



MONTH OF MARCH 2022



BISHOP'S MESSAGE FOR LENT- QUOTING THE HOLY FATHER POPE FRANCIS MESSAGE AS CHRISTIANS AROUND THE WORLD

Dear Faithful people of the Gizo Diocese,

Covid-19 caught up with us recently and hit us very strongly. For us it is not covid-19 but COVID 22. We cannot move as we usually did, we miss the supplies we always had, we cannot send out children to school, it is dangerous to move around, we need to wear a mask, we must keep distance from each other. People get sick, die and are alone...

As we celebrate this Lenten season with the Covid-19 coronavirus pandemic may I share with you in an outline form the message of the Holy Father for the Lenten-and Easter of 2021 when the world experience what we experience now. It is a great message challenging us to be courageous, hopeful and merciful...

With my message allow me the chance to enter your homes with my message "I can imagine you in your families, living an unusual life to avoid COVID infection." I imagine you:

Stuck and alone

"I have in my heart all the families, especially those who have a loved one who is sick or who have unfortunately experienced mourning due to the coronavirus or other causes."

Countless heroes

"I express my appreciation for the "generosity of those who put themselves at risk for the treatment of this pandemic or to guarantee the essential services to society." "I call them "heroes."

I am also thinking about those facing financial difficulties,

those in prison worried about themselves and their families, the homeless, who have no home to protect them.

"It is a difficult time for everyone. For many, very difficult."

Love creatively to help others

"Let us try, if we can, to make the best use of this time: let us be generous.

Let us help those in need in our neighborhood.

Let us look out for the loneliest people, perhaps by telephone or social networks.

Let us pray to the Lord for those who are in difficulty in the world."

Despite the isolation "toughness and good spirit can go far with the creativity of love,"

Boundless love and hope

You might celebrate this Covid-Lenten and Holy Week "in a truly unusual way"

Which sums of the message of the Gospel: "God's boundless love."

"And in the silence of your villages, let the Easter Gospel will resound,".

"In the risen Jesus, life conquered death."

Hope is nourished by our Paschal faith.

"It is the hope of a better time, in which we can be better, freed from evil - pandemic,"

"It is a hope: hope does not disappoint. It is not an illusion; it is a hope."

I urge everyone to prepare a better Easter "in love and patience" with the extra time alone that has been given us.

Closing his message,

make "a gesture of tenderness towards those who suffer, children, and the elderly."

"Tell them that the Pope is close to them and prays that the Lord will soon deliver us all from evil."

SURSUM CORDA... LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS and the pandemic will be more bearable Bp Luciano Capelli, Quoting Pope Francis wishing you a fruitful lenten season

Inside this issue

Bishops message	page 1
Our priest and parishes	page 2
Pope Francis reflection	page 3
Reflection on priesthood	page 4

Altar boys encounter	page 5
Southern deanery news	page 6
Northern deanery news	page 7
Health Tips	page 8 & 9

Schedule Timetable for our Priest Reflection.

Reflections based on our Monthly Calenda 2022 its Events and Pastoral Programs.

Parish Priest	Message of the Event	Month
Set up of timetable		January
St. Eugebius	Presentation of the Lord (Day of Consecrated life 2nd Wednesday)	February
Holy Rosary	Fathers Month (Ash Wednesday 2nd Wednesday)	March
Sacred Heart Parish Wagina	Easter Sunday (Christ is Risen ALLELUIA 17th Sunday)	April
St. Dominic Sirovanga	Marys Month (Ascension of our Lord 29th Sunday)	May
St. Joseph Moli	Vocation Month	June
Christ the King Parish	From Catholic SI Calenda 2022 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.	July
St Donbosco Taro	Bible and Mother We invite all our Catholic people to study the Bible to understand and appreciate the values of the Ten Commandments, love of God the Creator, and our fellow human beings.	August

GET YOUR VACCINE NOW

Since the pandemic caused the outbreak in our nation, we have had many community outbreaks in our provinces. The alarm is likely to cause more outbreaks in our villages if we ignored more of these protocols established by our Oversight committee in our country. The community outbreak in our provinces causes more challenges we faced, to build the body of Christ. However, we also have trust in our Lord to move forward to overcome this transmission.

We have our programs that were postponed due to this outbreak but believed we have strength once our diocesan team met to look for any possible ways to implement the diocesan programs for the year 2022.

