



The Catholic Reporter

Catholic Bishops' Conference of PNG & SI - Commission on Social Communications, P.O. Box 398, Waigani, NCD Tel.: 325 9577 - Fax: 323 2551

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Issue 150

Marriage 'Silently Preaches' that 'Love Is Possible'

– Deborah Castellano

Casa Santa Marta, Rome, May 25, 2018:

Pope Francis praises couples who stay together and laments that 'Christian Marriage' is not 'News'

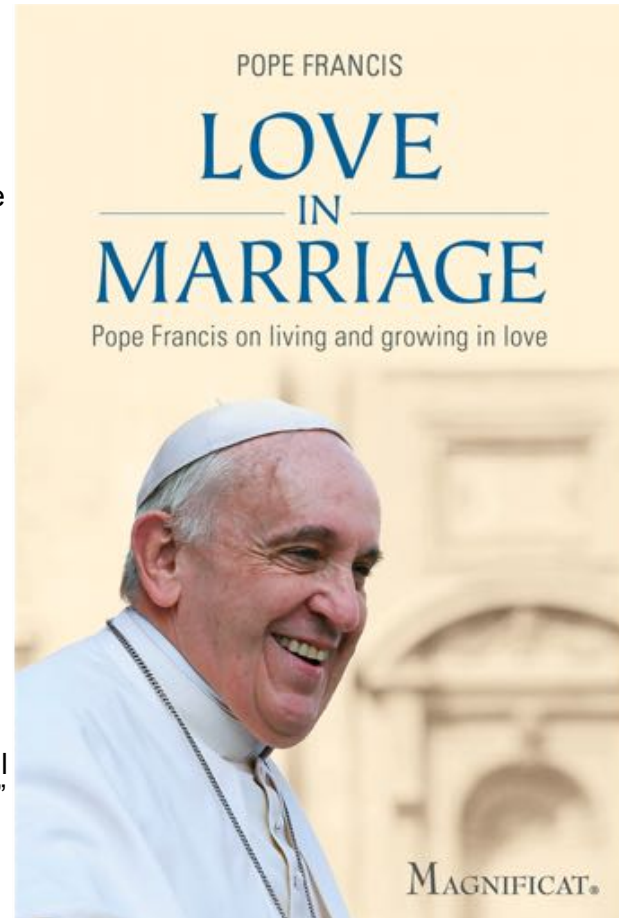
Marriage "is not only a Sacrament for them, but for the Church, as if it were a Sacrament that attracts attention: "However, see that love is possible!" continued the Pope. "Marriage is a silent preaching to all others, a preaching of every day."

Francis lamented that this is not considered news to the newspapers or to the TV news programs.

"This couple, together for so many years, it's not news. Scandal, divorce, separation: these are considered newsworthy. The image of God isn't news. But this is the beauty of marriage. The couple are the image and likeness of God. And this is our news, the Christian news."

Patience is "perhaps, the most important virtue in a couple — both in the man as well as the woman," he affirmed, before ending with a prayer that God may "give the Church and society a more profound, more beautiful awareness of marriage."

Pope Francis concluded, praying: "May we all be able to understand and contemplate that the image and likeness of God is in marriage."



In the presence of seven couples celebrating their 50th and 25th wedding anniversaries, Pope Francis reflected on the Gospel reading according to Mark (Mk 10: 1-12), where Jesus affirms the beauty of marriage.

"From the beginning of Creation, God made them male and female. For this reason, a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one," says Jesus. The Holy Father observed that the Lord "leaves the problem of separation and goes to the beauty of the couple."

Sometimes, by misfortune, marriage doesn't work and it's better to separate to avoid a world war, but it's a misfortune," the Pontiff said.

"Let us look at the positive side," he said, and told of an anecdote of a couple celebrating 60 years of marriage and, to his question: "Are you happy?" They answered with emotion: "We are in love!"

"It's true that there are difficulties," the Pope acknowledged, "there are problems with children or with the couple themselves, arguments and fights, but the important thing is that the flesh remains one, and you can overcome, you can overcome, you can overcome."

