



## MONTH OF MAY 2022

In the month of May we are invited to live the Easter season working hard in the company of Mary and honoring St Joseph the worker on the very first day.

Living the Easter season in our daily lives with the Risen Lord, alive in each one of us individually and as a community by making Him alive here and now in my person, in our community. Promoting Him, proclaiming Him like the early apostles, with conviction and courage of a living faith

We can Honor St Joseph the 'dreamer' by accepting God's plan and dreams in our lives, even if we have to change our plans and dreams in the process.

We can honor Joseph the worker by valuing work as the true mission God is giving us, and therefore doing it with a better vision and more enthusiasm. We are all aware of the many challenges faced by our country right now... nothing but our sweat and hard work will take it out of economic recession and launch it foreword into a better future. Discipline, honest hard work and prayer, together, will make us one in building a new nation, free from corruption.

We can Honor Mary in Her month by renewing the commitment we made on the day of our baptism, no to Sin, Yes to God. True devotion to Mary is not only expressed in prayer but also and especially in imitating her going out of ourselves to care for people around us. On the 24<sup>th</sup> of May we celebrate the Feast of Mary the Help of Christians, the mother of our S.O.S, the ambulance taking us to the clinic, a Mother accompanying us on our Journey with a helping hand in our times of weakness and failure. (see here below the prayer of entrustment of the family to Mary, to be prayed daily especially this month of May)

**Our situation:**

*We are fully into a pandemic which is crippling our national economy. Looking at how we are facing it we will be in it for a long-long time. The way we react does not speak of high alert and responsibility. Irresponsibly we do not seem to care about masks and distancing.*

*At the same time we are getting into a new kind of 'pandemic' with countries who helped us in the past and on whom we still depend for security. The whole pacific region seems to be on high alert for our security deal with China. The news is top story and goes around the whole globe making us notoriously famous.*

Every time we sing out national anthem we pray for joy, peace, progress and prosperity... (on our own efforts or not?) these things do not come on a silver platter, donated by other countries... we will have to work hard for them as every Nation in this world, the hard way. Our Growth, ability to defend ourselves from our local scrambles, is our responsibility, not a gift from anybody especially if with strings-attached

Preventing the spread of Covid-corona virus is our responsibility, by vaccinations, wearing mask, social distancing.

Security from our internal scrambles also is our task as a supreme nation... do we need superpowers to defend us... from what threat? Can we not do it ourselves? are we perhaps not looking for trouble? The money given us now, we will have to pay it back in one way or another...in cash or kind...

Let's us put this divisive issue aside... and take it up as a Nation, democratically, not secretly when we will be out of this pandemic....

There are no short cuts to growth as a country: hard work and discipline... motivated by the courage of faith and of a Religion that transforms our lives in the logic of love thought by the risen Christ... not in the logic of Cain's jealousy and violence.

*May the month of may be a MARIAN month of prayer and hard work for peace, For you a Bishop with you a brother who loves you with a Solo Heart made in Italy*

# TO MY COUNTRY BY ADOPTION



The whole Pacific region seems to be on high alert for our security deal with China. The news goes around the whole globe: the Solomon Islands want protection and security and so they ask China.

It reminds me of Ukraine asking to enter NATO for the same reasons.

Russia does not like the plan for Ukraine to find security in NATO. Russia wants Ukraine to be neutral and lay low because it does not want NATO missiles in its backyard.

This situation reminds me of the USA, Australia, and New Zealand not liking China's missiles in their areas (backyard) in the Solomon Islands.

What Russia is doing we all know it, poor Ukraine. What will Australia, NZ, USA do? We do not know it yet. What we know is that they are not happy at all and they said it loud and clear. They will certainly plan what to do. They will not take it sitting down. Is the Solomon Islands provoking its big neighbors who have been supportive to us so far? Are we sure this is the top priority of our country now? Was it not enough to have two superpowers fighting in our country (in our very homes, not our backyard) 70 years ago? Are we trying to get into a new trap where two or more superpowers will throw bombs at each other at Henderson or at Visale again?

We are a peace-loving people. Let us just eliminate corruption and our local quarrels and let the projects for the development of the country take off, without money going to individual pockets.

Can we not do it ourselves if we get rid of corruption and work hard as a team? With our own power and some support from traditional and new allies? Without delegating our own rights to self-defense to anyone, especially to any country that does not seem to respect democracy in their own country.