By the way, this outbreak of the corona, known as the delta variant virus, causes a lot of fear and confusion in our country. These behaviors have forced more to refrain from taking their jab (Nila/Vaccine).

Moreover, more who recover asymptomatic or mild cases said, "No anything? ..., flue nomoa iah".

This is another reason why more cannot have their vaccination. This attitude or behavior has circulated around our communities causing more to have no care attitude and continue to transmit the virus to people.

Our Bishop, Most, Rev, Bishop Luciano Capelli sdb has quoted Pope's message urging every parishioner to follow some of the simple procedures stating that;

"Getting immunized is an act of Love and Care for the others whom we might infect"

Popes Francis's comments said:

"Being vaccinated with vaccines authorized by the competent authorities is an act of love. And contributing to ensure the majority of people are vaccinated is an act of love."

He added: "Vaccination is a simple but profound way of promoting the common good and caring for each other, especially the most vulnerable."

THE POPE REFLECTION ON PRIESTHOOD

St. Don Bosco Taro Youth Needs Adequate Setup. *(Information*

Malakana Gibbs)

Don Bosco youths from Taro parish need a firm establishing body. An interview carried out by a media staff from the diocese of Giza during the 2021 YE (Youth Encounter) seminar, observed that more of the youths are from villages far from where the parish station was located, Taro their urban center.

They said that they have youth leaders active in preparations on certain areas in their youth programs, but were fail to set up the annual plans that can motivate them for a longer period. They added that attending mass is another issue; due to the insufficient availability of transport, they were not able to attend the daily mass.

However, some of them believed that involving church leaders like priests, catechists and parents could be helpful for guidance and counsel with the help of secondary dropouts who are been supportive. They said that these are students who need special training on leadership.

Currently, due to corona virus, we heard no information from youths this year. They were only informed on covid-19 community outbreak, and the lockdown in the provincial capital Taro, said M. Gibbs.



POPE FRANCIS REFLECTION ON HIS MORE THAN 52 YEARS OF PRIESTHOOD,

By [Hannah Brockhaus](#)

Vatican City, Feb 17, 2022 / 03:01 am

Pope Francis on Thursday offered *a long reflection on his more than 52 years of priesthood*, giving advice to other clerics in what he said might be the “swan song” of his priestly life.

As he gave the opening remarks at a three-day Vatican conference on the theology of the priesthood on Feb. 17, the 85-year-old pope said that there is **“no theory here, I’m speaking about what I lived.”**

“It may be that these reflections are the ‘swan song’ of my own priestly life, but I can assure you that they are the fruit of my own experience,” he said.

In the frank speech, Francis said that he had seen positive witnesses of the priesthood and walked with men whose “ministry had become barren, repetitive, and meaningless.”

He added that he too had faced times of difficulty and desolation in his vocation, saying that there were moments of darkness in his life when closeness to God was indispensable to sustain him.

The pope’s speech marked the start of the **live-streamed summit “For a Fundamental Theology of the Priesthood,”** taking place on Feb. 17–19 in the Vatican’s Paul VI Hall. The symposium was **first announced** in April 2021.

Cardinal Marc Ouellet, prefect of the Vatican Congregation for Bishops, organized the meeting together with the France-based **Research and Anthropology Center for Vocations.**

Pope Francis’ message was organized around four forms of “closeness” that he said were “decisive” in the life of a priest: closeness to God, closeness to the bishop, closeness to other priests, and closeness to people.

He emphasized the importance of a strong prayer life and relationship with God for both priests and

bishops, as well as the universal call to holiness rooted in baptism.

“The life of a priest is above all the salvation history of one baptized person,” he said. “We should never forget that each particular vocation, including that of Holy Orders, is a completion of baptism.”

Francis noted that there is a temptation to live the priesthood without remembering that the primary vocation is to holiness.

“To be holy means to conform ourselves to Jesus,” he said. “Only when we strive to love others as Jesus does, do we make God visible and fulfill our vocation to holiness.”

He cited St. John Paul II, who wrote in his 1992 **apostolic exhortation** *Pastores dabo vobis* that “the priest, like every other member of the Church, ought to grow in the awareness that he himself is continually in need of being evangelized.”

There are some priests and bishops who do not understand this, Pope Francis reflected, calling it a “tragedy of today.”

