

Bishop's Pastoral Message for the Month of September

(September Theme)

"Giving and Receiving deepens our oneness"

Diocese month for our mothers.



In the previous month we reflected on the reason why we should be united; that was "to give energy to each other"

This we reflect and become aware that the more we share, the more we grow in

unity...

Growth is the only evidence of life, anything that is alive grows...

How does unity grow?

How do we become closer to each other?

A short story:

"A young boy brought a great water melon from the garden... it was so ripe and juicy and he thought it would be a perfect gift for Grandmother who was old and could hardly stand up and walk few steps... that will refresh her and quench her thirst, he thought. Granny was moved to tears, however after seeing such a great fruit thought that was the right thing her other granddaughter who came from a neighboring village, to see her and keep her company and gave it to her. The granddaughter from the village was so delighted to receive such a great gift, but thought that would be the perfect gift for her grandfather who just came from the Hospital with rheumatism problems. Grandfather was about to grab it but he thought that would be the ideal gift for his grandson who worked in the garden all day long...so he returned it to the grandson who first gave it to the grandmother... The child with tears in his eyes cut it and shared it to the whole family who grew more united because of that gift...

The same fruit made the family grow in their love for each other... they became a better and more

united family.... The gift they gave each other became a source of family sharing and union...

Another personal story:

My dad was very sick and before he died of cancer was very sad because he could not know what time it was... his old watch in fact gave up and stopped working...

I felt I should give to my dying dad, as a gift, my watch which I received from friends.

He was so happy and enjoyed my gift, he could now know what time it was.... The day before he died he gave the watch as his last gift to my mother... who gave it to me the day I left for Solomon Islands...

That is the most precious watch I have... it has little economic value but an endless value, because he made me and my parents grow closer to each other

A clear example: In the holy land there are two lakes, formed by the same Jordan River. One is the lake of Galilee, it is alive and active with lots of fish, it received the Jordan River and it gives it away... The other lake is the Dead Sea... it received the river and keeps it for itself... there is no fish there... it's dead

So it is for us what we donate is what makes us grow... what we keep for ourselves makes us stingy, selfish and cold

Receiving and keeping stagnate us, receiving and giving makes us alive and grow in Unity, let's try it this month, not "Lille bit nomoa... but generously, courageously, dynamically... NOW..."

"With you a brother, for you a Bishop" who loves you with a Solo heart made in Italy

Bishop Luciano Capelli, sdb

Diocese of Gizo



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Diocese Pastoral Theme for the month of September

"Giving & receiving deepen our oneness."

Diocese month for **MOTHERS**



“We promote, live and experience in our lives, the Value of DIALOGUE as a way to live Church as Community with our brothers and sisters and the nature around us.”



Wryne Benett
(Education Secretary, Diocese of Gizo)

MY FAITH AS AN EDUCATOR

A Threatening World for our Children

The situation today is no longer what it was when we enjoyed our youth days in the past. There were plenty to eat, clean water to drink from the rivers, plenty of fish and shells in the sea, the environment was so child friendly. We trusted everybody. Our lives were not at risk. In our Primary School days, we had learned some of the basics for our survival and were well equipped and well informed. This was done by our committed parents, teachers and missionaries who contributed greatly to our human formation.

Today in this changing world, nobody can deny the fact that children are victims of abuse Sexual crimes, Family Violence, Substance Abuse. Many are being eliminated in the home and community. Their Primary Education could not be completed. The girl child particularly, becomes a single parent. There is not enough to eat, some eat only one meal per day and the list goes on. These are happening right in our own house, village, urban center, parish and community. It breaks our heart more when we listen to the National radio as her major news headlines every now and then. Our Children's God given life is being threatened.

The Second Vatican Council gives specific attention to the vocation of an edu-

cator “Every person who contributes to integral human formation is an educator.”

In this Year of Faith the scenario illustrated, challenges me as a mother of five grownup children, a grandmother, and an educator. My spouse and I had tried and still trying every avenue going through the dark moments of our lives, searching ways and means of how we could better reach out to our own children who had and still encounter these problems. As parents we continue our duty to evaluate our roles and responsibilities. Daily in our devotions we pray for their redirection to the Lord. Our biggest question is “Where have we gone wrong?” But, as we pray more humbly and listen more attentively, only a clear voice echoed back repeatedly. The voice says “Educate In a Christ-like way.” “Educate In a Christ-like way.” What does this mean to us?

