

Catholic Reporter

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Archbishop Peter Loy Chong, Archbishop of Fiji

At the end of the Eucharistic celebration. Cardinal John Ribat msc. president of the FCBCO Assembly presented a beautiful copper beaten and glass framed 'lakatoi' to Archbishop Peter Loy Chong, Archbishop of Fiji. As the Cardinal presented the 'lakatoi', he spoke of the double hulled sailing watercraft of Papua New

FCBCO Handover to Fiji

The delegates Guinea that was traditionally used in the Hiri trade. It of the FCBCO was the 'lakatoi' that was used for voyages and it Assembly carried the men to the different islands and brought concluded on them back safely. "May this symbolic presentation of 17th April with a the 'lakatoi' be a reminder for us to go out and carry Thanksgiving the 'Good News' to people of all the islands", said the Eucharistic celebration at the Airways

Archbishop Peter thanked Cardinal Ribat for the symbolic and beautiful reminder of the 'lakatoi'. He said that they will do their best to prepare well for the next Assembly and highlight issues that are relevant to the region. The CEPAC Conference will host the next FCBCO Assembly in 4 years' time.

> Photographs: Top upper right: Archbishop Peter Loy Chong, at La Salle Technical College, Hohola Right: Cultural dance at Gerehu



- Fr Ambrose Pereira sdb

Episcopal Ordination of Bp Francis Meli, Bishop of Vanimo

Vanimo: "Episcopal Ordination bilong Fr. Francis Meli em i bikpela presen bilong God long mipela olgeta, Bishop Francis Meli em i gutpela wasman bilong ol sipsip Jesus yet it salim em i kam long Daiosis bilong Vanimo", said Bp Cesare Bonivento, PIME as he welcomed the congregation at the start of the Episcopal Ordination.

Bishop Francis Meli was consecrated Bishop of Vanimo on the feast day of St. Mark, the Evangelist, 25th April, 2018 at Vanimo Town Oval, Sandaun Province. Bishop Francis Meli has chosen Justitia et Veritas -Justice and Truth as his Episcopal motto.

His Excellency Archbishop Kurian Mathew Vayalunkal, Apostolic Nuncio to Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands was the Principal Ordaining Bishop. The Assisting Bishops were Archbishop Francisco Panfilo, SDB and Bishop Cesare Bonivento, PIME. Cardinal John Ribat, Archbishop of Port Moresby, 15 bishops of Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands, priests, religious and faithful were part of the celebrations. Present for the occasion were priests and visitors from abroad.

In his homily, Archbishop Kurian invited Bp Francis to reflect on the highest call to the fullness of the priesthood. In the words of Pope Francis to consecrated persons in Chile in January, 2018, he reminded Bp Francis that he needs to show the face of God's mercy to his people.

The archbishop reminded him of three important responsibilities - to teach, to sanctify and to govern the people of God. "You welcome, you walk and you stay with your flock,' he emphasised. As a Good Shepherd, he also reminded him to care spiritually for his priests, especially the ones who suffer from isolation, due to difficulties in communication and transport. He invited the congregation to pray through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Anthony of Padua, Patron of the Diocese, for the protection, blessings and grace on its beloved local Shepherd.

The well prepared and beautiful liturgical celebration which lasted around four hours was coordinated by Fr. Siby Peedikayil HGN. It was attended by about 3000 faithful from different corners of the Diocese of Vanimo. Many from the Diocese of Rabaul and other parts of Papua New Guinea joined in the celebrations. Fr. Jose Philip MSFS who was one of the priests assisting the Bishop-elect presented him to the Principal Ordaining Bishop while the other assisting preist was Fr. Solomon Kulo. Fr. Prabhat Bastiray MSFS was the Master of Ceremonies and Fr. Peter Artiken gave the commentary. The Holy Trinity Parish, Baro choir that sang for the celebration was led by Brian Essi. With a New Guinea Islands dance the Bishops were led to the bogan. The Holy Trinity Parish, Baro led the entrance procession while the children of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Dasi welcomed the Bishops with flowers. The offertory dancers were from St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish, Lido, while the Mary Help of Christians Parish, Wusipi and St. Joseph Parish, Pewi danced at the conclusion of the celebrations.