The pope said that the Church was living through a time of “epochal change,” but people must not seek comfort in either the past or the future.

“I prefer instead the response born of a trusting acceptance of reality, anchored in the wise and living Tradition of the Church, which enables us to put out into the deep without fear,” he said.

Pope Francis warned his listeners that many crises in the priesthood resulted from a poor prayer life and a lack of intimacy with God, which reduces the spiritual life “to mere religious practice.”



departed from Wagina to VoruVoru in Choiseul for an inter-parish altar-servers’ encounter. It took 6 hours and a half along the north side of Choiseul to meet our destination.

At our arrival and to our surprise, a great number of people were anxiously awaiting us such as Fr. Thomas, altar servers, community leaders, many more. They gave us a warm welcome and shared delicious *kaikai* (food) prepared for the occasion. The community members were so excited to have us there because it was the first time that a group from Wagina Parish visited them.

Altar servers of both parishes plus parishioners who were present spent the rest of the afternoon playing some sports until the time for the community prayer. We prayed together the Holy Rosary, shared dinner, and then a good number of people approached that night to find out what was the activity about. So I had the chance to explain bravely the purpose of the visit and encounter. Mainly it was this ‘to bring the altar-servers together so they can know each other, pray together, play together, talk to them about their role in the Church and in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. With that there is also a presentation and conversation on vocation to be a priest. Everyone after listening was happy with the activity and purpose of the visit. Then everyone went to rest after a long day of traveling and preparation.

The following day we started our day with the Holy Mass with a great number of parishioners that joined us in prayer. In the homily was explained the three White things that every catholic should love and especially an altar server. These are The Holy Eucharist, The Virgin Mary, and the Holy Father. After Mass and breakfast, we headed to climb a nice steep hill with the altar servers, one brother and priests. This was a unique experience for the young boys from Wagina, where the terrain is very much flat. On arriving at the top one after another,

Altar Servers Encounter

Fr Humberto. V

In a time of great need of vocations for our diocese, we must try to promote vocation in all the ways possible, or better yet, we must plant seeds of vocation (callings) so it can grow by God’s grace. With this in mind came the idea, during our priestly meeting in December 2021, to have an altar server’s encounter between two neighbouring parishes, Sacred Heart of Jesus (Wagina) and Christ the King (VoruVoru).

On the 17th of January, just before the outbreak of Covid-19, in the morning after having Holy Mass at our home parish, Fr. Humberto, Tebaia the skipper, and 15 altar servers



upon ones own fitness, we enjoyed a beautiful view. There on top, we had a session on learning about the patrons' saints for Wagina's altar server group, the holy archangels plus some other saints. Those saints, who were altar servers or had a special love for the Eucharist, such as Saint Tarsicious, Saint Dominic Del Val, Saint Jose Sanchez del Rio, and the recently beatified Carlos Acutis. Everyone showed great interest in knowing more about them. We concluded this reflection with some songs and some group pictures. Not to forget the sweet fresh sugar cane given to us by the sister of Fr. Thomas. Then we went down the hill slowly and carefully.

In the afternoon, the altar-servers got more time to play and interact with each other until the time for community prayer. At night, the community generously provided dinner for all the altar

servers and they in return performed some dancing and singing for the entertainment of everyone present. Everyone had a nice time together.

On Wednesday the last day of the visit, we had the Holy Mass with the community. The homily was focused on the importance of the Holy Bible for every Catholics, since we were close to the Word of God Sunday. After Holy Mass and breakfast, we had the last session on which the altar servers had the opportunity to share with each other their daily activities and challenges. It was very nice to see how life in both parishes has a lot in common. It was reminded to them that the sacrament of Confession and Holy Communion help them always to persevere as faithful altar servers. Followed by some time of more playing we started to get ready to go back home.

The time came for us to get on our boat and head back to Wagina, and many people showed up to say thank you for the visit and wish us a safe trip. It was a very nice trip for our altar servers in Wagina, they learned a lot in many ways and I think the altar servers from Voruvoru did too. I just pray that this will help them to listen to God's call and respond generously.

Shortland Island Faces Covid Emergency.



Mr. Alisae said people are really scared and without the COVID-19 safety equipment, the only option is for villagers to self-isolate in their homes. "At the moment we don't know what to do to avoid the transmission of the virus," the chairman said. Main while, requested from the nurse at Toumoa; 3 nurses from Nila mini-hospital were arrived to help out at Tomua clinic doing RAT testing for those who have a symptom-like illness.

