



# 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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- Courtesy Vatican News

## Pope at Angelus: 'go against the current, choose meekness and mercy'

Pope Francis observed the solemn Feast of All Saints inviting the faithful to reflect on the *great hope* that is based on Christ's resurrection during the Sunday Angelus.

the Lord despite everything and put themselves under His shadow."  
"They are not indifferent, nor do they harden their hearts when they are in pain, but they patiently hope for *God's comfort*. And they experience this comfort even in this

life," he said.  
People like this, he said, may not be appreciated by the world and its mentality, but they are precious in God's eyes: "God gives them the promised land as an inheritance, that is, life eternal. This beatitude also begins here below and is fulfilled in Heaven."

Especially at a time like this, with so much aggressivity in the world, he continued, meekness is the way to go forward with humility and mercy.

Thus the Pope invited the faithful to choose a life of purity, meekness and mercy; to entrust themselves to God in poverty of spirit and in affliction: "This means going against the current in respect to this world's mentality, in respect to the culture of possessing, of meaningless fun, of arrogance against the weakest."

### A personal and universal vocation to holiness

Pope Francis concluded saying that this evangelical path was trodden by the Saints and Blessed and that today's solemnity, that honours All Saints, reminds us of "the personal and universal vocation to holiness, and proposes sure models for this journey that each person walks in a unique and unrepeatable way, according to the "imagination" of the Holy Spirit."



The Pope upheld the Saints and Blessed as the most authoritative witnesses of Christian hope. He also invited us all to choose purity, meekness and mercy while entrusting ourselves to the Lord and dedicating ourselves to justice and peace.

He reflected on two *Beatitudes* – the second and the third - that, he said, Jesus preached and which resound in the Liturgy (see *Mt 5:1-12a*), and described them as the path to holiness.

### The second Beatitude

The Pope said the second one is "*Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted*". These words, he explained, seem contradictory because mourning is not a sign of joy and happiness. But Jesus, he continued, proclaims blessed those who mourn because of suffering, sins and the difficulties of everyday life, but "who trust in

life," he said.

### The third Beatitude

In the third Beatitude, Pope Francis said, Jesus states: "*Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth*". Meekness, he noted, is characteristic of Jesus, who said of Himself: "Learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart" (*Mt 11:29*).

The meek, the Pope continued, are those "who know how to control themselves, who leave space for the other, they listen to the other, respect the other's way of living, his or her needs and requests." They do not intend to overwhelm or diminish the other, he said, they do not want to dominate or impose their ideas or interests to the detriment of others.

**Go against the current: Be meek, work for justice and peace**

- Fr Ambrose Pereira sdb and Fr Joseph Durero SVD

## Imposition of Pallium on Archbishop of Madang

The Pallium is a liturgical sign of communion that unites the See of Peter and his successor to the Metropolitans and through them the order of Bishops throughout the world. As a sign of synodality with the local churches, Pope Francis has decided that the Pallium blessed during the mass of Sts Peter and Paul will be handed over to the newly appointed Archbishops, which in turn will be imposed on them in their respective Sees, by the Pope's Representative, the Apostolic Nuncio.

**Madang:** The pallium was imposed on Archbishop Anton Bal, Archbishop of Madang by Archbishop Kurian Mathew Vayalunkal, Apostolic Nuncio to Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands, at the Holy Spirit Cathedral, Madang.

It was held on Sunday 25th October during the Eucharistic Celebration with two other events of significance which were the blessings and presentation of the Pastoral Plans of the Archdiocese of Madang to the Deaneries and the commissioning of the Catholic Professionals.

Archbishop Emeritus William Kurtz, Bishop Rozario Menezes, Bishop of Lae and priests of the Archdiocese concelebrated at the Eucharistic celebration. Religious, Parish Pastoral Counsel members of the Archdiocese of Madang and Catholic lay faithful filled the cathedral for the celebrations. A large group of prisoners were also present for the celebrations. The Archdiocesan Pastoral Council consisting of 137 delegates and the Parish priests from the Dioceses, chairpersons and

head Catechist of each parish met at Alexishafen for two days. The Pastoral Plan for the Archdiocese for the next five years was drawn up.

In the months ahead, every parish is to identify suitable activities to ensure that the plan is put into practice. The Archdiocesan Pastoral Plan was presented to the two deans and the Catholic Professionals after Holy Communion.

After the homily, 32 Catholic Professionals made their commitment to be 'light and voice' to the people of the diocese. Each was then presented with a 'cross of courage' by Archbishop Anton Bal.

