



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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- Zenith

Pope Francis inaugurates monument to Migrants and Refugees



Vatican City, Vatican - On 29th September, on the occasion of the 105th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, Pope Francis, at the end of the Mass, reiterated the meaning of the celebrated Eucharist, renewing not only closeness but concrete attention of the Church for the different categories of vulnerable people. After the recital of the Angelus and the long Popemobile tour, the Holy Father inaugurated the sculpture entitled "Angel Unawares", created by the Canadian artist Timothy Schmalz, thanks to the suggestion of Father Michael Czerny, Undersecretary of the Migrants Section and Refugees from the Department for the Integral Human Development Service. Pope Francis explained why he wanted the sculpture in the middle of the square, the

center of Christianity "This sculpture, in bronze and clay, depicts a group of migrants of various cultures and different historical periods. I wanted this artistic work here in Piazza San Pietro, so that you can remind everyone of the evangelical challenge of hospitality."

Archbishop Anthon Bal installed as 6th Archbishop of Madang

- Rosemary Yambune
- Photographs by Mereno Katie, Debra Pranis and Rosemary Yambune

Madang: The Archdiocese of Madang rejoiced as they celebrated the installation of the sixth Archbishop of the Catholic Archdiocese of Madang. Archbishop Bal replaced Archbishop Stephen Joseph Reichert who served the province for eight years.



Vayalunkal, Emeritus Archbishop Stephen Joseph Reichert and Emeritus Archbishop William Joseph Kurtz were joined by eleven other bishops and eighty-eight priests. Religious sisters and brothers and lay faithful from the different parishes and well-wishers were part of the celebration.

Among the VIPs present were Mr. Markus Kachau, Acting Provincial Administrator of Madang Province, Mr. Peter To Rot, recently retired Assistant Provincial Administrator of Madang Province, Mr. Patrick Silata, the Momase Region School Inspector and Mr. Joseph Ouyoumb, Regional Teachers Services Commissioner Momase Region.

Archbishop Reichert thanked the Lord and Our Blessed Mother for his eight years as Archbishop of Madang. Several had tears in their eyes as he appreciated and thanked his priests, religious, diocesan secretaries and laity for working together to build the faith of families and the Catholic people of

Madang. He joyfully welcomed Archbishop Bal as the sixth Archbishop of Madang.

Archbishop Vayalunkal highlighted the relationship between Christ and his disciples (Jn 15:1-17) and stressed the need to be close to Jesus. "As you faithfully attend the pastoral needs of the local Church, may you be guided by the Virgin Mother, to show to all, the merciful face and goodness of her Son, Jesus Christ," he said. He reminded the archbishop of the invitation of Pope Francis to become the 'Sacrament of Closeness' – Close to God in prayer, close to the people of God entrusted to him and close to his priests.

Several said that they look forward to working with Archbishop Anton Bal to continue the work of Archbishop Reichert. The celebration concluded with a feast organized by the Simbu and Madang parishioners.

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Over 2500 people were present at the Holy Spirit Cathedral, Madang on 31st October 2019 to join in the celebration of the Eucharistic in thanksgiving to God for the new Archbishop. His Excellency Most Rev. Anthon Bal formerly served the Diocese of Kundiawa, before the Vatican Embassy announced his appointment to the Archdiocese of Madang, in July this year.

The newly installed Archbishop began his homily in the Eucharistic mass by reminding the parishioners that everyone needs Christ for support and that they should live a Christ-like lifestyle. He further added that as their new archbishop, he needs the help and the communion of the parishioners. Speaking in tok pisin he said, "Me wantaim you I sios I stap life oltaim."

Apostolic Nuncio to Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands, Archbishop Kurian Mathew

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Photo top: Entrance procession
Photo above: Parish Choir

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The Parish choir at the Eucharistic celebration was coordinated by Mr. Tony Tapalla. Dancers in their local 'bilas' added to the solemnity of the event. The singing group from Panutibun island led the procession at the start of the Eucharistic celebration. The bible procession was done by the Franciscan Friends and the offertory procession by the Chimbu delegates.

The entire celebration was coordinated by Fr Joseph Durero, svd. Assisting him was the Catholic Mama Group from the Cathedral headed by Bernadette Yena and Ruth Dedmai. Panutibun community and Simon and Angela Bilas and family for the Madang Traditional singing group and Bogen decors. The decors were led by Mrs Vivian Buai.

Archbishop Anthon Bal received his episcopal consecration on 12th January 2009 and was appointed as the Bishop of Kundiawa. He is the vice president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of PNG and the Solomon Islands. He is also the Chairman of the committee for Integral Human Development and Deputy Bishop for National Family Life Commission.