We can improve and manage with our present allies, can't we? It will be a tough road, going upwards without shortcuts: education, (more technical than academic...) respect for God, people, and nature, our common home, with hard work and brotherly relationships with every people on earth, neutral and free from the interference of foreign superpowers with their big guns... from anywhere.

There will be hard work to be done, but we will keep our freedom from pressures, our sovereignty, and dignity as a small Nation proud of itself.

I am Bishop Luciano Capelli, in the country for 23 years at North East Guala first during the ethnic tension (Don Bosco Henderson and Tetera RTC and GSH) and in Gizo since the earthquake of April 2, 2007. I feel like a Solomon Islander with a heart made in Italy. I have done my piece for the country and in my last year before retirement, I also feel I have to say my piece about this deal in this my country and people by adoption whom I dearly love.

Our best security is our culture, our faith, our resilience, our working together we firmly believe in this.

We have a pandemic to face, with serious effects on our life and economy. This issue is a strongly dividing issue. We need to be solid in unity now more than ever to face the pandemic which it appears so many of us take so lightly.

Would it not be wiser to give this deal a second thought? To see what the Sovereign Solomon Islands people really feel about it in a popular referendum or any other democratic way?

God save our Solomon Islands from shore to shore...the people, the land...and the sea.

With my episcopal blessing to all...

*His Most Rev, Bishop Luciano Capelli SDB*

THOUGHTFUL  
HEART FOR A  
COUNTRY



**May the month of may be a MARIAN month of prayer and hard work for peace.**

**For you a Bishop with you a brother who loves you with a Solo Heart made in Italy**

**MAY 24: FEAST OF MARY  
HELP OF CHRISTIANS**

***Act of Entrustment of the family to Mary Help of Christians***

Most Holy Virgin Mary, constituted by God Help of Christians, we elect you Lady and Mistress of this house. Deign, we beg You, to show Your mighty help in it.

- Preserve it from earthquakes, thieves, villains, raids, war, and all other calamities.
  - Bless, protect, defend and keep the people who live in it
  - preserve them from all misfortunes and injuries, but above all
    - Grant them the very important grace of avoiding sin.

*Mary, Help of Christians, intercede for those who live in this house which has been consecrated to You forever.  
Amen!*

***Prayer to Mary Help of Christians***

*O Mary Help of Christians, we entrust ourselves again, totally, sincerely to you!  
You who are Powerful Virgin, stay close to each of us.*

- Repeat to Jesus, for us, the "They have no more wine" that you said for the spouses of Cana, so that Jesus can renew the miracle of salvation.
  - Repeat to Jesus: They have no more wine! They have no serenity, they have no hope!
  - Among us there are many sick people, comfort them, oh Mary Help of Christians!
    - Among us there are many elderly, console them, oh Mary Help of Christians!
  - Among us there are many discouraged adults, support them, oh Mary Help of Christians!
- ***You who have taken charge of every person,***
  - *Help each of us to take charge of the life of others!*
    - *Help our young people who are unable to fill their hearts with meaning.*
  - *Help our families, especially those who struggle to live fidelity, union, and harmony!*
    - *Help consecrated persons so that they are a transparent sign of God's love.*
    - *Help priests, so that they can communicate to everyone the beauty of God's mercy.*
    - *Help educators, teachers and animators, so that they are authentic help to growth.*
    - *Help the rulers so that they can always and only seek the good of the person.*
- ***O Mary Help of Christians, come to our homes,***
  - *You who made John's house your home, according to the word of Jesus on the cross.*
    - *Protect life in all its forms and situations.*
  - *Support each of us as we become enthusiastic and credible apostles of the gospel.*
- *And keep in peace, serenity and love, every person who raises his gaze towards you and entrusts himself to you.  
Amen*

**Inside this issue**

Bishops message	page 1	Moli /Sirovanga news in bits	page 6
Thoughtful heart for a country	page 2	Holy week in Voruvoru & the pandemic	page 7
May 24	page 3	Southern Deanery News (St. Peter Gizo)	page 8
Message (Pastoral Coordinator)	page 4	Covid-19 Update (Nila AHC Center)	page 9
The Chrism Mass	Page 5	Health Tips (Covid19 continues)	page 10

## COVID-19 AND OUR DIOCESAN PASTORAL PROGRAM FOR 2022



Dear Readers.

Easter greetings to you all!