They were reminded to be witnesses to Christ by their way of life. "As Catholic Professionals you are to work together and in harmony with your



Picture 1: Abp Anton Bal receiving the Pallium from the Apostolic Nuncio

Picture 2: Commissioning of Catholic Professionals in Madang

Pictures by Fr Ambrose Pereira sdb

Archbishop. You are to be a light and a voice for the voiceless", said Mr Harricknen.

The members were also reminded to ensure that prayer and the celebration of the sacraments is regular in their lives. Devotion to Blessed Peter ToRot, Patron of the Catholic Professionals Society was also highlighted.

The members were invited to implore his intercession for favours and graces for themselves and their families.

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## Priest appointed as member of Missionaries of Mercy

**Mt Hagen:** Fr. Bogdan Swierczewski, CSMA, has received recognition as a member of the Missionaries of Mercy in the Archdiocese of Mt. Hagen.

On Wednesday, 14 October 2020 Archbishop Douglas Young, SVD presented the Decree, an official document from the Holy See which confirms Fr. Bogdan Swierczewski, CSMA as a member of the Missionaries of Mercy. This recognition comes directly from the Missionaries of Mercy under the care of the Pontifical Council in Rome. The right to appoint priests to be members of the Missionaries of Mercy is reserved only for the popes. Only the popes appoint priests whom the bishops in each dioceses choose upon their works as priests.

This means Fr. Bogdan Swierczewski, CSMA is now a 'Confessor'. Confessor is a special ministry in which a priest is officially vested with special powers and authority to absolve every sin through the

sacrament of Confession, even the sins that are reserved only for the Holy See. This ministry is given only by the popes to priests of the Missionaries of Mercy. They are to show mercy and forgiveness of the Father to the world.

Further, they have to proclaim God's mercy through active preaching. Individuals who believe in God's mercy, repent in their hearts and come for confession, should experience the mercy and grace of God. Fr. Bogdan understood and accepted this special ministry and he is equally willing and ready with it. He is the official exorcist of the Catholic Archdiocese of Mt. Hagen. On every first Friday of the month there is a special prayer for the exorcists at Ruquist Divine Mercy Shrine. He is also in charge of Divine Mercy in the Archdiocese, and the Rector of the Divine Mercy Shrine at Ruquist, Kuli Parish of Mt. Hagen Archdiocese.



## Coping during the COVID-19 pandemic

**Fr Ambrose Pereira sdb,**  
Secretary for Social Communication

We are nearly at the end of the year and the one question on our minds is: 'When will this COVID-19 pandemic end?' Personally, I was hoping that things would settle down by the end of the year. With occasional new cases emerging, we pray, and we hope that there will be an end to this.

During this time, we have been forced to change our lifestyles, our routine, our plans and our programs. Students have found it difficult to keep indoors and parents have struggled to balance work schedules. Online meetings and programs with limited participants have been organized and conducted and we realize that it has had a limited effect in productivity.

It has been hard for most people and the uncertainty of the pandemic has caused stress, worry and unnecessary tension. I wish to share with you a few tips adapted from an article by Joe Eruppakkatt in the September issue of Teenager Today, a youth magazine from India.

**Stay Connected to God:** Over the past weekends, the students of Don Bosco Technological Institute have been engaged in their Graduation Retreats. It has been a time of silence, reflection and prayer. Several have appreciated this special time and realize that silence and mediation can bring one joy, peace and tranquillity. Prayer does not take away our worries, but it gives us the grace and the courage to deal with them.

**Stay connected to people:** The pandemic has limited our interaction with friends and family. Social gathering and events have been cancelled in a move to limit the spread of the virus. Eucharistic celebrations in Port Moresby have been celebrated with face masks and social distancing. We have missed the beautiful bond of personal and direct communication. Technology and social media platforms have kept us connected. However, we have to be vigilant and careful on the time spent, the sites visited and the type of people we interact with, lest we land into dangerous relationships that will only increase our anxiety and depression.

**Engage in helping others:** We are constantly being reminded that we are all in this together. The pandemic has made us realize that each one of us have to play our part to protect our planet and reach out to others. Pope Francis in his recent encyclical *Fratelli Tutti* highlights the need for engaged encounter with our brothers and sisters. People who focus on others and reach out are happier and healthier than those who are selfish and self-centred. When we put this 'Culture of Encounter' into practice then we are filled with joy, happiness and peace.