A Gift of God

We come to our great realization and recognize that each one of us is first and foremost a gift of God to our Home, Community, School, Parish and Church as a whole. “I praise you, because you made me in an amazing and wonderful way.” (Psalm 139:14)

We have come to realize our weaknesses and that:

We have failed miserably to listen and teach as members of Christ's Body in the tradition of the Catholic Church.

We have failed miserably to create a loving caring home. So many times as parents, we neglect our God given duties and we forget our children and our business always comes first. But the child is saying, “I have not much time to wait, I only need your love and care, a smile and a hug since my life is vulnerable.”

We have failed miserably to create, a caring and protective school, where children are nurtured, loved and respected in order that they reach their full God given educational potential.

As a Year of Faith can we redirect our lives and teach as Jesus taught, preaching the Gospel by our words and by our example?

As a Year of Faith, can we parents be at our homes early from work each day, to take up the responsibility of the house girl and be with our children to be more caring and loving saying encouraging remarks to them, telling them that they are special and teach them our family values and of our church?

As a Year of Faith, as teachers can we be more committed and be passionate about our call for the profession we have chosen? The essence of our duty is the dignity of the children; therefore instead of sitting in the classroom and receiving them can we go and look for them? Can we be more inclusive in our approach to teaching? Can we be more radical to live the Good News in our actions to prepare our children to be good parents, and better parishioners and good citizens of Solomon Islands who will make our country more peaceful and more loving and caring?

Finally as we are God's stewards in this world, and must act on His behalf, let us be reminded with these words of St. Paul from 1Corinthians 3:16-17

“Surely you know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you! So if anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is Holy and you yourselves are his temple.”



Rellysdom A Malakana

Media Coordinator

Take note that we are in our mid year and heading towards the end of the year.

Though we are challenged by many programs of activities

to be implemented in the diocesan level, and this demands a lot of commitments, participations and prayers.

50, 50 contribution is now what we are heading for to implement our diocesan programs to our parishes.

And below is our diocese schedule programs which demands a lot of motivations,

DIOCESE SCHEDULE PROGRAMS, 2013, MONTH OF AUGUST _ NOVEMBER

DATE	ACTIVITY	VENUE	TARGET GROUP	NO OF PARTICIPANTS	FACILITATOR
19th—26th of August	YE & facilitators Training	Moli Pastoral Center	Parish youth group	5 from each parish	Sr. Teresa and team
16th—21st of September	SCC training	Gizo	Parish pastoral leaders	2 from each parish	Rep from PNG
16th—21st of September	Priest meeting	Gizo	Priests	9 priests	Bishop
23rd—24th of September	DTPA Evaluation and Planning meeting	Gizo	DTPA & part-time members	6 DTPA members	Diocese P. Coordinator
7th—18th of October	CWC B/Training	Moli Pastoral Center	CWC parish rep.	4 from each parish	Honiara rep.
5th—11th of November	PNG/SI general meeting	PNG	Diocesan rep	6 from each diocese	Assembly coordinators & team

Important Days to Remember

- 4th of this month, St. John Mary Vianney.
- 5th of this month, St. Dominic.
- 8th of this month, St. Mary MacKillop.
- 14th of this month, St. Maximilian Kolb
- 16th of this month, Birth anniversary of St. John Bosco.
- 22nd of this month, Queenship of Mary.
- 23rd of this month, St. Rose of Lima.
- 27th of this month, St Monica.

DIOCESE EVENT

ASSUPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

For hundreds of years, Catholics observed the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on August 15 — celebrating Mary's being taken bodily to Heaven after her death

— but it was not until 1950 that the Church proclaimed this teaching a dogma of the Church — one of the essential beliefs of the Catholic faith.



Happening in our Parishes.

Gizo Catholic Youth Celebrate World Youth Day, Sunday, July 28, 2013

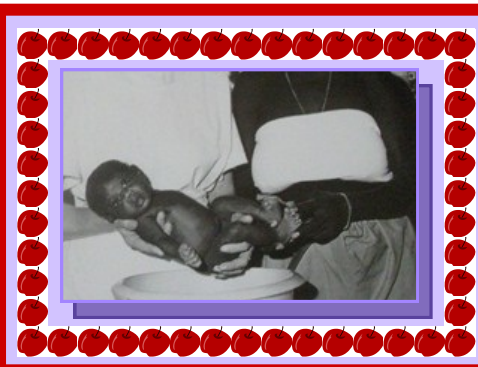
A three days youth rally was organized by the Gizo catholic youth, parallel to the world youth day event celebrated at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil by Pope Francis and youth representatives, from all over the world. Various outer Islands were represented and, participants, challenged to echo the experience back in their island communities