New Bishop of Kimbe appointed

Port Moresby: Pope Francis has appointed Reverend Father John Bosco Auram as the new Bishop of the Diocese of Kimbe.

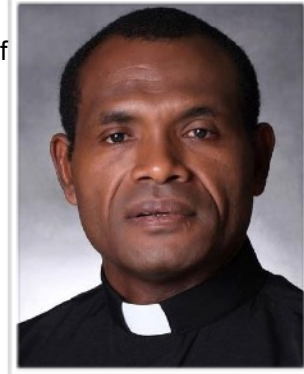
The announcement was made by the Apostolic Nunciature (Vatican Embassy) in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea on Friday, 18th October 2019 at 8pm.

Reverend Father John Bosco Auram replaces His Lordship Most Reverend William Fey, OFM Cap, Bishop of Kimbe who has reached the age limit.

Father Auram was born on 19th October, 1972 at Sara, West New Britain, Papua New Guinea. He was ordained on the 17th January, 2004.

He completed his Religious Studies in 1998 at Sacred Heart Seminary Rapolo, ENBP and in 2002 his Bachelor in Sacred Theology at the Sacred Heart Major Seminary Rapolo. He then did a Licentiate and Master of Art in Sacred Theology, UST, in Manila, Philippines from 2016 to 2018.

May the Lord bless and guide him as he prepares to take up the pastoral governance of the Diocese of Kimbe.



Listen and Accompany

Fr Ambrose Pereira sdb
CBC SOCOM and Youth Secretary



Everything commences with a dream. The dream can take shape only if it is shared. Every vocation requires discernment. This is not only personal, but collective. It is said that no person goes to heaven or hell alone, we take others along with us. Our mission is always in communion with other people.

Throughout the Synod, the young people highlighted 'missionary synodality.' There is always the need to walk together, to work together as a team, to journey together to educate and evangelize. We need to give and receive. Communion is a condition for the mission.

During the Synod, one of the young auditors from the Samoan Islands spoke of the Church as a canoe, in which the elderly help to keep on course by judging the position of the stars, while the young keep rowing, imagining what waits for them ahead. Let us steer clear of young people who think that adults represent a meaningless past, and those adults who always think they know how young people should act. Instead, let us all climb aboard the same canoe and together seek a better world, with the constantly renewed momentum of the Holy Spirit (ChV 201).

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis dedicated an entire chapter to the theme of Intergenerational dialogue. This means that: Young people and older people help each other. There is always giving and receiving in the Church. There is always an exchange of gifts between the generations.

The evil one is always at work confuses good and bad, right and wrong, the sacred and the profane. It is here that we need to have the willingness to listen (cf. ChV 284). Listening to oneself would cause one to fall into error. One cannot discern on ones' own, hence the need to search for someone who can be trusted. We need to be accompanied at the personal level, group level and community level. We need to have a family with a warm, friendly and caring atmosphere.

As young people are we ready to listen to our parents, teachers and elders. And as adults are we ready to spend time, listen, understand, accompany and journey with our young people.

Say No to Violence

On November 25th every year, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, is observed worldwide.

It was created by the United Nations General Assembly on December 17th, 1999, and November 25 was designated as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. Each year, governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations come together to raise public awareness of violence against women.

So, why must we eliminate violence against women? According to the United Nations, violence against women and girls (VAWG) is one of the most widespread, persistent and devastating human rights violations in our world today, that remain largely unreported due to the silence, stigma and shame surrounding it. Sadly, as we all know, VAWG is persistent in Papua New Guinea.

In general terms, it manifests itself in physical, sexual and psychological forms, encompassing:

- intimate partner violence (battering, psychological abuse, marital rape, femicide);
- sexual violence and harassment (rape, forced sexual acts, unwanted sexual advances, child sexual abuse, forced marriage, street harassment, stalking, cyber- harassment);
- human trafficking (slavery, sexual exploitation);
- female genital mutilation; and
- child marriage.

As the UN Secretary-General António Guterres stated: "Not until the half of our population represented by women and girls can live free from fear, violence and everyday insecurity, can we truly say we live in a fair and equal world."

Thus, on Monday, 25th of November, let us all join in solidarity to say no to violence against women and young girls.



- Abigail Seta



CHURCH ALIVE! Magazine

The second issue of the Church Alive! Magazine is now available. It is a Catholic Church Family Magazine for Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands.