**Engage in something new:** While we have been in lockdown, isolation and social distancing, I am sure you have been engaged in spending your precious time usefully. One of the most important ways has been to put our CBC initiative into practice. **Keep it Clean! Go Green.** Several have planted fruit trees that will enable us food sustainability for generations to come. Others have been planting vegetables and cabbage for home and community consumption. We have realized the need to keep our surroundings and our environment clean and green.

The pandemic is not in our hands and a way around it is to make our world a better place to live in. This is the positive aspect of the COVID-19 pandemic. May we be enlightened to do our part.

## The "Great Century" of Christian Mission (1800-1900):

**Fr. Victor Roche SVD, Secretary for New Evangelization**

*Continued from the October Issue entitled: "Evangelisation in the Catholic Church 1500-1800 AD"*

The century from 1800-1900 is filled with great Catholic Missionary Activity around the world but it also marked the beginning of a great surge of Protestant Missionary work.

Luther and Calvin had believed that there was no need for more missionary activity, since those who were destined to be saved had already had the gospel preached to them.

There was some missionary activity by the Lutheran Pietists led by Count Nicholas Ludwig von Zinzendorf in the eighteenth century, but it was only after 1793, with the publication of William Carey's famous tract on the Christian obligation to convert the 'heathen', that Protestant missionary work took off. And take off it did! Carey and his few companions went to India and soon many others followed. Soon missionaries were going to China, Africa, Polynesia and Oceania. Missionary societies like the London Missionary Society, Baptist Missionary Society in England and the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions in the United States were formed. Colonial expansion made it easy for their missionaries to expand Christianity in their respective countries.

By 1815 peace had pretty much been restored in Europe after final defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo. The same year saw the lifting of the order of suppression of the Jesuits. Religious orders, sent out from France during the dark days of the Revolution were beginning to be restored. The Papacy, which

had reached its lowest point of power under Napoleon with the imprisonment of Popes Pius VII and VIII, was the beginning to gain a new prestige in Europe.

There were many new Missionary orders were founded in this century: Missionaries of the Precious Blood (1815), Oblates of Mary Immaculate (1816), Marist Brothers (1817), Marist Fathers (1836), Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (1854), Salesians of Don Bosco (SDB-1859), Mill Hill Missionaries (1866), White Fathers (1868), Society of the Divine Word (SVD 1875) and many more. Many of these male congregations had sister congregations as well.

The work of mission was varied: schools, universities, hospitals, clinics, charitable services and material aid. Most had the clear idea of the goal of mission work : the salvation of souls and the implantation of the church. Some of the Protestant Churches and Catholic Orders thought (actually contrary to the teaching of the Catholic Church) that those who died without baptism were condemned to hell or at least sent to limbo. Local cultures and religions were seen mostly seen as evil and had to be Christianized.

Missionaries worked in Africa, Asia, South America, Australia, New Zealand, Polynesia and Oceania.

*To be continued in the next issue*

- Nigel Akuani

## 48 women graduate from sewing school

**Port Moresby:** 48 women from the Kogeva and Sabama Communities graduated after their three-month Tailoring Training Course, organized by the Daughters of Mary Immaculate Sisters.

The graduation ceremony was held on 27<sup>th</sup> October, at the Kogeva Community Centre in Kaugere Port Moresby, and had as its theme, 'A powerful woman can make a powerful world'.

It had the presence of His Eminence Sir John Cardinal Ribat, Archbishop of Port Moresby; Mr Justin Tkatchenko, Member for Moresby South; Fr John Glynn, Founder of WeCare Foundation; Sr Catherine DMI, Country Director for DMI Mission in PNG; Mr. Kalyana Ranman, Social Activist and Ms Anna Skate, Moresby South Motu Koitabu Women's Representative.

According to Sr Catherine, the Tailoring program introduced in June 2020, is intended to promote women's rights and to sustain their economy and life. "Seeing the heart-breaking situation of women groups, DMI initiated the promotion of women self-help groups, additional skill trainings and vocational skill training to equip them skilfully to allow them to sustain and find meaning in their lives," she said.

Cardinal Ribat congratulated the graduates reminding them of how their achievement was a blessing and urged for them to use it in helping others.

Mr Tkatchenko commanded the efforts made by DMI Sisters in empowering women in the area and reassured all present that he would continue to support their efforts in human development.



"Thank you, Sisters, because the program you have taught has inspired many of our local women to become better people by earning their own income and becoming economically sustainable. My door is open to you for further discussions of any future programs that you might have," he stated.