The events included topics and activities to enable the youth to discover their uniqueness and express their views and commitment to face the challenges and pressure of today's modern world. Various speakers reflected on different topics relevant to the yearly theme *"go and make disciples of all nations"*

The challenge of youth holiness, community involvement and commitment among their peers in the process of renewing evangelization has been properly emphasized interiorized and accepted. The youth were able to verbalize their fears and their hopes, they enjoyed being together, they faced their weaknesses and renewed their commitment to God and to each other, they expressed their joy of being together through songs, dances, and role playing activities.... Staying together, praying together, sharing food and experiences made them closer to each other and stronger in facing the many challenges of life.

The same experience has been organized also at various parts of the diocese in the other 6 parish communities of Nila, Waghina, Moli, Sirovanga, VoruVoru and Nora.

How great to see the same youth who have been involved in street fights all involved in a process of renewal!!! Indeed there is hope for Gizo youth...



The most important thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother.

~unknown Author

— NEWS IN BITS —

St. John Primary School thanks Allan and Lynn for Uniforms



Lynn and Allan are from Australia who are so friendly that they gave us uniform, say some of the children playing stone games. Other girls said that

they wish if they may have this kind of uniform which easy to put on. These children thanked Allan and Lynn for their gift and their friendly face at all time.

Lynn and Allan are 2 volunteers who are in retiring age but still have the energy to visit families especially the children in Nila Parish.

Nasia who is not new to many youths and other catechists from other parishes, and he involved a lot in the youth and catechist programs run by the our diocese.

A Mother Encourages, a small Work than Appreciation.

A mother in her 60's asked people around every parish to support diocese projects. She said it is time to reflect back the past how our people involved helping our first missionaries to build the Diocese of Gizo.

A mother wish not to mention her name said that she is tired to hear people appreciated what the bishop and those benefactors did by establishing school here in our diocese. She said that appreciation is enough to keep us going, but let show our appreciation by involving helping the workers by giving them a support such as getting gravels and sands or timbers to the project sites without being paid.

"It is our projects for our children to have a brighter future, and coming up is the mini hospital to support us especially our mothers"

Diocese of Gizo Welcomes New Youth Coordinator.



Diocese welcomes a new coordinator to serve the Youth office.

Nasia Taylor 26, male from Pitunia village who is part Solo Kiribati and Rarumana, Parara Island.

He said that it is a great privilege to have the opportunity to work with youths in a different atmosphere and for himself he learn a lot this year when joining the leadership training with Fr. Shantti Chacko.

New Priest to Serve The Holy Rosary Parish Nila.



The Holy Rosary parish will have another new priest to serve the parish.

Fr. Joseph Saw Tha Khu, 34 from Myanmar (Burma) will be working closely with Fr. Robert also from Burma.

Fr. Joseph said he is awaiting instruction from the bishop, and he is really looking forward to work with the people of that parish.

He also wanted to know more about the people, diocese programs and the program run by the parish especially the youth program.



EDUCATION 4 LIFE
FOR AN EDUCATION TO VALUES AGAINST HIV/AIDS

GROWING UP
5 BEING FAITHFUL

BEING FAITHFUL means that two people are completely devoted to one another. Sexual relations are confined to that couple only and there are no other partners. It obliges each of the two never to commit adultery.

DIFFICULTIES:

Temporary faithfulness:

It is a situation that young people find hard to keep up with. They often speak of faithfulness "to my guy/gal", "to my boy/girl friend". The problem is that partners are changed after some time or when they move away from where they live or college or town... they live a sentimental life while dragging the past along (the new partner as well), which makes the new relationship risky.

Casual sex:

- Badly paid workers, who can't afford to marry, take the risk of having casual sex.
- Unemployed youngsters in town without steady work live by doing "little jobs".
- The second office: managers who sometimes "do it" in the office, at weekends—and always make sure of having a female helper. On each side there is a strong belief in marriage.

Shaky marriage:

Many don't believe in **faithfulness in marriage**.
 ● "It's difficult. You can't trust the girls," say the men.
 ● "All men act in the same way," say the women.

GOOD EFFECTS:

- It seems that a good number of grown-ups, husbands and wives, are devoted to one another and faithful to one another.
- The moral rules of both Christianity

CONDITIONS:

Loving kindness is an important part of a relationship that will last.
Love makes the need of a long-term relationship felt.

A friend admitted this: "For years I jumped on whatever moved. Since I met my wife and fell in love, those adventures no longer tempt me."
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