A lockdown was also enforced for these 2 villages last week, Toumoa and Samanago to carry out contact tracing to avoid further transmission to other communities around Shortland Island.

More people in and around Shortland Island are started to self-isolate themselves, they also faced the challenge of shortage of food at home and in shops.

More said that goods in every canteen and small shop are out of stock and fuels are running out. They said that this is a shock and never prepare for it.

At the moment one of the nurses in charge at Nila mini-hospital Mr. Moses Lamani has called on the national government this week for emergency supplies to that area.

"At the moment we don't know what to do to avoid the transmission of the virus," Speaking to Solomon Island newspapers the chairperson for Toumoa Covid-19 Oversight Committee Mr. John Alisae said that his people of Fauru Island in Shortland Islands, are calling on to responsible authorities to quickly supply them with the proper protective equipment following the community transmission of COVID-19 in their village Toumoa. He said they have been contacting the Nila Clinic to supply them with facemasks and hand gloves but there is no response.

WAGINA PARISH – SOUTHERN DEANERY NEWS IN BITS

Wagina Island Covid 19 Effect

Villagers.

More villagers from Wagina Island have experienced that the covid19 virus was similar to the fever of Malaria and dengue. They took on malaria doses and home medications. They also steam and drink from the selected leaves taken from a particular kind of plant and they found it very helpful.

They have the results of others who turned positive and their village was one hotspot area in the province, said one of the concerned mothers Ms. Moni Kamakin.

She said that the strange thing is that people get ill with fever, runny, nose, and headache, which last longer, yet others are started to recover just by taking this local medications.

She also said another area which affected them is about food shortage, because most of them depend very much on basic items from the shop, like rice, Tayio, flour, sugar etc and now there were no ships coming and there also no cargo. This results in another problem, shops raised their prices and allowed only 3 kilos that is 3 pkt of rice per household.

Main while Mr. Tiote Tebenea Teia said that Wagina people and business owners are getting worried if restrictions for shipping service continue to enforced, this month could be a disaster for them.

"I call on the MV Solomon Prestige 1 owner and other ship owners if they can arrange with the responsible authority and take a short cargo and petrol trip to Wagina". He encourage them about the problem of back loading saying, "No problem with back loading. Seaweed buyers are waiting".

It was understood earleir that the oversight committee has passed that all cargo ships to serve communities with basic needs without passengers would be possible.



Wagina Island



Empty street at Wagina

ARE U AFRAID OF COVID 19 ?



By now with covid 19 there is nothing to be afraid of because we have a lot to observe, means to protect us vaccination, physical exercise, wearing mask, sanitizing, distancing, taking daily warm lemon, steaming, less movement, quarantine, isolation and many more added with that we also have local medications. All this observances now known as "new normal" because it is a new practice to do with it daily. Positive cases increases day by day which raises a question whether it is possible to be surrounded by those infected while you not being infected? The transmission of this virus spares no one when it comes. Thus, we don't have to run from corona virus we have to face it so long as we are willing to observe the new normal. Unfortunately, the sick and the elderly remains unsafe and at risk to face covid 19. They are the ones that we should worried and care for them. How do we do that? Again we observe the new normal...take your vaccine.. wear your mask.. keep your

distance.. isolate when u get positive.. and many others. Be at peace and take care of yourself.. your elderly and the sick.. God is with us in all our time good or bad.. pleasant or unpleasant he is there.. there is nothing to be afraid of Psalms 27 says it all. Above all death is a human destiny.. for us Christians it's a threshold to new life.. so don't be so stress life is still precious.. as they use to say so don't spend it unhappy be joyful happy.... thumbs up move on..For all that we should give praise and thanks to God for those hard working individuals who spend their time and tireless effort that enable us to reach this far...

MOLI PARISH – NORTHERN DEANERY NEWS IN BITS

Current Covid-19 Provincial Outbreak, Change life Situation.

(Information Anthony Telovae)



The current corona outbreak in our province has changed our life situation in our parish said Anthony Telovai, a parish media volunteer from Moli.

“Like many other communities, Moli has faced a lot of challenges since the outbreak of the virus in the provinces”

“Negative impacts faced by our community are, attending church services and other spiritual programs are been limited. More families are now affected severely in their financial circumstances”

He added that they rely on enough money they have earned on community marketing to earn their living, on the other hand shops also without goods like salts, soaps, or rice, so now subsistence living become important.