"And this," he said, "is not only a sacrament for them, but also for the Church, a sacrament, as it were, that attracts attention: "See, love is possible!" And love is capable of allowing you to live your whole life "in love": in joy and in sorrow, with the problems of children, and their own problem, but always going forward. In sickness and in health, but always going forward. This is beautiful."

Digital Natives Digital Natives Digital Natives Digital Natives Short Film Competition

Vocation films:

In this **Year of Youth 2018** we invite you to send in vocation stories. Religious congregations are invited to send in digital vocation stories. Films need to have an emotional connection with the young, be starting points for discussion and invite a response from the young. The films may be international or local. Discussion questions are required for every film. Films in pidgin or other languages need to have English subtitles. The decision of the judges is final. No prizes for foreign films.

All films with full contact details are to reach:
Fr. Ambrose Pereira sdb
by 30th June, 2018.

SOCOM Office
CBC, Gordons
Waigani, Port Moresby

socom@catholic.org.pg

PRIZE
A chance to win an interesting prize for the best:

Inspirational film

ISFF18

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God's Word – A Living Power among Those Who Believe (1 Thess 9:1)

Bibliodrama Training for Diocesan Pastoral Leaders



From 1-7 May 2018, biblical coordinators, pastoral vicars and directors/directresses of pastoral centres of various dioceses came together at Kefamo Conference Centre, Goroka.

For two days, Sr. Anna Damas SSpS gave a training in various methods of working with the Bible.

These methods (called bibliodrama) help to unlock the power of God's Word and make participants experience the biblical message and connection with their personal lives.

The biblical story is experienced in space and time, and in the dimensions of body, feelings and emotions.

During the ensuing days, the participants worked on a liturgical booklet for Easter Triduum, and had a look at the materials for Bible Month August 2018 with the theme "Good Shepherd".

They also shared ideas how to work with Pope Francis' new letter "Gaudete et Exultate". This letter can be downloaded on the new LCI Website www.lcigoroka.com (Menu>>Downloads).

The Website is being built up and will soon offer an online catalogue of publications, news and more. Check it out! LCI is the national institute of the Catholic Bishops' Conference at the service of the pastoral work of the dioceses.

LCI produces materials and holds conferences and courses in the area of liturgy, faith education and Bible.



Photographs:
Top upper left: **Group photo of Diocesan Pastoral Leaders in Goroka**
Bottom right: **Diocesan Pastoral Leaders during their Bibliodrama Training**

Digital Addiction

- Fr Ambrose Pereira sdb, CBC SOCOM and Youth Secretary

Addiction is a dependence and it prevents us from experiencing of life in its fullness. However, few persons are aware that there is also something called 'Digital Addiction'.

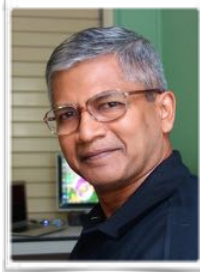
It prevents one from doing the things one needs to do, stresses us out and is bad for our mental and physical health. Addiction specialists tell us that there are three types of digital addiction: Phone addiction, Social Media addiction and internet addiction.

Phone addiction is a dependence syndrome, where by the user is affected by a smart phone in a negative way. The user finds it difficult to put away the phone resulting in headaches, weight loss, disturbances in sleep, blurred vision, lack of consecration, etc. "It is an addiction that can result in behavioural health and personality issues", says Paul Hokemeyer, addiction expert and therapist.

Any person who spends far too much time on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat or other social media platforms is a **Social Media addict**. Every aspect of the person's life is documented on social media. Each of us needs to constantly ask ourselves if social media is bringing us closer to each other or are we drifting apart from our family and loved ones. Research states that an overuse of Facebook leads to a decrease in feelings of happiness and satisfaction.

And then there are the **Internet addicts**. They find it difficult to differentiate between the virtual world and the world of reality. They spend a lot of time before their digital screen. It becomes the centre of their lives. Productivity in study and work is negatively affected. It is evidently seen in young people and in children. In fact, studies show that every fourth child is addicted to the Internet. This is the cause of mental disorders and hence it needs to be addressed immediately.