In this issue, I would like to share with you when I was at home during the coronavirus pandemic, from January to March 2022, and the attitudes of the people towards this virus. It seemed that the people of the community did not prepare

for the covid19 after a lot of awareness was done by the provincial responsible authorities.

It was 2 years since the coronavirus news reached the communities. However, people took it lightly. When the coronavirus had reached our country, at the stage of community transmission, it affected thousands of people and claimed the lives of more than one hundred people.

Therefore, this is something that all the community leaders should talk about and put some covid19 measures at the community level in line with what our government had set for this virus to safe guard safeguard especially the old and the children.

As we, all know this virus is a killer. It killed already several millions of innocent people worldwide. Therefore, it is not right to say it is like malaria or the common flu, etc. This virus is a killer. Therefore, restrictions should be put in place for some of the movements of the traveling boats and as well, as people within our areas and cease moving to urban centers where we can easily get the virus.

Get vaccinated and when you go out always wear a mask. Wash hands with sanitizer or soap. Seriously, follow the covid19 measures and protocols. These are some of the safety measures that we should take to avoid the virus. If we do this, It is an act of love for our brothers and sisters especially the children and the old people.

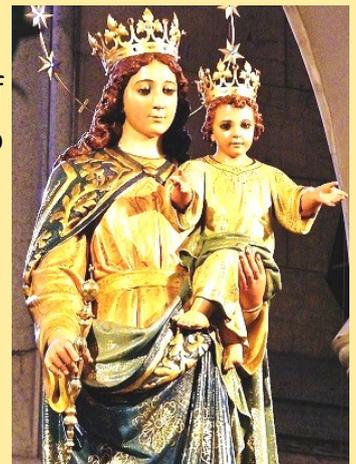
My brothers and sisters, this pandemic has also challenged our pastoral programs of the diocese for this year 2022.

In their annual meeting in Betania, the priests and our Bishop Luciano Capelli sdb had agreed to wait and see if the Corona situation that we have experienced now will allow it. The pastoral team of the diocese will continue to check the parishes monthly if the situation will allow us to implement the pastoral programs of the diocese. We already missed some of our programs but we will try to catch up with the others.

Thank you and May the Joy of Easter be the source of our strength to build unity as we journey together as one people, one diocese of Gizo.

O Mary Help of Christians, come to our homes,

**Mary Help of Christians  
24th May**



You who made John's house your home, according to the word of Jesus on the cross.

Protect life in all its forms and situations.

Support each of us as we become enthusiastic and credible apostles of the gospel.

And keep in peace, serenity and love, every person who raises his gaze towards you and entrusts himself to you. Amen

*Jerome Kuibatu.*

*Diocesan Pastoral Coordinator*

# alleluia.. the lord is Truly RiSeN

## — PRIEST MEETING BETHANIA —

### Priest Meeting on Synodality ended with Chrism Mass

12 Parish priests from the Catholic Diocese of Gizo are now completing their yearly meeting this 4th May 2022 at Bethania Gizo.

A meeting aiming their closeness with God and each other, and exceptional planning to analyze all the responses from all parishes on the actual situation of the Diocese of Gizo, regarding the Synodality and the evaluation of the 2005 Assembly with the 11 Recommendations.

(The meeting is specially initiated after a strong recommendation from the Holy Father, the episcopal conference of PNG and SI to take part in the preparation of the synod for the universal church in Rome in October 2023. The recently concluded priests' meeting last year 2021 decided on the plan to follow and asked the pastoral team to come up with questions to use to make everyone aware and participate in the synod).

The priests are here to pray, reflect, share and listen. They also have presentations, discussions, and making decisions.

They also have the privileged to listen to the Synodality reports from the parishes, they evaluate and have discussions.