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At the end of the celebration there were words of thanks by Cardinal John Ribat MSC and Bp Rochus Tatamai MSC. Governor of Vanimo, Tony Wouwou expressed his thanks for the educational and health services of the Catholic Church and looked forward to working with the new Bishop. Archbishop Panfilo SDB spoke of a Church that is one, holy, catholic and apostolic and of his appreciation for the zealous man of prayer that Bp Francis Meli is.

A grateful Bp Francis Meli thanked God, the Holy Father, the Apostolic Nuncio and all present. He thanked Bishop Cesare Bonivento, PIME for his leadership



Bp Cesare Bonivento, PIME end of the celebrations

Vanimo. "You have handed over the Diocese of Vanimo in an excellent state. You have left a legacy and a challenge for me to continue", he said. He appreciated greatly Archbishop Panfilo for the years of inspirational life of prayer and leadership in service of the poor. He spoke of his principle in life. 'God is number one in my life, people are second and I am third", he said.

Beautifully woven bilums from the west coast of Vanimo were presented to the visiting bishops by the school children. The

feasting continued while the visiting bishops and guests departed.

receives a token of appreciation at the

and commitment to the Diocese of The atmosphere was filled with gratefulness as all are happy to work closely with Bishop Francis Meli as Bishop of Vanimo. On his part, Bp Francis Meli looks forward as Shepherd of Vanimo to know and care for the spiritual and social needs of his flock of Vanimo.

> The priests and religious have done an excellent job in preparing and organizing the Episcopal Ordination.



PNGSI Bishops Meet for their AGM

Port Moresby: The Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the Papua New Guinea and Solomon

Islands Bishops Conference (CBC PNGSI) commenced on the 17th April and will conclude on 24th April, 2018. There were 19 bishops present for the meeting. It was held at Emmaus Conference Centre, Boroko. It had as its theme: 'Called to the fullness of Life and Love'.



Fake news' and Journalism for peace

Fr Ambrose Pereira sdb, CBC SOCOM and Youth Secretary

In today's fast-changing world of communications and digital systems, we are witnessing the spread of "fake news". This World Communications Day message calls us to rediscovering the dignity of journalism and the personal responsibility of journalists to communicate the truth.



1. What is fake news?

It refers to the spreading of disinformation online or in the traditional media. The effectiveness of fake news is primarily due to its ability to mimic real news. Untrue stories can spread so quickly that even authoritative denials fail to contain the

2. How can we recognize fake news?

Tech and media companies are coming up with new criteria for verifying the personal identities concealed behind millions of digital profiles. We need to unmask what could be called the "snake-tactics" used by those who disguise themselves to strike at any time and place. This strategy was employed by the "crafty serpent" in the Book of Genesis, who, at the dawn of humanity, created the first fake news (cf. Gen 3:1-15). Education for truth means teaching people how to discern, evaluate and understand our deepest desires and inclinations, rather than to lose sight of what is right.

3. "The truth will set you free" (Jn 8:32)

The truth is not just bringing to light things that are concealed, but helping us discover and rediscover the truth when we experience it within ourselves in the loyalty and trustworthiness of the One who loves us. This alone can liberate us: "The truth will set you free" (Jn 8:32). Freedom from falsehood and the search for authentic relationships help us be true, authentic and trustworthy.

4. Peace is the true news

Journalists are the *protectors of news*. They are invited to promote a *journalism* of peace.

May this celebration of World Communications Day on 13th May, 2018, help journalists and everyone of us be the voice of the voiceless.

Women make the world a better place

During the Federation of Catholic Bishops Conference of Oceania Assembly in the month of April, Hon. Powes Parkop, as a guest speaker, stressed on many issues in PNG and one of the issues was the harassment of women.