May we take a look at our digital behaviour patterns and make the necessary changes. In a special way, we are responsible to ensure that our young people look up from their digital devices and connect with family, friends and the people around them.



Women empowerment

- Abigail Seta

The 44th President of the United States, Barack Obama once said; "*When women succeed, nations are more safe, secure and prosperous.*"

Another leader, Kofi Annan, 7th UN Secretary General stated; "*There is no tool for development more effective than the empowerment of women.*"

"*Empowering women is key to building a future we want,*" this was stated by Amartya Sen, Nobel Prize Laureate in Economics.

These three male figures are leaders in their respective professions and have one thing in common: **They believe in women empowerment.**

It is encouraging to see that many leaders around the world support and believe in women empowerment.

Recently, the APEC held a two-day workshop on Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy where they highlighted women's contribution to the APEC economy.

According to the PNG APEC Secretariat General, women's economic empowerment and the greater inclusion of women in the regional economy are high on their agenda. Thus, it is encouraging to see that the inclusion of Papua New Guinean women on an economic level is taken seriously.

What would be more encouraging and empowering is seeing everyone, not only leaders, male and female, young and old, educated or not etc supporting the cause of women empowerment on a national and local level. Through the inclusion of women making decisions and campaigning against GBV and supporting equality in all sectors of the country.

Therefore, it is important to note that woman empowerment is everybody's business.



ISFF18 - One minute film competition

Theme: Youth Alive! Celebrating 'Life and Love'
Requirements: Films need to be HD/ 1080p/ 720p with an aspect ration of 16:9.
Screening date: 4th August, 2018
Vocation films: In this **Year of Youth 2018** we invite you to send in vocation stories. These may be international or local. Films in pidgin or other languages need English subtitles. Discussion questions are required for every film.
Deadline: All films are to reach the **CBC SOCOM** office by **30th July, 2018**.
For further details please contact: CBC SOCOM office, socom@catholic.org.pg

Youth Convention 2018

a time of prayer, celebration and commitment for young people who are

Called to the fullness of Life and Love

Rabaul, 10th - 14th December, 2018
10 Youth from every PNGSI Diocese.

All young people are invited to prepare themselves for this important event.



Alliance of Solwara Warriors Strategic Workshop Namatanai

More great news for maritime communities as growth and solidarity takes its progress.

A recent workshop brought together Manus, New Ireland, East New Britain, Madang and Milne Bay advocates to share their communities' concerns and experiences and to continue working together to save them from marine destruction.

The Alliance of Solwara Warriors gathered on the first week of May in Namatanai, New Ireland Province to plan out a way forward to resist Solwara 1 project and welcomed a good news, however openly stated that the fight against seabed mining isn't over. The good news had the marine communities relieved that the announcement of a seabed

mining investor confirmed they have exited their investment in the Nautilus Minerals Solwara 1 deep-sea mining project.

Anglo American, a multinational mining company based in Johannesburg South Africa and London in the United Kingdom have now pulled off their investment in the Solwara 1 project of seabed mining in Papua New Guinea.

In a statement released by the Maritime Executive, a spokesman from Anglo American said "We are exiting our small minority shareholding in Nautilus, as part of the prioritisation of our portfolio on our largest and greatest potential resource assets,"

Anglo-American once held about 10 percent of Nautilus' stock.

This decision by Anglo American is rounding up more support against seabed mining empowering maritime communities to unite.

The Solwara Warriors are aware that news may hit the Papua New Guinea government hard in terms of its

Ban Seabed Mining

- Aileen Baretta, Freelance journalist



investments in the project as well.

In related stories, the Kavailo villagers of Karkar Island in Madang Province have started a reef rehabilitation program on the reefs of the Kulubob Bay.

This program enables villagers to replant and monitor corals' growth.

This one-week project started on the 13th of May and ended on the 19th as a lead up activity towards the World Oceans Day on the 8th of June.