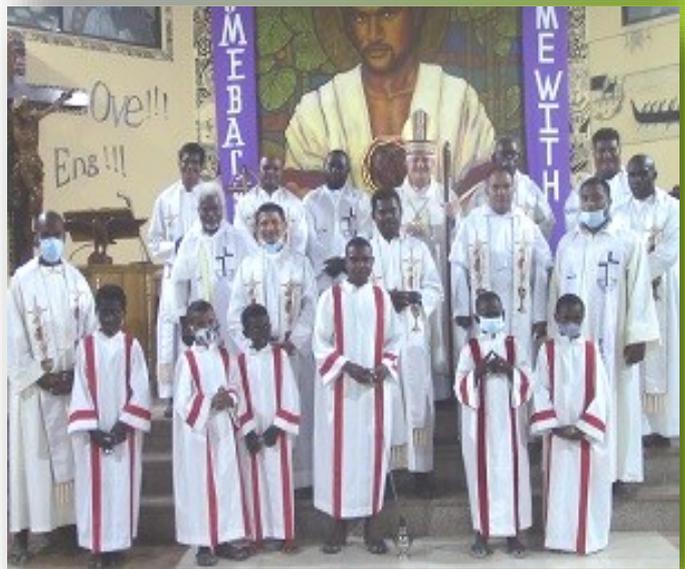
These priests are from the eight parishes of the diocese of Gizo (Choiseul, Shortland, and Noro in the Western Province).

During the closing, the priests and the parishioners are celebrating the Chrism Mass, (Blessing of the Holy Anointing/Consecrated Oil) went successful at the St. Peters Cathedral Gizo in the midst of the covid-19 outbreak.

Sr. Anna described it as a very prayerful and uniting moment for all the priests of the diocese, she congratulated the liturgical group who, despite of the very small number, made everyone sing and participate joyfully.

COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION, MISSION, the theme that will be adopted into the diocese to

enlighten God's people through His Words in prayer and everyone to follow the path to which God calls us –deeper COMMUNION, fuller PARTICIPATION, and greater openness to fulfilling the MISSION in the world.



#### Prayer to St. Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you, Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.  
Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy and  
courage,  
and defend us from every evil.  
Amen.

(Pope Francis, Patris Corde)



## MOLI / SIROVANGA PARISH – NEWS IN BITS

### Men's Group form, St.

#### Dominic Parish (Jacinta Media Coordinator Sirovanga)

At last men's group here in St. Dominic parish, Sirovanga has eventually formed. This is because of the kind response by those who accepted the responsibilities in the group.

Many attempts have been made in the past but were unsuccessful due to men do not yet understand the importance of forming such a group (Men's group)

But this year on the 19th of March, celebrating the feast of St. Joseph our diocesan Fathers Day, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit men have realized and agreed to form a men's group, the idea came about during the meeting.

A seven-man concrete executive member has been appointed.

Jordan Lulumubatu – Chairperson  
Conrad Poqosaru – Vice-chairperson  
Desmond Vakaribatu – Secretary

(Coordinator)

Pascal Sipakaka – Treasurer  
Stanislaus Itangavae – Member  
Paul Simon U – Member  
John Telovudu – Member

They already have their first meeting to set up their action plan for the year 2022.

### St. Dominic parish in Preparation on Synodality

(Michael Kurebatu, Media Volunteer, Sirovanga)

St. Dominic Parish last month has staged its implementation of a program on the call from the Holy Father Pope Francis that all Catholic faithful participates in the preparation of the Bishops Synod on the Synodality for the universal Church, that will be held in Rome, October 2023.

During that month of March eight groups consisting of three people made a two days visit to villages in the parish giving out awareness talks on the key message, based on the theme, Communion Participation, and Mission.

To comply with the key message; the 11 recommendations that were implemented in the diocese almost 18 years past were evaluated. People take much interest when evaluating, because it allows them to see progress our diocese and parishes endured in the past years up to the present time.

During the sharing and answering some of the questions provided, people came to realize how to live as Catholic faithful, and the activity is challenging them to improve their Christian lives.

After completing the visits, the eight groups come together on the 6th and 7th of April to evaluate the report they have collected during their visits.

### Devine Mercy, Moli Program



The covid-19 outbreak is here in other parts of the communities around our province. Nevertheless, the parish has to look ahead to its program for the year.

Prayers have still kept the parishioners going, which also keeps the Divine Mercy group coming up.

Reported from Moli parish, parish media volunteer Mr. Anthony Telavai said that the group celebrated the Divine mercy Sunday at Moli mission station. He said that though things are not normal, prayer is a powerful tool to overcome negative challenges face by the globe today.

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER CHRIST THE KING PARISH

We are all trying to cope with difficulties in order to live a normal life in the midst of the impact of covid19. The pandemic has swept across the globe, since we are part of the global village, we are not exempted. Trying to cope with the pandemic has proven to be difficult. Our food security is threaten, we are faced with a danger of starvation, sources of our livelihood have soured. Many, if not most food gardens may not be able to sustain the need of food that used to be supplemented by food from shops. Basic needs are becoming harder and harder



that are satisfied by manufactured goods, at the same time are becoming expensive and difficult to have them transported to our villages. Ship owners are nervous because there are restrictions imposed upon them from travelling between the islands, hence are losing money.

