same time, we ask all pastoral workers to show compassion and understanding in seeking pastoral solutions to the complex problems of couples (AL 3).
- ◇ We ask you to reflect and discern the present reality of the family in Melanesia and make use of the Guide materials provided by the Vatican dicastery on the Family.
- ◇ We encourage you to hold Family Life Festivals and Congresses to proclaim and celebrate the joy of family, love, and marriage, and to pray that all families and couples be united and reconciled to God through the sacraments.

Children.

Pope Francis tells us that “parents always influence the moral development of their children” (AL 259) and “families cannot help but be places of support, guidance, and direction” (AL 260).

- ◆ Unfortunately, today we see many children abandoned, deprived of the Christian faith, and who suffer from physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. We pray that they will be able to encounter God as Father and respond joyfully to the vocation God has in mind for them.
- ◆ May all parents provide their children with a loving and caring home environment where Christian values and prayer have a central place.
- ◆ May all parishes have a well-functioning catechetical program for children. Let us instill in them the desire for holiness and the missionary vocation.

Youth.

- ◆ Many young people are dropping out of school.
- ◆ Many are hurting and living a life of unfulfilled dreams.
- ◆ Parents have a special obligation to attend to them and to listen to their woes.
- ◆ Young people need to be valued, loved, and trusted, as well as corrected and encouraged in pursuing good moral values.
- ◆ Let every parish have an active youth ministry that provides ongoing human, and Christian faith formation as well as sex education to young people. Pope Francis says that the youth are the “now” of God.
- ◆ “Each young person’s heart is ‘holy ground’, a bearer of seeds of divine life” (CV 67).
- ◆ With proper accompaniment and encouragement, let young people be light and salt, a powerful asset in the work of evangelization, justice, peace, and integral human development.
- ◆ Joining Catholic youth organizations, like the Legion of Mary and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, can empower them along the path of holiness and mission in Church and society.

Married couples.

As Pope Francis says, “the desire to marry and form a family remains vibrant, especially among young people. The Christian proclamation on the family is good news” (AL 1).

- ◇ It is sad that many young people today are merely cohabitating without the benefit of the sacrament.
- ◇ There are many broken marriages, which harm not only the spouses but most especially, children.
- ◇ Broken marriages are one of the root causes of much of the social ills and poverty in the country.
- ◇ While we see few marriages in the Church, we do not believe that the sacrament of Matrimony is obsolete and irrelevant.
- ◇ Marriage is a sacrament of faith. Where faith is lacking, the appreciation of the sacrament will also be lacking.
- ◇ It is absolutely necessary that we exercise more boldness and creativity in evangelizing and catechizing our people on the value of family, love, and marriage.
- ◇ Let us create pastoral teams who will reach out to Christian couples, especially those living without

Continous from page 2

the benefit of the sacrament.

- ◇ Let us do our best to regularize their marriages and help them receive the sacrament of the Eucharist.
- ◇ There should also be proper preparation for marriage and marriage enrichment programs.
- ◇ Pastoral care should be given so that marriages can be regularized, spouses reconciled, and deserving marriage cases annulled.
- ◇ Pastors and the entire Christian community should reach out with much understanding and compassion to couples who experience difficulty in marriage, and strive to bring them into communion with Christ and the Church.

Grandparents.

Many sick and elderly people risk being forgotten, rejected, and regarded as a liability and a burden.

- Pope Francis says that “we must reawaken the collective sense of gratitude, of appreciation, of hospitality, which makes the elderly feel like a living part of the community” (AL 191). Grandparents not only provide us with a sense of the “continuity of generations”. They are also sources of collective wisdom.
- “A society that has no room for the elderly or discards them because they create problems, has a deadly virus”; “it is torn from its roots” (AL 193).
- Let us make the elderly an integral part of our family, caring for them, listening to them, and praying with them.

May the Holy Spirit and the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph grant that each family lives their specific vocation to holiness in the Church as a call to be active in evangelization, in the service of life and peace, and in communion with the priests and with every state in life. Fraternally Yours in Christ,

Bishop Anton Bal, President of the Catholic Bishops Conference of PNG/SI

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Late Pellion Baure Congratulated Bishops effort in Health and Education in Solomon Island before he died 2 weeks ago

He Stated

“His Grace, Bishop of Diocese of Gizo Rev. Luciano Capelli sbd has been highly appreciated as one of those few individuals that has contributed so much in terms of Health and Education in the country Solomon Island”.

“He has built clinics, schools and church buildings as far as Shortlands in the Western Province and Moli in Choiseul. In Gizo, in St. Peter's Church compound, lengthily double-story buildings accommodating various classrooms, workshops, and youth centers stand as a testament to his efforts”.

“He also initiated similar developments during his time in Guadalcanal as well”.