Mr. Anthony also asked people to understand the effect of the virus on communities around Moli. He reminded every key people in villages to cope with the protocols established by the Covid-19 committee, asking everybody to wear masks, practice social distance, etc.

“Some of the unwanted activities such as drinking beer or homebrews and gambling a now reduced, people a now busy making gardens for their survival, and I admire to see the youth making their garden even slept out overnight at their garden,” He said this are some of the good signs.

SUNDAY EUCHARISTIC MASS IN VILLAGES. (INFORMATION ANTHONY TELOVAE)

Since the outbreak of the Coronavirus in the provincial capital Taro more people have accepted the Eucharistic Mass celebration in their village. Posting online the Moli people groups Mr. Anthony Telovai a parish media volunteer said that the changes were to avoid further transmission to villages.

“At last, we had a chance to celebrate Sunday mass in our village after nearly a month now.

Because of covid19 protocols, Fr Jacob did his Sunday pastoral tour around communities starting last Sunday”

Anthony said that Fr. Jacob celebrated Holy Mass in three villages during his 1st Sunday visitation.

In addition, celebrating mass in the villages will continue until changes may be made only by our parish covid-19 committee.

“We will continue to pray for this pandemic until we overcome it”



Criteria and Discharge Guidelines for the General Public (SOLOMON ISLAND)

BACKGROUND:

This guideline is develop to address the changing environment affected by the current widespread community transmission of Covid-19 in Honiara. The Guidelines are based on the recommendations by WHO, CDC and Australia. The approach is pragmatic to suit the situation at hands as by January 2022.

DISCHARGE CRITERIA:

The recommendations are based on the assumptions above.

For GENERAL PUBLIC:

Positive –

Asymptomatic (No sign of illness) – 10 days home isolated

Symptomatic (Sign of illness)- mild –

B1: minimum of 10 days home isolation plus 3 days after symptom resolve whichever is the longer period for people whose symptoms lasted less than 10 days.

If symptoms lasted 10 days or more, you are considered non-infectious 3 days after symptoms end.

For symptomatic patient: 10 days after symptom onset, plus at least 3 additional days without symptoms (including without fever and without respiratory symptoms)

For example, if a patient had symptoms for 2 days, then the patient could be released from isolation after 10 days + 3 = 13 days from date of symptom onset; for a patient with symptoms for 14 days, the patient can be discharge (14 days + 3 days =) 17 days after date of symptom onset; for a patient with symptoms for 30 days, the patient can be discharge (30 + 3=) 33 days after symptom onset).

For asymptomatic cases 10 days after positive test for SAR-Cov-2

B2: Moderate to severe – admit to hospital for hospital- based care.

Discharge is depend on treating physician but isolation for another 3 days after discharge from hospital and as per isolation criteria stated above.

Discharge is dependent on treating physician but isolation for another 3 days after discharge from hospital if discharge is based on resolution of fever and respiratory symptoms. Then use a close fitting N95 mask; social distance and hand hygiene frequently. A minimum of 10 days should elapse since started of symptoms. A minimum of one negative test must be obtained before discharge.

Close contact exposure:

Positive – as above

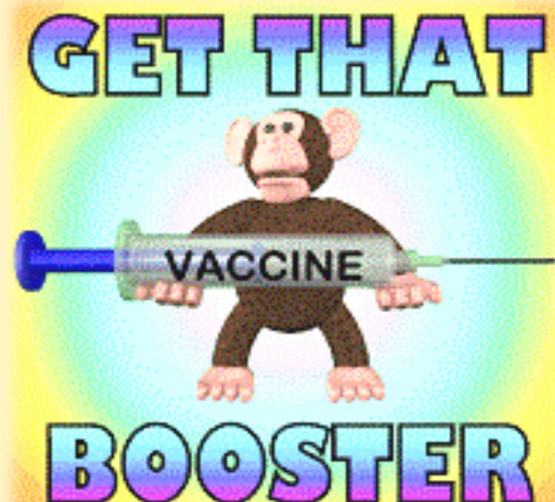
Negative or tested – 14 days home isolated and monitoring of symptoms.

Casual contacts- advise to observe for symptoms and report to Number 115 or 25256 and home quarantine for 10 days.