Price: K 2/- | K 150/- for 200 copies

Contact CBC SOCOM Office on:
Phone: 71209422 | Email: socom@catholic.org.pg

CBC 2020 Theme:



**Our Catholic Laity:
Holy and
FORMED for Mission**



Who is failing the Children?

Fr. Giorgio Licini, PIME
CBC General Secretary

"Firstly I would like to thank you for everything; for not giving up on me; for trusting me and encouraging me; for appreciating me and most of all for giving me life and strength. If it weren't for you, I wouldn't have been able to complete my grade 12. You have built me through. I know I am not the only one you are supporting. But I pray that the Lord's guidance be always with you. Finding you is like finding everything." – Christine.

This recent text message from one of our kids goes a long way into telling the conditions in which most of them grow in Papua New Guinea; and the harshness they face as they approach the threshold of adult life. Who is failing them? Almost everybody!

Few children enjoy sound and supportive parents and family environment. A number of single mothers struggle. Irresponsible fathers are everywhere. Fortnight pays go on beer rather than food and school fees. The lack in

the morning of a two-kina bus fare is enough to keep a student in the house and miss classes. Dysfunctional homes heavily disturb personal growth and learning. Without strong parental guidance and supervision, teens succumb to peer pressure and to whatever goes on in the streets and at the market place. The root causes of juvenile misbehavior and failure are frequently to be traced back to poor parental performance and lack of family warmth.

The State and the government need to strike a balance with the families. They have a complementary function. The public service is responsible for providing teaching personnel and teaching facilities, financial support, but without completely relieving the parents of their duties, care and assistance to those who grow up without mother and father for whatever reason. Apparently there is nothing in place for these least fortunate; only the good will and generosity of relatives and benefactors. And not all the times.

It is probably for them that the Churches should do more. Some Christian denominations have

schools meant to give a second chance to students who drop out of the government system. Many individual pastors, priests, religious and lay people support kids who are not even their relatives. But even among Church ministers at times the concern for students and schools is far. They don't see it as an area of pastoral priority. They nurture small Church based youth groups, which is commendable, but ignore the hundreds and thousands in their own mission schools.

It is not primarily a matter of meeting the financial needs of the kids. That can only be done for the benefit of a few, since resources are scarce for everybody. It is rather a matter of showing concern, providing guidance, human and religious formation, in a safe and warm environment, offering gathering events and sport opportunities. The children do not really want our money, though we should share with them all we can. They rather need to feel accepted and loved. Something that allows them to develop their strength and skills in view of the challenges of adult life.

- Abigail Seta

Caritas PNG observes Season of Creation

Port Moresby: Caritas Papua New Guinea (CPNG) commemorated the Season of Creation by planting twenty-one trees at the St. Martin De Porres Parish, Morata on Saturday, 5th October.

The Season of Creation which runs from 1st September to 4th October is an annual global movement that brings Christians all over the world to pray, act and advocate for creation.

According to the Director of CPNG, Mavis Tito, CPNG's participation was to show solidarity with the people of the Amazon, as they continue to struggle to preserve their forests from exploitation for economic gains.

"The tree planting was special in that we knew we were not alone, but rather we were doing this in unison with environmental activists, concerned individuals or communities and believers around the world from Pope Francis at the Vatican to the Amazon and to New Zealand," she said. "We demonstrated that little acts did matter and most importantly we demonstrated our support for our

affected brothers and sisters in the Amazon. We showed that they were not alone in their struggle."

Ms Tito said that CPNG used to promote tree planting in the past and that it was encouraged in the dioceses that had active logging operations which CPNG now plans to revive.

"It is definitely something that CPNG plans to do on a regular basis under its Environmental Justice Program in partnership with the PNG Forest Authority, Department of Nature and Conservation, schools and parishes. It is a contribution towards combatting climate change and care for the environment," she stated.

The CPNG team were joined by the Catholic Bishops Conference of Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands (CBCPNSI) where they planted



CPNG and CBC Staff after planting a shade tree

shade and candle trees on the premises of the parish.

This global movement ended on Friday, 4th October in the Vatican gardens where Pope Francis planted a tree alongside indigenous leaders from the Amazon region.

Youth Alive in Christ

- Ambie James and Fr. Yulianus Gunawan



Youths from the Diocese at the Youth Convention

Daru: Nearly 200 Catholic Youth from Southern part of the Diocese of Daru – Kiunga attended the youth convention held from 23rd to 27th September in Daru.

The theme of the convention was: "Youth Alive in Christ" which encouraged the young

people to be faithful disciples of Jesus in society and in the church. Sessions were given by facilitators who were from different departments, organizations, services, clergy and lay faithful.