Medical supplies and related needs have been badly affected, schools have closed their doors. Sadly conditions of our rural clinics and health centers are feeling the pinch. Either we have medicine in store or not, worse still we have no nurses in many of our rural clinics that are empty of staff. Patients are left to work for their own survival. We do not even have Panadol and Malaria tablets in our rural clinics and health centers. For a long time now, northwest Choiseul in particular, Varisi area, have had no nurses for more than a year or so. People are worried as to what the government has in store for them. They feel being neglected and have no reason to expect some assistance. Where will they go next is a question cannot be answered. It is a sad situation, it shouldn't have been this way at all.

Despite all these turmoil, people have been very prayerful. Above is the Stations of the Cross at Sariana Village, people did not mind at all following Jesus on the way to Calvary under the rain. Some had umbrellas while the rest were prepared to have showers over them. Children had been wonderful and were very happy to be part of the community in prayer. On the left is Voruvoru station on Easter Sunday where Mass was held outside in the open air to allow people practice social distancing. The whole atmosphere was filled with the beautiful melody coming out from youth choir with Bamboo Band being the background of singing. After Mass, everybody retreated to their homes to continue observing the restrictions of movements and other activities following rules set up by the government.

**Henry Paroi OP**

## ST. PETERS PARISH – NEWS IN BITS

### St. Peters Cathedral has a Peaceful Holy week.

St. Peters Cathedral has a peaceful Holy week celebration that commenced on Palm Sunday.

The weekend Easter celebrations have to be projected, and live streaming to keep the 1.5 meters apart and wear masks when attending Holy Masses.

A very beautiful homily from Bishop Luciano Capelli sdb, reminds the parishioners of the Passover celebrations during the Israelites' transition from slavery to freedom.

He reminded everyone of the new covenant, a relationship established by Jesus Christ that we always celebrated on the Altar (Jesus' Body, and His Blood).

His message reminds people that we must not be slavery to sins, but must be free and allowed Jesus into our hearts.

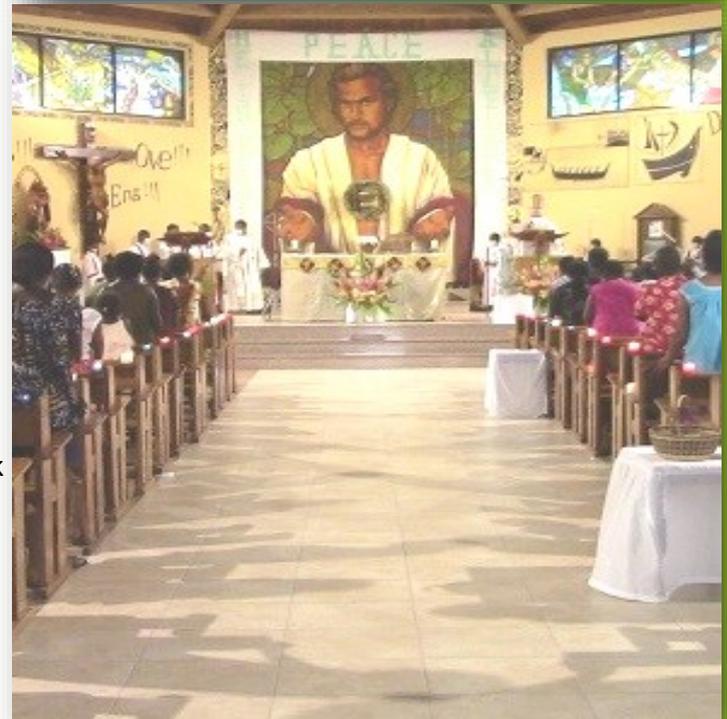
His homily message on Easter Sunday the Resurrection day reminds everyone that Jesus' Resurrection brings us hope, and faith.

He urged everyone to see a masterpiece of every creation beyond the person and reminded everyone that every person is an image of God. He strongly stated that beyond every person is Jesus, "that is Jesus in front of you" said the bishop.

His message continues to remind parents to evangelize and educate their children rather than raise them with no proper moral support. He said that Education and Evangelization are the first responsibility of a parent.

His message continues to remind them to look at Jesus in their children.