“A man of Action, a Skilled Negotiator, a Humble Servant of God!”

— THE POPE AND THE YOUNG PEOPLE



Pope Francis, 37th National Convocation of the renewal in the Holy Spirit, 2014

Get Out There – Youth Is For Taking Risks

“Youth is for taking risks, good risks, risks full of hope. It is meant to be staked on great things. Youth is meant to be given away, to help others to know the Lord. Don’t keep your youth to yourselves: get out there!”

“Dear young people, the Church depends on you! She needs your lively faith, your creative charity and the energy of your hope.

Your presence renews, rejuvenates and gives new energy to the Church.”

— Pope Benedict XVI



“Take heart young people!

Christ is calling you and the world awaits you!
Remember the Kingdom of God needs your generous and complete dedication.”

— Pope John Paul II



ST. EUSEBIUS PARISH – NEWS IN BITS

Visiting, Blessing during Easter

(Fr. Anil Kumar St. Eusebius parish)



It is a time of the pandemic, we are not allowed to move freely, many people suffered from this killer virus, some lost their livelihood and some are neglected and rejected especially those who are in hopelessness.

What really concerns us and disturbs us is how the outbreak is affecting our weak communities and their health, making things much harder for the poor and the most vulnerable members of our people who lose their sources of income and have less access to the already limited health care system.

Especially some of our parishioners and beneficiaries whose life is completely based on daily markets or menial jobs are heavily affected by this virus that not only threatens health but knocks down all sectors of the economy.

The resurrection of the Lord gives us hope in this time of uncertainty.

Fr. Anil Francis started visiting the people in their families with the protocol of the pandemic.

His visit was to find out the suffering brothers and sisters in time of coronavirus, to bless them, to share some food ingredients, to distribute the Holy Communion to the sick and to discover the families who are lost from the sheepfold of Jesus, The Good Shepherd.

His visit to the families in the time Easter is to know the families, especially those who really need our care, and spiritual and moral support. The Risen Lord may bless us

PENTECOST SUNDAY

(5th of June)

Important Bible readings

Acts 2:1-11

1Cor 12:3b-7,12-13

Jn 20:19-23



HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

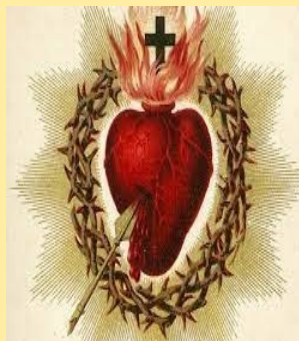
(12th of June)

Important Bible readings

Prov 8:22-31 / Rom

5:1-5

Jn 16:12-15



Sacred Heart of Jesus Feastday (24th of June)

(Congratulate Wagina parish)

Important Bible readings

Ez 34:11-16

Rom 5:5b-11 / Lk 15:3-7

St. Peter and Paul Feast day (29th of June)

Important Bible readings

Acts 12:1-11

2Tim 4:6-8,17-18

Mt 16:13-19



ST. DON BOSCO PARISH— NEWS IN BITS

Parish Priest simple message continue challenging parishioners.

St. Don Bosco parish community at Rabakela has welcomed their parish priest for his pastoral dedication during one of his visitations to that area during the month of Mother Mary, which was on the month of May last month.

Thanks to Steven Kuamizi a media volunteer who gave information from that parish, said that the parish priest Fr. Benedictus Qelo, during homily his homily, his message was simple but powerful and challenging, challenging people to open their hearts to Jesus.

Steven said that Fr. B. Qelo wants everyone to be with Jesus. He said that Jesus wants us to feel at home with him and wants to make his home in us.

"If we love Jesus and keep his word then Father, Son, and Holy Spirit come to make their home in us".

"If anyone loves me they will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we shall come to them and make our home with them" was a quotation verse from the Bible highlighted by the parish priest said Steven Kuamizi.

9 babies received their Sacrament of Baptism *(Steven Kuamizi, Media volunteer Taro)*

Fr. Benedictus Qelo has dedicated nine babies to the church during receiving their Sacrament of Baptism on the Ascension Day at Choiseul bay.

Fr. Qelo also congratulated their parents for bringing their babies into the church, and their small Catholic community for being motivated into building the church of God

Foods were prepared for everyone who attend the Eucharistic celebration and witnessed the Sacrament of baptism.



SIROVANGA PARISH – NEWS IN BITS

70 attend Peace and Justice Workshop, St. Dominic Parish

(Michael Kureboe, parish media volunteer)

“Give to God and our neighbor all that is rightly due to them” was a quotation, during the peace and justice workshop at Sirovanga mission station.

The workshop was organized by the parish executive and was facilitated by Fr. Henry Paroi OP, a qualified person on that subject.