Nautilus' subsea mining equipment



WYD 2019 in PANAMA

Official Prayer for WYD Panamá 2019

Merciful Father,
You call us to live our lives as a way of salvation. Help us to recall the past with gratitude, to embrace the present with courage and to build the future with hope.

Lord Jesus, our friend and brother, thank you for looking upon us with love. Let us listen to your voice as it resonates in the hearts of each one with the strength and light of the Holy Spirit.

Grant us the grace of being a Church that goes forth with vibrant faith and a youthful face to communicate the joy of the Gospel. May we help to build up the kind of society we long for, one where there is fairness and fellowship.

We pray for the Pope and the bishops; for young people; for all those who will take part in World Youth Day in Panama and for those who are preparing to welcome them.

Our Lady of Antigua, Patroness of Panama, help us to pray and live with generosity like yours: "I am the servant of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" (Lk 1:38). Amen



Official Venue for WYD 2019.

The "Cinta Costera 1" will be the official venue for the Main Events of the WYD 2019. It best fits the dimensions of previous WYD venues.

Registration for WYD 2019

Every diocese is encouraged to send at least one participant for WYD 2019. The participant must be endorsed by the Bishop of his / her diocese.

For further details contact:

Fr Ambrose Pereira sdb, CBC Youth and SOCOM Secretary

Tel: **7296 5235** E-mail: youth@catholic.org.pg

Focolare Movement

Fr. Andrew Moses

Daru-Kiunga: The Bishop, Priests and chosen lay people of Daru-Kiunga Diocese had a rare opportunity to reflect, share and exchange experiences of Churches and spirituality with visitors of the Focolare Movement from the Philippines.

The Focolare Movement is a lay Movement started by Chiara Lubich in Trent, Italy after the war. They live and promote the spirituality of unity and have over two million members around the world.

The visitors, comprised of a lay couple, Lito and Ethel, and two priests, Fr. Emmanuel and Fr. Joel, came upon the invitation of the Bishop to conduct the annual seminar for the clergy followed by their Retreat in view of strengthening the Church's spirituality, "Spirituality of Communion" promoted in the diocese.

The highlights of the reflection and sharing were based on some key aspects of the spirituality of unity namely; art of loving, sources of the will of God, understanding of self and others, personal resilience, difficulties and challenges of unity seen as Jesus forsaken and seeing them as opportunities to loving more.

The seminar was enriching and a blessing for the participants in many ways while the visitors expressed content in sharing and also learning the experiences of building a church based on the spirituality of communion in the diocese.

"We have indeed been refreshed and greatly blessed by your visit and your sharing", he Bishop Gilles Cote SMM expressed at the closing Eucharist.

On behalf of the diocese, he thanked the new friends for their visit to the Church in Western Province of Papua New Guinea.



Commentary

- by Fr. Victor Roche, SVD



Catholic Convention, Muenster, Germany

The Catholic Laity of Germany or "Katholikentag" – meaning 'Catholic Day' in German language – is organized once in 2 years. Katholikentag is a festival-like gathering for German-speaking countries organized by the Roman Catholic laity.

This year it was the 101st Katholikentag and was held in the city of Munster 9-13 May 2018. I was privileged to attend and it was indeed a great experience. It was organised by the Central Committee of German Catholics together with the Diocese of Muenster with the theme, "Seek Peace".

There were various programs for young people, adults, people with handicaps, families, senior citizens, for the faithful, and for those who have lost contact with the Church. There were liturgical services and roundtable discussions, Bible study, prayer and festival. There were some 120 tents – booths – with various religious congregations and pious groups displaying their charisms in the church. There was dialogue and celebration in those tents. There was open-air mass on the first day and again on the final day.

My reflection on the Katholikentag of Germany: It was well organised and attended by almost 90,000 people, with 30,000 as fully registered participants. Why can't we organize one Catholic Convention in PNG? The Laity of PNG and/or the Catholic Professionals can team up and coordinate a Catholic Convention. We can have one in Port Moresby and after two years another one in Mt. Hagen. What do you think?