A discussion of the latest document from Pope Francis, "Christus Vivit" was facilitated by Desmond Aigilo. He shared the importance of being active in the life of the church, of building up a good dialogue with the parish priest and the parish team. He encouraged the young people to grow in the ministry of their parish and diocese, and not be afraid as Jesus Christ loves them, saves them and that He is truly alive.

Sports, fun and games and a cultural night celebrated the friendship and cultural uniqueness of the young people. The young people have been encouraged and inspired to be committed to their Catholic Faith.

Workshop for Priestly Vocation Directors

- Nigel Akuani

The Catholic Bishops Conference hosted the first Priestly Vocation Director's Workshop that was held from the 14th to 19th October.

"Vocation promotion is about God's calling and preparing our young people to answer him," said Fr John Cabrido SDB, facilitator of the Diocesan Priestly Vocation Directors' Workshop. "As Priests and Vocational Directors, we need to work hand-in-hand to create an atmosphere where the young vocation will grow and flourish," he said.

The workshop dwelt on topics such as What is vocation: Priest in Melanesia, Discernment and Spiritual Direction, Ministry of the Vocation Director and Vocation Promotion strategies and many more. Held at the CBC office in Gordons, the four-day program had 23 participants, all priests from the different dioceses in PNG and Solomon Islands, who were present for the workshop.



The workshop is a first of its kind organized by CBC as requested in the 2019 Bishops Annual General Meeting to address the declining number of young recruits into seminaries.

Fr John Cabrido in a session with the participants of the workshop

Yumi Yet Sios

Long dispela mun Oktoba 2019 yumi selebreitim wan hundred yia bilong tingim Papa Santu Pop Benedikt namba 15 em i bin raitim wanpela pas igo long Sios olgeta we em i bin toktok long bikpela wok misin i pundaun antap long olgeta bilipmanmeri insait long Sios bikos long sakramen bilong baptais ol i kisim pinis. Olgeta bilipmanmeri i save kisim baptais na ol i save kisim luksave olsem Jisas Kraist yet i salim ol igo long autim gudnius na bilip bilong ol long ol gutpela wok ol i mekim na tu wonem kain laip ol i livim aut long laip bilong ol insait long famili na ol komuniti.

Insait long dispela wankain spirit bilong wok misin na strongim wok evanjelaisan Katolik Daisis bilong Kavieng i bin kisim wanpela spesel grasia long namba 14 de bilong mun Oktoba 2019 taim ol i bin tok bikpela amamas na welkam long statiu bilong Mama Fatima long Kavieng ples balus. Planti pipol tumas klostu olsem ten tausen olgeta i bin weit i stap long lukim kamap na ol welkam seremoni i bin kamap gut tru wantaim gutpela wok bung wantaim namel long Katolik Daisis bilong Kavieng na Provinsel Gavman bilong Niu Ailan Provins.

Bisop bilong Daisis na Govenan bilong Provins tupela i bin sanap wantaim long ples balus na

mekim ol wok kastam i bin nais tumas. Ol bilipmanmeri ol i kam long olgeta peris wantaim ol strongpela singsing bilong kalsa bilong ol ples. Pasin tumbuna bilong ol Niu Ailan i bin kamap gut tru.

Makim Provins yet Govenan Sir Julius Chan em i bin risivim Mama Fatima long han bilong kastodian bilong Sidni Australia na bihainim pasin tumbuna em i givim Mama Fatima igo long han bilong Bisop Rochus Josef Tatamai husat i givim long ol poll beras bilong karim Mama Fatima long wanpela bikpela prosesio i stat long ples balus bihainim foa lein bilong rot igo insait long Kavieng Taun Senta. Olgeta bilipmanmeri wantaim ol skul pikinini na ol yut olgeta pulapim bikpela rot na walkabout singsing na prea wantaim amamas na bikpela bel isi.

Olgeta yet i bin soim gutpela spirit bilong refleksen na bikpela pasin rispekt long wanpela narapela ol pilgrims. Spirit bilong dispela wokabout processio i bin kamap gutpla tru na i kamapim strongpela pasin wokabout wantaim. Olgeta yet ol i kam kamap long Katedral na kisim gen narapela bikpela amamas na welkam i kam long ol lejon bilong Maria. Bihain long ol dispela wok welkam olgeta yet i redi long go insait long bikpela

- Bp Rochus Tatamai MSC



Santu Misa Bisop Rochus Tatamai Bishop bilong Kavieng i bin go pas long en.