Last year November 2021 at Moli pastoral center, the Catholic Diocese of Gizo coordinated a similar workshop attended by parish representatives from the northern deanery.

Parish executive has decided to bring the seminar to their parish level so that more of the parishioners may access the firsthand facilitator. That is an idea that comes up.

Many important topics were covered, such as values and concepts of human rights, social teaching, the Biblical side, traditions on justice and peace, etc.

During group discussions, others come to realize and understand what is all about justice and peace, and it became a challenging topic for the participants.

Moreover, for many, it is a way forward to transform people into life according to the Gospel.

In conclusion, Fr. Henry Paroi op, facilitator emphasized that promoting justice means promoting change. He strongly reminded the participants to be strong and to make use of what they have learned.

Parish chairman Mr. Christopher Leuku thanked Fr. Henry for the very important workshop, and thanked the mothers who support the feedings during the seminar.

The seminar was attended by men, women, and youths, and up to 70 participants attend.

The month of April and May events Congratulate by the parish. (Michael Kureboe, parish media volunteer)

Many have congratulated the parish activities during Easter, and the month of May.

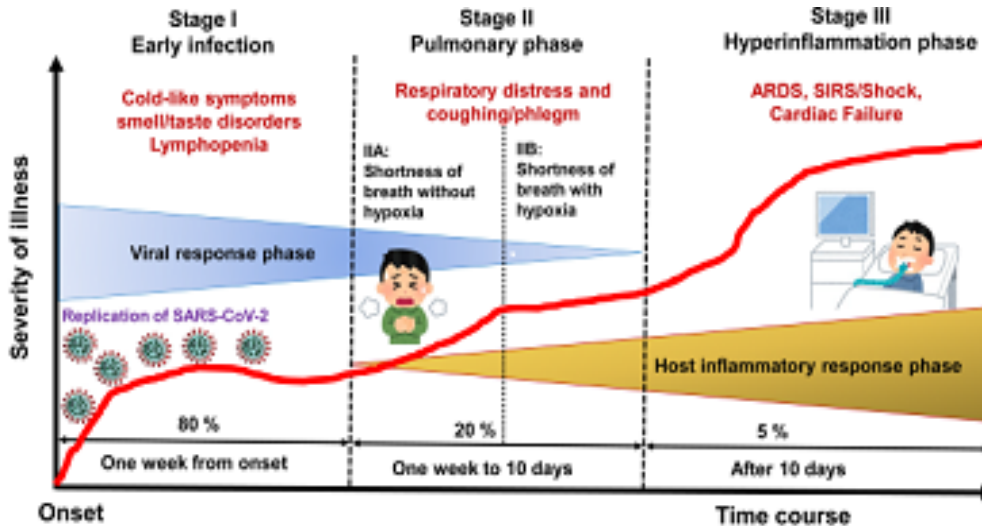
The month of May program highlights the pilgrimage of the statue of Mother Mary Our Lady mother of Jesus visitation to every zones and village along the rivers, up in the mountains, and by the sea, and back to the station by the 29th of May.

During the month, the parish priest Fr. S. Suvenava OP still has the spirit of motivation, in his old age and has taken steps to visit communities up in the bushy areas in Sirovanga, and gave out four sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion, and the Sacrament of Marriage at Borovo village.



THE COVID 19 (THE OMICRON & DELTA VIRUS)

3 stages of Covid19 (Source vcuhealth.org/covid-19).



Stage 2: Pneumonia/respiratory symptoms

Stage 2 is when the virus moves into your lungs and causes pneumonia.

This is the critical stage where you must watch closely for trouble breathing, chest pain and confusion. When you're constantly coughing and can't take deep breaths, your oxygen level can decrease, if the oxygen saturation in your blood is not at a satisfactory level, you will be admitted, and we'll start treatment.

Stage 1: Flu-like symptoms

Stage 1 is the early viral response. Symptoms range from mild to severe and may include fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea.

It can take anywhere from two to 14 days for symptoms to appear, which explains the need for quarantining after exposure.

Stage 3: Organ failure

Stage 3 is when your lungs go into a hyperinflammatory response, which can lead to sepsis and organ failure. This is when we call your family because it may be the last time you're able to talk to them.

If you require a ventilator, a long tube will be inserted into your trachea, in addition to multiple IVs and catheters. Pressure can build up in your lungs, requiring the insertion of a chest tube through your ribcage.

To be continue next issue

**THE DIOCESE OF GIZO
UPCOMING EVENTS 2022**

For the Month of July



We invite all our Catholic people to:
 Plan some action (cleanups, tree planting, etc.) for the protection and care of the environment and for the care of the poor in your community and parish.
 Undertake some activity in your community to promote law and order, such as defending the rights of innocent women and young people, and protecting them from any unjust treatment by courts or police.