If you still need a booster after being fully vaxxed, still need to get tested after being fully vaxxed, still need to wear a mask after being fully vaxxed and still get

hospitalized after being fully waxxed.....

Its probably high time you admitted that you've been fully conned



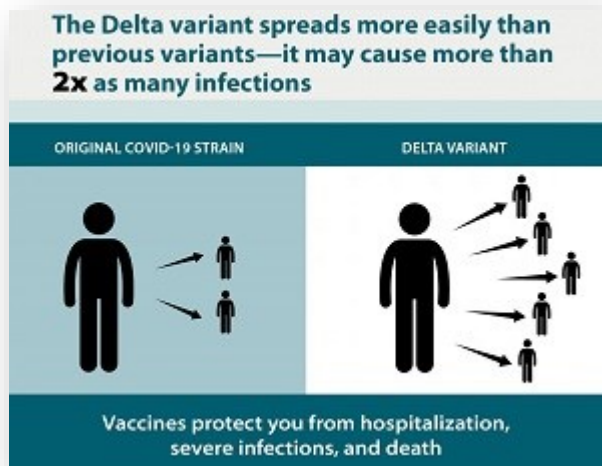
THE COVID 19 (THE OMICRON & DELTA VIRUS)

MORE ON VIRUS. (Is it safe to vaccinated?)

First, learn more on Virus.

Covid 19 (Alpha Variant) is 1000 times more infectious than a SARC virus, which appeared in 2003. Can spread quicker than SARC and other viruses.

Delta



Which appear these days which is more dangerous and more infectious than the Covid 19.

Covid 19 may spread to 2 people while Delta to 5 or more people

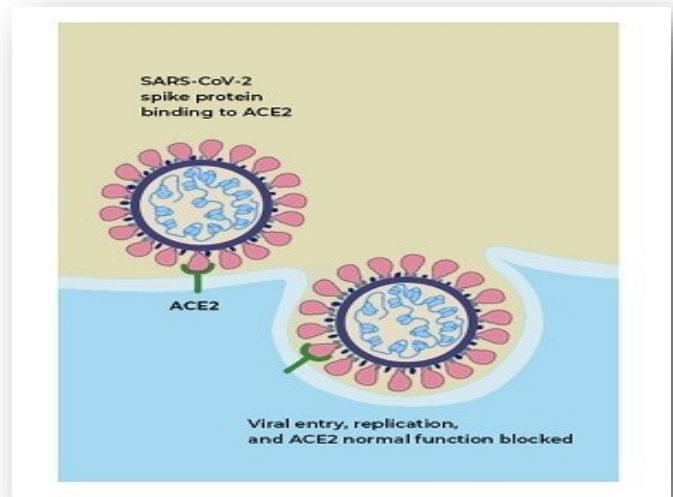
The Corona Virus.

The virus is rounded which has spike proteins that look like Antenor's that were attached around the rounded body, and the virus is like a crown. That's where it got its name "Corona". The spike protein has a key role to play

which can attach to the body cells. How the virus gets into our body is depend most on spike proteins.

Movement of the Covid 19 virus into the human cells.

When the virus enters our body, it finds its way to our cells. There is a structure like a disc called the ACE2 receptor, which attaches to the membrane of our cells, which are ready to accept the spike protein. (We may find more of these receptors in our eyes, nose, mouth, and lungs). By the way, when there is a connection the virus is now attached to the body cells. The next thing that is happening is there is a special reaction that took place and finally the virus sunk into our body cells and find its way more in and around our respiratory tract organs.



To be continue next issue

THE DIOCESE OF GIZO UPCOMING EVENTS 2022

For the Month of April

In 2022 we urge our priests and lay people to work together to make the political, economic and social life of our two countries reflect more fully the life of the Kingdom of God. We invite all our Catholic people to: Work to promote free and fair elections and take an active part in them with a commitment to electing leaders whose governance will be informed by gospel values.

Dialogue with leaders to let them know that you expect them to conform to Christian principles in their personal and public life".

1. **First Priest Meeting - Gizo** Chrism Mass. April 4th to 7th .
2. **FLA—TRAINING SOUTHERN DEANARY PARISHES—** VENUE—WAGINA. 22nd to 24th.
3. **SCC leaders Training Holy Rosary .** — YE NILA Parish—27th to 30th