In his conclusion message, he asked the Lord for strength for everybody and to let Easter be for each and everybody, faith and life renewal.



## Covid-19 Respond, Good Samaritan AHC Center Nila.

From 5/02/2022 since the AHC Emergency Operation Center in Nila Shortland, the swabbing team received the RAT kid until 9/04/2022; the team tested three hundred and thirty-five (335) samples in which the total positive cases stands at thirty-seven (37). The rest was negative, reporter is Moses Lamani a Registered Nurse at the center.

He said that no covid 19 deaths and no severe cases has been reported in Zone 5 (Shortlands) and no covid 19 admission as well.

“Since the detection of the Virus here in Zone 5 at Toumoa village none of the health workers in Zone 5 was infected except a Nurse Aid and now she recovered”.

“The swabbing team received a request call from Kariki, Aleang, and Nuhu to visit them to do swabbing at their communities, however, due to the Shortage of RAT kids the team didn't make it but preserved those remaining RAT kits to be used at the clinic,” said the health staff.

He said that others have experienced the covid-19 virus is commonly like flu and

they said that there's no need for swabbing or to isolate people. This led to most people were not afraid of the Covid-19 virus, and now the Malaria cases were slightly increasing.

There has been a shortage of drugs, and they are still follow-ups for their orders, said Moses

However, there have been threats regarding border issues and others who stopped others from not using masks and getting swaps, but the registered nurse has sincerely registered his acknowledgment to all responsible staff and other key people in their community who assist in one way or the other , in time of covid-19 outbreak to serve the nation.



## THE COVID 19 (THE OMICRON & DELTA VIRUS )

### MORE ON VIRUS.

(Is it safe to be vaccinated? *Continue from last month issue.*)

### Vaccines

#### 2. AstraZeneca Vaccine (DNA Vaccine)

The AZ vaccine enters our body cells, stays outside and needs to enter our nucleus.

When it enters our nucleus it uses the mechanism in the nucleus and produces the mRNA like for a Pfizer vaccine.

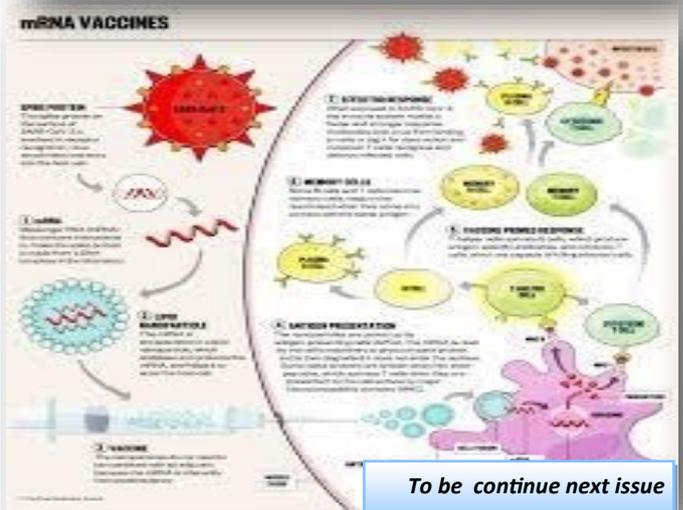
The mRNA is released from the nucleus into our cytoplasm where we have the ribosome. And the ribosome is responsible to accept the mRNA to read information and produce the Spike proteins.

By the way, the AstraZeneca vaccine never comes into contact or harms the DNA, because of the way they prepared the vaccine.

They will never, and be always never joining together, which I mean; IT NEVER TOUCHES OR CHANGE ANYTHING IN OUR DNA. And again the vaccine cannot destroy our body cells. Eventually, these two vaccines work in a similar

way.

Note: Unvaccinated people make up the vast majority of adult Covid-19 hospitalizations. (A study of 13 states over a period of six months shows; unvaccinated 87%, vaccinated less than 14 days 5.8 %, partially vaccinated 5.7%, and fully vaccinated 4.0%.)



## THE DIOCESE OF GIZO UPCOMING EVENTS 2022

### For the Month of June

We invite all our Catholic people to Make use of traditional and modern means of conflict resolution and mediation to deal with land and other disputes, taking a public stand against any form of violent self-help.

**Do nothing to promote or encourage any forms of corruption, greed or violence.**

*Since the outbreak of Covid-19 any diocesan program may be rescheduled*