"Violence is still a big problem in the city, not in the sense of gun shootings but violence against women and harassment," the Governor of NCD shared to the Bishops.

He highlighted that women face all forms of harassment from bag/bilum snatching to being sexually harassed at bus stops, market places, shops, in public places and so forth.

Hon. Parkop stated: "The barometer that has been put up is if women and girls in the city are safe, then the city is safe for everyone."

Thus, the question now is what can be done to make our home PNG – a better and safer place for its citizens especially women?

As one female community leader once stated:

"I believe that open discussion, in a safe space, is a critical step towards working together, men and women, to find solutions within the community, and ensuring women's voices are heard in these conversations.'

Taking into account the FCBCO's theme: Care for our common home of Oceania - A sea of responsibilities, we all need to work together to make our home a better place for everyone.



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.



Ban plastic! Ban Seabed Mining

wishing to continue enjoying the profits and

- Aileen Baretta, Freelance journalist address the issue and any industry or company benefits of manufacturing

and importing plastic bags must pay the cost of managing plastic wastes which was around K20 million a year. I am giving a grace period of one month. And for those who wish to continue will now have to pay the price of managing their waste themselves. We will impose an equal levy to all the industry players to a combined sum of K20

million annually," Mr Pundari said.

"If plastics can be banned then seabed mining must also be banned in Papua New Guinea, it is not only a threat to the marine the climate as well" Matei Ibak of Karkar

environment, but the people, the islands and Island said.

Environment and Conservation and Climate Change, John Pundari this year April 16th was taken a little sceptically by Karkar Islanders of Madang Province.

Minister Pundari announced that the attempt of 2014 plastic ban will again be imposed this year for the best interest of the environment, specifically the marine.

However, Karkar Islander Matei Ibak, a member of the Alliance of Solwara Warriors communities against seabed mining asked the minister for his clarity on seabed mining.

Mr Ibak said seabed mining is the greatest threat to the marine environment and applauded the minister for the plastic ban however, he noted that the minister's intention is not quite clear since Mr Pundari

The call to suggested that companies who deal with ban plastic plastics can pay levy to the government.

> Mr Ibak said the minister's suggestion on companies to pay levy to continue trade with plastic is not a practical solution when a total ban should be imposed and bilums can be promoted throughout the country.

"The minister should use his vested power to promote bilums and baskets and not compromise on tax levy from corporations because only then we will know that the minister's interest is monetary and not for the environment as stated."

Mr Ibak said.

While Mr Pundari announced a complete ban on the import, manufacture and use of all plastic shopping bags in the country he however allowed plastic trade to continue in a contradictory statement published in the National Newspaper on the 17th of April 2018.

"Since we have most of our coastal communities as well as inland people dependent on fish resource for their daily livelihoods, it is important that the government takes appropriate actions to

WYD 2019 in PANAMA

in Papua

New Guinea by

the Minister

for

World Youth Day is a unique event that has borne uncountable vocational fruits for religious life, priesthood, marriage and citizens committed to the construction of the Kingdom of God on earth.

Theme: I am the servant of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word' (Lk 1:38) Dates: 22nd to 27th January, 2019

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 and fulfil the following conditions:

- 1. Above the age of 18 years
- No addiction to betel nut, smoking, drugs or alcohol.
- Be a witness of Catholic Life to your family and friends.
- Fully involved in the youth ministry of the Diocese or parish
- Be financially supported by the Diocese or the parish of the participant.
- Be committed to be involved with Youth Ministry for the next three years and beyond.
- Those pay their registration of US 250.00, before 31st July will have a 10% discount.