Extending her gratitude to the DMI Sisters, Alice Arupa, thanked the Sisters for providing a window of opportunity to better themselves and urged for women around the country to embrace the challenge. "It is through the vocation of the sisters, we as women were able in attaining this certificate and it is proof that we can become more that what society deems us to be," she said.

The provision of light meals and refreshments concluded the joyous occasion. The DMI Congregation based in Korobosea, will be opening two of its new centres in the villages of Mahuru and Pari, in early 2021.



# Religious vilification may require legal action

Fr. Giorgio Licini, PIME, CBC General Secretary

The world was again shocked in October by the actions of a few Muslim fundamentalists who shot or beheaded people in broad daylight in France. Particularly gruesome was the crime perpetrated inside the Catholic Cathedral of Nice. A young man from North Africa entered the church before the morning Mass and stabbed to death the sacristan and two ladies who came for prayer.

The victims had no fault and had never offended the Prophet Muhammad or the holy book of the Koran. However, there is a fraction of the population in France, including the President, who believe that satirical caricature has no boundary and no limit. Anybody, from God to a religious leader to a politician to a common citizen and their beliefs, can be attacked, mocked, ridiculed, and trampled upon.

These people maintain that satirical literature can never be classified as offensive. The three Catholic faithful in Nice were victims of the wrong

and criminal reaction to this type of Western cultural extremism.

We do not agree with the French cartoonists promoting this dangerous and unfair approach. The protection of the innermost sensitivity of human beings on matters of faith, ethics, relationships, and personal beliefs is a human right. The personal and collective sacred sphere can be debated or disagreed upon, but never disrespected. Everybody is entitled to profess their moral and religious convictions, privately and publicly without being ridiculed by anybody. For any perceived violation or offense, the rule of law is the roadmap to the solution of the conflicts.

No society is totally immune from religious extremism. It becomes an ideology when a set of religious beliefs is perceived as the receipt for the solution of all problems, deprived on any critical thinking, convinced that everything and everybody around is wrong and evil. This a syndrome that at times even conquers the minds of prominent and well-educated people.

What follows are lies, contempt, mystification, moral and even physical violence. A Catholic Bishop was stoned in Lae a few years ago when he tried to confront people with this type of attitude. There are members of "Christian" denominations who have taken upon themselves the task of throwing all sort of slurs at other Christians. They seem to have found in hatred and vilification of persons and beliefs the reason of their life and their innermost religious identity. Their denominational leaders seem to be slightly distancing themselves by saying that they have no control over individuals and small groups, but still refrain from issuing public statements of condemnation and rebuttal.

This cannot be further tolerated. While a violent response is always wrong and short sighted, social harmony and nation building may require legal action at a certain point. The cancer of hatred and misconstruction must be tackled first and foremost for the benefit of the very people who suffer from such a sickness, which is fatal to individuals and society.

- Fr Peter Kopil

## Mt Hagen on print media seminar

in the different media platforms to spread the message of God's love to all especially in the print media.

Catholic Bishops Conference Social Communications Commission (SOCOM) Representative, Ms Abigail Seta, facilitated the program at the Trinity FM studio which had seven participants present. The participants were five staff from Trinity FM Radio Station and two youths from the parishes in the Archdiocese.

"It was a very interactive program that invoked critical discussions about the media in PNG. The participants were eager to learn as some of the topics presented were new to them. I hope that they will put into practice what they have learnt," stated Ms Seta.

The workshop has helped the participants to improve their skills in imparting messages to others through media print.

- Rosemary Yambune



**Rebiamul, Mt Hagen:** A three-day print media seminar was held in the Archdiocese of Mt. Hagen focused on writing articles, creating newsletters and capturing photographs with a message.

Held from 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> October, the purpose of the seminar was to equip the participants with necessary skills that will enable them to participate

## Advancing partnership to end violence

**Port Moresby:** Members of the Church Development Council and representatives from the Government are standing in solidarity to end all forms of violence in families and communities.

This follows a meeting held from 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> October, at the Dream Inn in Port Moresby that had as its theme "Churches and Government to work together to End Violence in the Family and Communities."

It had the participation of ten prominent figures from the Church Development Council and the Ministry of Youth Religion and Community Development. The Bishop Deputy of the Laity commission of the Catholic Bishops Conference, Bp Otto Separy was present and spoke of how the partnership would draw a positive influence to the



nation and urged for proper advocacy and awareness to be carried out among the young generation of today.