Ol strongpela kwaia ol i bin singsing nais tumas na amamas tru. Olgeta bilipmanmeri i bin pilim wanpela kain grasia na bel isi bilong Mama Fatima i bin pundaun antap long olgeta yet. Bihainim dispela welkam Misa Mama Fatima i go raun long Daisis na visitim olgeta ailan peris olsem Lavongai na Puas, Mapua na Lihir na igo moa yet igo long Tanga na Anir.

Bihain peris visit igo moa long Manga, Namatanai bihain igo long Milmila long Duk of Yok ailan bipo ol i kam bek gen long Wes Kos Karu na Ugana. Kamap long Lamasong bihain go insait long Lemakot na liklik taim ol igo aut kwik long visitim ailan bilong Jaul. Kambek gen long Lemakot na kam insait long Kavieng peris we olgeta peris na bilipmanmeri i bin bung bilong mekim misa bilong tok tenkyu na tok gudbai long Mama Fatima bipo em bai go bek gen long Sidni Australia.

Mama Fatima pre bilong helpim mipela nau na oltaim.

Diocese of Kavieng Rejoices at Visit of Our Lady of Fatima

- Andrew Topolot, Photos: Godfrey Abage

the tarmac area. The delegation with the International Icon included International Custodian Paul Folley of Australian Needs Fatima Program, Fr Joe Okas Pastoral Vicar and Fatima Associates.

Governor Sir Julius Chan, head of the province, was the first person to receive the Statue as it was led out from the terminal. Our Lady of Fatima was then led in a candle light procession from the airport toward Kavieng Town and then reached the Cathedral of the Diocese.

Bishop of Kavieng and President of Catholic Bishops Conference of PNGSI, Rochus Tatamai MSC, welcomed welcome Our Lady and its accompanying delegation. Thanksgiving and veneration then followed.

The visit was organised to answer requests from the laity of the diocese in 2016. It was a

time for the faithful to share apparitions, healing, reconciliation, conversion and even miracles. The presence of Our Lady demonstrated a collaborative effort between the clergy and laity. The event has shown that the church can be self-sufficient, self-sustaining in regard to the Church growth. During the past three weeks, Our Lady of Fatima has travelled by sea and visited parishes within Kavieng, Namatanai and the Duke of York Islands in East New Britain.

Preparation to receive the international icon began 12 months ago, and the reception given to Our Lady of Fatima with forthcoming experiences, reconciliations, conversions, receiving sacraments, personal messages through apparitions, truly reflects the months of preparations in the two deaneries of the Diocese. A farewell program was held on the 3rd November. The statue of Our Lady returned to Sydney, Australia on 4th November.



Kavieng: Much rejoice was created for the Diocese of Kavieng during the arrival of 'Our Lady of Fatima' on the evening of Monday 14th October 2019, at Kavieng Airport in New Ireland Province.

People flocked in crowds at the airport to witness the Statue for the first time, as it was ferried out from an Air Niugini flight onto

DBTI Graduating Students' Retreat

Boroko, Port Moresby: The year-end spiritual retreat for the 3rd year diploma students and the 4th year technical education students of Don Bosco Technological Institute under the old program of Divine Word University. It took place at the Emmaus Conference Centre Boroko, NCD from 21st to the 26th October 2019. The entire group of graduating students was divided into three groups and each had a two-day retreat.

Fr. Ambrose Pereira, sdb, Youth and Social Communications Secretary for the Catholic

Bishops Conference was the Retreat Master. In keeping with the Strenna of the Rector Major for 2019, the theme was: 'Called to Holiness.' Dealing with holiness he stressed simple acts of kindness and gratitude. "Young people you are full of life. Open yourself to the possibility of Christ being Alive in you" said Fr Ambrose.

Fr Alex Garces sdb, Rector and President of DBTI took a session, entitled, 'Look Back, Look Forward'. "Your life in DBTI was a climb and DBTI is just one mountain that you've climbed. There are other mountains you will have to climb," said Fr. Alex to the graduating students.

Each two-day retreat had an adoration, the Rosary, the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and moments of prayer. The final thanksgiving Eucharist reminded us to be always grateful and 'Live Pure',

- Amelia Hwanawi (DECT 3B), Esiyne Tule (INF, 3), Celestina Bouman (ELT 3B) and Debhora Nelson (4th Year)



Young ladies committing themselves to live pure.

committed and holy lives.

This event was organised by the Director for Pastoral Affairs Fr. Joseph Dai sdb, the Liturgical Animator Mr. Jojo together with the Pastoral Team.

Catholic Reporter

Invites you to send in your articles, photograph and reflections on events and happenings in your parish, community, institution and diocese.

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