For further details contact: Fr Ambrose Pereira sdb, CBC Youth and SOCOM Secretary Tel: 7296 5235 E-mail: youth@catholic.org.pg



Another chapter in the life of the Catholic Church of PNGSI

The Federation of the Catholic Bishops Conference of Oceania's presence in Papua New Guinea is a highlight of a new beginning for the Church again. It is calling on Evangelization for new methods and approaches to strengthen the work of the church and particularly the faith in places where it is dimming and weak. The purpose of the New Evangelization Commission is:

Firstly, it is approved and recognized by Rome that New Evangelization has become a Commission under the Catholic Bishops Conference PNGSI. Every Service in the Catholic Church is under this umbrella because it is the primary mission of the Catholic Church and it unites the church together at that level. It has opened the possibility of having the Pastoral Vicars to have a place under the CBC. The Commission will use the method of the Conference Pastoral Plan to assist the dioceses and parishes. The Catholic Church is already evangelized. Today, it is a "Call to re-evangelize" within the Evangelized Catholic Church and to reach out to the peripheries of our Society. Furthermore, it is a call to re-awaken the faith that we become more useful in the church as Agents of New Evangelization, that we take ownership and responsibility with integrity for the service of the multitude. We identify where the strength of the Church is and we promote the common good, allowing all baptized persons to fully participate in the life of the church. Our VISION as a Church, "WE ARE A CHURCH ALIVE IN CHRIST" witnessing the Love of God in the world through our Services, such as Education, Health, Caritas, Youth, Men, Women, Laity, Catholic Professionals, Children, Religious, Priests, Seminarians and many devotional groups within the church as a sign of growth.

In the spirit of Communion we will carry the Church in our hearts, our minds, in our cultures, in our eyes, hands and feet.

Commentary

- by Fr. Victor Roche, SVD



Vocation Sunday

On Vocation Sunday, 22 April 2018, I said mass in St.Joseph's Parish, Boroko in Port Moresby.

As the readings were of "Jesus, the Good Shepherd", I preached as to how Jesus is a good shepherd in our lives and how we also need to be good sheep. Then I preached about vocations in Papua New Guinea. The number of vocations to Priesthood and Religious Life is decreasing as in many other countries. We need to pray for more vocations.

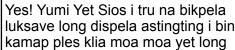
In PNG at present there are 70% of local priests and religious while the expatriates are 30%. The ratio may differ from diocese to diocese. I told the parishioners that we, expatriates should leave and the local church should stand on its own feet; and that local bishops, priests and religious should look after the administration of the church. I asked for the opinion of some people in the church and they said, "we still need the expatriate missionaries, for our local clergy are not yet ready to take care of the local church".

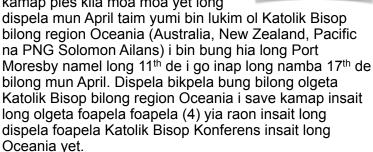
One woman said in a loud voice, "Foreign missionaries must leave and the local bishops and clergy should take care of the church". I said, "good on you, mama".

On this vocation Sunday, it is good that I leave you with this question for your prayerful reflection: When will the local Catholic Church be ready to stand on its own feet with the local bishops, priests and religious?

Yumi Yet Sios

- Bp Rochus Tatamai MSC





Liklik sotpela histori bai go olsem: Long yia 2002 oli bin gat dispela kain bikpela miting long Vunapope long asdaiosis bilong Rabaul. Bihain long yia 2006 dispela miting i bin kamap long Suva em long Ailan Fiji. Yumi lukim dispela miting i bin kamap long Sydney Australia long yia 2010 na go long Welington long Niu Zeland long yia 2014. Olsem nau long yia 2018 i kamap hia long Port Moresby aninit long lukaut bilong Katolik Bisop Konferens bilong PNG na Solomon Ailans. Long yia 2022 dispela bikpela miting bai kamap gen long Fiji na ol Katolik Bisop bilong Pacific bai go pas long en.