Advancing Church and State partnership in service delivery through health, education and community development, were few of the commitments reviewed and strengthened by the church and government in the meeting.

- Fr Newman Kingi

## First FSM Convent opened in Diocese of Wabag



**Wabag:** After three years of humbled and dedicated service, the Franciscan Sisters of Mary in the Diocese of Wabag, have finally been given a duplex convent.

The opening of the new convent on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2020, was a historical event and was dedicated to Saint Clare the founder of the Congregation. Bishop of Wabag, Arnold Orowae STL, was the main celebrant and con-celebrating the occasion were

diocesan and parish priests from Wabag and Mendi; Religious and Christians from the neighbouring communities.

The erection of the new building served as a formal recognition by the Sari Parish Board and the Diocese of Wabag for the congregation's service in the diocese. It currently has three FSM Sisters as its caretakers. Since the initiation of the Franciscan Sisters of Mary in 1979 in the Diocese of Mendi, the congregation was limited to Southern Highland and Hela Provinces. However, the Congregation made a breakthrough for the first time and extended their mission outside of the province in 2017, settling in the Sari Holy Family Parish of the Diocese of Wabag. They housed themselves in the ground floor of the Parish guest house. Sari Parish is a historical ground where the first missionaries came to settle in 1947, without the proper establishment of a convent and other essential services.




**CARITAS PAPUA NEW GUINEA**  
*presents*

**LOGO  
DESIGN  
COMPETITION**

Caritas Papua New Guinea (CPNG) is calling on young talented students to create a logo for the Commission.

**Criteria:**  
There are two logos: The **Universal Caritas Internationalis logo** and the **CPNG logo** (pictured above). The logo must:

- Embody the same colour and flaming cross of the Caritas universal logo**
- Be uniquely Papua New Guinean**

**Participation:**  
The competition is open to all students

**Prizes:**  
Winning logo  
2 runner ups

**Submission Date:**  
Friday, 18th December 2020

Send in your submissions to [director\\_caritaspng@catholic.org.pg](mailto:director_caritaspng@catholic.org.pg)

For more information, contact the Caritas PNG National Office on 325 3597

**CHURCH ALIVE MAGAZINE**



Church Alive Magazine a Catholic Family magazine for Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands.  
Volume 2, Issue 4, October to December.

**Price: K2/**

**Bulk purchase of 50 copies and more are priced at K1.50 a copy**

To purchase magazines, contact CBC SOCOM on:  
Phone: 325 9577 | Email: [socom@catholic.org.pg](mailto:socom@catholic.org.pg)



Candidates ready to receive the sacrament of confirmation  
Picture courtesy: Catholic Communications, Archdiocese of Honiara

## 330 children receive sacrament of confirmation

Parish Priest Fr. Godfrey with beautiful singing led by confirmers and youths. According to a statement from the Parish Chairman, the 330 children were from communities of Vura, Tamboko, Veraboli and Tanagai.

When congratulating the confirmation candidates, Archbishop Chris encouraged them to always walk in the light, choose and make wise decisions and to listen to their parents' advice. He also encouraged parents to continue to give good advice to their children.

"Parents should always give your children good advice in the way the bible teaches us, and the way Jesus wants us to live," the Archbishop stated.

The Archbishop's sermon was from the Gospel of St. Mathew Chapter 22 versus 15 to 22. Based on

the Scripture reading, Archbishop Chris encouraged Christians to give honor and Glory back to the creator of both heaven and earth and all that is good.

"Let us not criticize other Christians beliefs or our neighbours' weaknesses. Instead, we should help, pray and love them just us God loves us by sending His son Jesus Christ who died for us on the Cross," he said.

Sunday School Coordinator of Tanagai Parish and chairman said Sunday's event was a great blessing for the communities around the Parish and also for the 330 candidates to hold the program despite the pandemic.

The celebration concluded with feasting and entertainment.

**Honiara:** A total of 330 children of St. Mary Tanagai Parish received the sacrament of confirmation on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October in the Archdiocese of Honiara.

The church program was led by Rev. Archbishop Christopher Cardone OP and assisted by Tanagai

## Human Integrity emphasized at Chaplains' Workshop

- Nigel Akuani

**Port Moresby:** Virtues, values and integrity were but some of the principles and human qualities stressed during a constructive National Level Chaplain Workshop focused at improving the service delivery of Chaplaincies throughout Papua New Guinea.