Yumi Yet Sios

- Bp Rochus Tatamai MSC



Long taim Kadinal Pietro Parolin i kam visitim asdaiosis bilong Port Moresby long taim bilong miting bilong ol Bishops bilong Oceania (11-17 April 2018) em i bin bungim ol Religious manmeri wantaim ol pris na seminarians wantaim ol yangpela i stap insait long ol haus bilong ol formation bilong ong congregation. Dispela bung i bin kamap long Saint Joseph Peris long Boroko long 2 kilok apinun long Fraide 13 de bilong mum April. Insait long dispela misa tupela bisop go pas long ol Religious Bisop Gilles Cote bilong daiosis bilong Daru-Kiung na Bisop William Fey bilong daiosis bilong Kimbe wantaim Kadinal John Ribat na Asbishop Francesco Panfilo bilong Asdaiosis bilong Rabaul em ol i bin kam misa wantaim Kadinal Parolin.

Insait long dispela Misa na bung wantaim ol Religious manmeri na ol pris yumi bin gat taim long luksave long ol wok misinari i kamap insait long Pacific na moa yet insait long PNG na SI. Yumi luksave long ol Marist Misinari i bin kam long Solomon Ailans, na kamap long Woodlark Ailan insait long Daiosis bilong Alotau- Sideia. Ino long taim ol misinari i painim planti hevi long sik na tu ol asples manmeri ino bin gutpela tumas long ol. Bihain liklik ol PIME misinari i bin kamap long kisim ples bilong ol Marist tasol ol ino stap longpela taim tumas bikos long wankain ol hevi long sik na hevi wantaim ol asples manmeri. Insait long wok bilong ol Marist na ol PIME yumi gat tupela biknem ol misinari. Em Santu Pita Chanel – misinari na matri - husat ol lain bilong Futuna Ailan i bin kilim em na Blesed John Mazzuconi bilong ol lain PIME na ol i bin kilim em long ailan bilong Woolark.

Bihain long dispela taim ino bin gat ol misinari kam wok long kauntri bilong yumi inap long yia 1882 ol lain misinari bilong Santu Hat bilong Jisas ol i kamap long Matupit Ailan klostu long Rabaul. Bihain ol i go long Yule Ailan insait long daiosis bilong Bereina long yia 1885. Bihain long yia 1896 ol SVD kamap long Ailan bilong Tumleo klostu long Aitape. Inap long dispela taim tripela kongregation bilong ol MSC, ol SVD na ol Marist i bin lukautim olgeta wok misin na evangelaisetion long hap bilong Solomon Ailans na Bougainville (Marists) long Rabaul na NGi wantain Papua aninit long ol MSC na ol bik peles Niugini, long Momase igo insait long Hailans em ol SVD. Yumi luksave tu long ol Sista congregation wantaim ol brooders husat i bin wok poroman wantaim dispela tripela bikipela Kongregation.

Yumi lukim Bisop Coupe MSC long Rabaul em i kirapim long kongregation bilong ol meri ol i kolim ol long ol Pikinini meri bilong Maria Imakulata (FMI Sisters) long yia 1912. Bihain long dispela Bisop de Boismenu em tu i kirapim kongregation bilong ol Ancilla Domini (AD Sisters) long yia 1918. Bihain long dispela yumi lukim planti ol narapela Kongregation i kam wok insait long olgeta daiosis long PNG na SI.

Bipo gavman i kamap olgeta dispela ol Religious Kongregation ol i bin mekim olgeta wok kamap long lukautim ol pipel bilong PNG na SI.

Nau yumi ken prei bai God i blesim yumi wantaim laip bilong oltaim olgeta misinari bilong yumi ol i dai pinis na strongim olgeta husat i stap wok wantaim yumi yet.

Yumi prei tu bai God i ken kirapim gutpela tingting na singautim planti moa ol yangpela manmeri insait long ol daiosis bilong yumi bai ol i ken givim laip bilong ol long Jisas Kraist na Sios bilong em olsem ol gutpela papamama, ol gutpepla pastoral woka, olsem ol katiket, ol brada na sista na tu ol pater.