Yumi hamamas tru bikos insait long dispela bikpela bung o miting bilong ol Katolik Bisop bilong Oceania yumi bin kisim wanpela spesel na bikpela visita tru em i husat i namba tu bilong Papa Santu Pop Fransis. Dispela man o Kadinal i stap olsem sekretari (kuskus) bilong Vatikan Steit long Roma. Nem bilong dispela Sekretari em Kardinal Pietro Parolin. Kamap bilong em namel long yumi na stap bungim ol Bisop, ol kadinal na ol pris wantaim of Relijes manmeri, of lain stap long formation bilong seminari na ol relijes komuniti, wantaim ol yut o ol yangpela manmeri, ol skul sumatin wantaim ol tisas na papamama, ol famili wantaim ol lain insait long ol peris, dispela ol bung misa na serim Tok bilong God, na tu ol lukluk na stap wantaim long expiriens bilong ol bikpela lotu i kirapim bipela luksave insait long Katolik Sios long dispela wanpela tok-bilip yumi save tokaut long en ol taim olsem "mi bilip long wanpela, holi, katolik na apostolik Sios" dispela hap tok bilip i bin karim bikpela luksave stret namel long yumi olgeta. Kardinal Parolin i bin opim miting bilong of Bisop long region Oceania wantaim bikpela toktok lukaut long oltaim "yumi mas lukautim gut ol bus bilong yumi wantaim ol mauten, gaden, divai, wara, na tu ol wel abus, lukautim tu ol wara na solwara bilong yumi wantaim olgeta samting istap raunim ples na ol kantri bilong yumi. Dispela ol toktok i bihainim tok skul bilong Papa Santu Pop Fransis ol i kolim long tok Inglis long "Caring for our common home Oceania." Dispela astingting i singautim yumi olgeta manmeri long dispela graun long lukluk gut gen long ol wei yumi save usim ol samting insait long laip bilong yumi na hau yumi mas rileit gut long envaironment bilong yumi.

Yumi mas oltaim usim gut ol samting insait long dispela ples graun na tingim tu ol pikinini na tumbuna bilong yumi kam bihain long ol yia ikam. Noken tru bagarapim ol gutpela samting God i givim yumi pinis long lukautim gut na usim wantaim tingting long bihain taim bilong ol husat i kam bihain long yumi.

Share your Stories Send in your articles, photograph and reflections

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 May, 2018

Produced by: CBC SOCOM

OLSH Superior General visits PNG

Port Moresby: Superior General, Sr Marifa Mendoza, of the Congregation of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (OLSH) arrived in Papua New Guinea on Wednesday, 11th April from Rome.

She was accompanied by the General Councillor, Sr Elly Van Dijk from the Netherlands. Both sisters are currently visiting the OLSH communities in PNG and have visited 6 communities in Port



Moresby area with their last visit to the Korobosea community of OLSH sisters who are working at the Apostolic Nunciature. The Superior General will be visiting the provinces of Milne Bay, Manus, Central and East New Britain. From Port Moresby she flies to Daru then goes to Goroka to visit the sisters there.

The Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart was founded by Fr Jules Chevalier, MSC in 1874 at Issoudun, France. First arrived in PNG in 1887. Our Charism: We find in the Heart of Jesus the revelation of the tenderness of the love of God, our Father a sure way of helping others to realise how much God loves them. In short, it is the Spirituality of the Heart which is based on the love of Christ. We spread this love of the Sacred Heart through our work in in all levels of Education, Health, Administration Pastoral works in Parishes and home care.

The Superior General's visit encourages the sisters to continue their apostolate to be more enriching in spreading the love of Jesus everywhere in whatever we are doing in our different apostolate so people will realise how much God loves them.