The workshop held from 12<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> October, at the Catholic Bishops Conference in Waigani, was facilitated by Bishop of Lae, Rozario Menezes SMM, with the help of Sr. Mary McCarthy PBVM, Chaplain of Port Moresby General Hospital.

It had as its theme, "Chaplains Holy, formed and sent on a mission", and had the participation of fifteen Chaplains both local and expatriates from Poland, Nigeria, Kenya, Australia and India, serving in the dioceses of Lae, Port Moresby, Vanimo, Aitape, Goroka, Mt Hagen, Mendi and Kundiawa.

Special guests were also invited to give brief sessions highlighting the significant role of Chaplaincies and the crucial need for the implementation of its services regarding rehabilitation and human services. Guests included Cardinal John Ribat MSC, Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Port Moresby; Fr Jan Czuba SVD,

Secretary of the Department of Higher Education Research Science and Technology; Stephen Pokanis, Correctional Services Commissioner; Representatives of Police Commissioner Daving Manning; Chief Executive Officer of Port Moresby General Hospital, Dr Paki Molumi; Dr Uma Ambi, Director of the Social Change and Mental Health Directorate.

The workshop was structured in three parts: sharing on the situation on the ground and the service; inputs and expectation by the government departments on education, health and security; and working in the current "new normal", in regard to COVID-19.

A closing eucharist was held on the final day that was celebrated by Archbishop Kurian Mathew Vayalunkal, Apostolic Nuncio to PNGSI; and concelebrated by Bp Rozario, Priests, and Religious Sr Mary McCarthy.

Picture (top right): Apostolic Nuncio with chaplains from the different dioceses.

Picture (bottom right): Participants in session during the workshop.



## Film festival raises awareness on the care for environment and COVID-19

- Nigel Akuani



Picture 1: Cardinal Sir John Ribat, CBC SOCOM Secretary, Fr Ambrose Pereira and students cutting the ISFF20 cake at the opening  
Picture 2: Participants and guests during an action song inside the Paradise Cinema. Pictures by: Karl David Valmonte

**Port Moresby:** The International Short Film Festival (ISFF20) has left many with a heightened sense of awareness to care much more for the environment and the need to take precautions in the battle against the COVID-19 pandemic.

Held on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October at the Paradise Cinema in Waigani, the ISFF20 had as its theme, 'Keep It Clean. Go Green', and premiered short captivating films created by school and university students from Papua New Guinea. There were a hundred people present for the celebration.

Among those present were Sir John Cardinal Ribat MSC, Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Port Moresby; Priests, Religious, Brothers, Principals of

the various schools; friends and family; and representatives from the Australian High Commission and Caritas Australia.

Cardinal Ribat congratulated the students for their hard work and dedication toward creating the films and urged for more engagement of young people to create a positive change for society.

"You are the future of our country, and many young people today need similar programs to guide them and give them formation and a direction for their lives," he said.

Speeches and sharing were also made by students highlighting their experiences during the MES. Certificates of participation were given to the

students who were present for every session, while tokens of appreciation were given to the MES Animators and Media Personnel.

Prizes were awarded in two categories: Top films created during MES, and Top films for the Laudato Si Competition. The awarding of prizes was as follows:

### MES Films:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: De La Salle Secondary School - The Talking Tree
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: La Salle Technical College - Let's Keep it Clean
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: St Charles Lwanga - I care for the Earth

### Laudato Si Film Competition:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Jordan Charlehand - Our Common Home
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Christ the King Parish, Youth Ministry - Seeds passed on

The seven participating schools were: Caritas Technical School, De La Salle Secondary School, Don Bosco Technical School, Don Bosco Technological Institute, Jubilee Catholic Secondary School, La Salle Technical College, and St Charles Lwanga Secondary School. Organized by the Social Communications Commission of the Catholic Bishops Conference of PNGSI, the festival was facilitated by the Commission's Secretary Fr Ambrose Pereira sdb, and the SOCOM 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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Please send in your material to:

socom@catholic.org.pg

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## FRATELLI TUTTI SYMPOSIUM



The Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Theological Institute are promoting a Symposium on the Holy Father's new encyclical letter entitled; **FRATELLI TUTTI**. The aim of this symposium is to have a deeper understanding of the Pope's encyclical in promoting a universal aspiration toward fraternity and social friendship.

Date: **Saturday, 28th November**

Venue: **CTI, Bomana**

Participation: **All are welcome to attend**

For more information, contact **CBC Office** on **325 9577**