Catholic Professionals Society Annual General Meeting

- Cecilia Teliwa

St Joseph's Parish Hall: The Catholic Professionals Society held its 2018 Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Saturday 5th May 2018 at the St. Joseph's Parish Hall, Boroko.

The members at the AGM adopted the revised Constitution for the Society and elected Executive Committee Members for the next three years. Seventeen members attended and participated at the AGM with Fr. Victor Roche, SVD, General Secretary for CBC/PNGSI also in attendance as an observer. In his opening remarks the President, Paul Harricknen, welcomed and thanked the members for making time to attend the AGM. He reminded members that when Jesus called his disciples there were few who answered His call to follow Him. It was like history repeating itself. The President in his report said, the Society has been operating on the strength and support of few members who committed their time and effort and were able to gather into a core group in 2017. It is hoped that following the AGM and with the adoption of the revised CPS Constitution the new Executive Committee will be able to drive the Society into a strong and vibrant Society with renewed vigour, passion, a clearer vision, mission and with purpose to move the Society forward in delivering its mandate as a light and voice of the Catholic Faith. The new Executive Committee members are:

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. | President | - | Mr. Paul Harricknen (re-elected) |
| 2. | Vice President | - | Madam Jean Kekedo |
| 3. | Treasurer | - | Mr. Michael Varapik (re-elected) |
| 4. | Secretary | - | Ms. Cecilia Teliwa |
| 5. | Ordinary Member | - | Ambassador Gabriel Dusava |
| 6. | Ordinary Member | - | Mr. Kila Ai |
| 7. | Ordinary Member | - | Ms. Florence Sariman |



Participants during a session

commenced with interactive games, evening prayer and rosary. The weekend sessions focused on Radio drama and jingles including filming of videos and editing.

Caritas student, Ruth Oa Leteng stated: "I have learnt a lot about media and how to handle my camera and gadgets but mostly of how to love life and live life it to the fullest."

Vunapope, ENBP:

Also, Media Education Seminar has gone regional. The first regional seminar was held in Vunapope, ENB where youth leaders, catechists and priests of the different dioceses in the New Guinea Islands Region gathered on Monday, 14th May to Friday, 18th May.

Twenty-eight participants were present representing the different NGI dioceses from Bougainville, Kimbe and the Rabaul Archdiocese itself. Fr Ambrose Pereira sdb and Fr Martin We-en, program director of Radio Maria with the help of the Rabaul Archdiocese Social Communication team coordinated the seminar.

Blessing of St Martin de Porres Parish

- Fr Vinod D'Mello

Morata: On 28 April, 2018, the newly renovated and extended St Martin de Porres Parish Church was blessed.

His Eminence Sir John Cardinal Ribat MSC and Apostolic Nuncio of PNG and Solomon Islands, His Excellency Most Rev. Kurian Mathew Vayalunkal along with 12 priests and representatives from 15 religious congregations were present. The Cardinal welcomed the people for the celebration saying,

"Today is the great day in the history of the St. Martin de Porres Parish, Morata as community of Morata has come together to celebrate the fruit of their hard work." After his speech, the Cardinal began with the ceremony of the blessing of the Church. The Bible procession was led by Western Highlands Group. Apostolic Nuncio His Excellency Most Rev. Kurian Mathew Vayalunkal in his homily said, "I want to congratulate you on this accomplishment that demonstrates your strong faith, your dedication to the Lord and your love for the Church."

After the homily, the Altar was blessed with the Oil of Chrism and the Holy Incense. After the Holy Eucharist, the parishioners of Morata served 9 roasted pigs and other delicious food items being served to the invited guests and other people.

It was followed by various communities and groups performing cultural and entertainment activities to mark the occasion as a sign of their joy.



Eucharistic celebration

Share your Stories

Send in your articles, photograph and reflections on events and happenings in your parish, community and diocese. All articles and photographs are to be sent to:

ambrose.pereirasdb@gmail.com and
socom@catholic.org.pg

on or before **20th June, 2018**

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