WIK BILONG PRE BILONG KRISTEN YUNITI

ASENSIO – PENTIKOS 13 – 20 ME 2018 Bikpela, Han Sut Bilong Yu I Gat Bikpela Strong Moa (Eksodas 15:6)

Long yia 1968 i kam inap nau ol Kristen sios long olgeta hap bilong graun i bihainim wanpela tingting na yusim wanpela rit bilong Buk Baibel long "Wik bilong Pre bilong Kristen Yuniti." Dispela wik bilong prea i bikpela samting long skelim wok bilong painim rot bai "olgeta Kristen manmeri i ken kamap wan wantaim ol arapela." Dispela pre i ken helpim ol Kristen manmeri bilong kain kain sios i gro moa klostu long bilip. Planti kantri i mekim dispela pre bilong yuniti long wik bipo long pestode bilong Santu Pol i Tanim Bel (25 Januari). Long Papua Niugini, Solomon Ailans, Australia na ol arapela kantri long hap bilong saut, ol manmeri i save mekim dispela wik bilong pre namel long pestode bilong Asensio na Pentikos. Tasol, wanpela wik bilong pre em i no inap. Yumi mas pre olgeta taim bai yumi ken kamap wanlain tru olsem Jisas i laikim.

Long dispela yia 2018 ol Kristen manmeri bilong Karibean i redim "Wik bilong Pre." Karibean em bikplea ples na planti ailan i stap –lusim Bahamas i go long French Guinea long Saut Amerika na lusim Barbados i go long Belize long Sentral Amerika. Ol manmeri bilong Karibean i gat planti tok ples (Inglis, Frens, Spanis na Dats) na ol i gat kain kain gavman na ol i bihainim kain kain lotu. Tasol olgeta manmeri bilong Karibean i gat wanpela histori long planti hevi i kamap na i go 500 yia. Planti man bilong longwe ples i bin i kam na daunim ol Karibean manmeri na inap kalabusim ol.

Ol Katolik na Angliken misoneri na bihain planti arapela misoneri i kam na bringim Gutnius bai ol Karibean manmeri i ken painim hop God bai pinisim ol hevi na taim nogut bilong ol. Olsem long 1975 samting Caribean Conference of Churches (CCC) i kamap. Ol sios i stap memba bilong dispela konferens i makim Eksodas 15:1-21 olsem rit bilong 2018 Wik

bilong Pre bilong Kristen Yuniti bikos dispela rit i singsing long God bai pinisim pasin bilong daunim ol manmeri na em bai mekim yumi i win. Dispela hap rit i putim ples klia rot i go long Kristen yuniti i no isi. Yumi olgeta i mas karim gut bikpela hevi na pen. Taim yumi ol Kristen manmeri i bin kisim baptais, yumi stat long mekim wok wantaim Bikpela long pinism ol banis i stap namel long kain kain Kristen komuniti.

Ol Karibean Kristen manmeri i raitim pinis ol prea bilong Wik bilong Pre na bihain World Council of Churches na Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity i bung long Bahamas na tok orait long wok bilong ol. Ol Kristen manmeri bilong Karibean i singautim yumi long pulim tingting long strong bilong Bikpela i stiam yumi bai yumi lusim pasin bilong givim pen na wok long oraitim ol arapela, bai yumi lusim pasin bilong pait na sindaun gut wantaim, bai yumi lusim pasin bilong kalibusim ol arapela na wok long mekim olgeta i stap fri, bai yumi lusim pasin i bruk brukim ol Kristen manmeri na kamap wanbilip na wanlain Kristen tru (Eksodas 15:1-21).

Ol rit bilong Buk Baibel long dispela 8pela de bilong pre bai helpim yumi long mekim olsem. Yumi mas laikim tru ol manmeri i no bihainim ol pasin bilong yumi (de 1), na luksave long ol dispela manmeri i stap bratasusa bilong yumi (de 2), na givim ona long God long bodi na tingting na hat bilong yumi (de 3), na wok long givim hop na oraitim ol sikmanmeri (de 4), na trastim God i save harim krai bilong ol tarangu (de 5), na lukautim ol manmeri i karim bikpela hevi (de 6), na wok bai yumi olgeta i stap olsem wanpela famili i gat wanpela bilip (de 7), na wok long brukim ol banis i stap namel long yumi bai yumi olgeta i ken bringim bel isi pasin long olgeta komuniti (de 8).