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LET US ALL PRAY TOGETHER FOR THE SOULS IN PURGATORY AS A FAMILY OF THE LIVING AND THE DEAD, LET US UNITED IN PRAYER FOR THE SOULS OF ALL OUR BELOVED FAITHFUL DEPARTED



Bishop Peter Houhou
Catholic Diocese of Gizo

Dear Beloved Brothers and Sisters in the Risen Lord; Grace and Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ; Love of God; and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

As your servant bishop, shepherding our diocese, before we venture into the month of November 2024, I want to say thank you very much indeed

for all your contributions Big or Small in what form of service rendered in serving our people, in our families, communities, parishes, and in our Diocese at large.

Also, I want to thank you all for the journey that we have taken with each other and our beloved Mother Mary in the month of October, Praying the Holy Rosary and placing all our needs before her to offer them to his Son Jesus and to the Father.

As we are now journeying in this month of November, remember, as Catholic Christian, this month is a very special and important time for the Souls of the faithful departed. A time to journey with them and praying with them and for them. We never know who is there in Purgatory? May be a member of your family, community, parish who has died many years ago and was still waiting to be cleansed from His / Her past transgressions before entering into Paradise.

November 2nd every year, the Church commemorate all souls of the faithful departed who have gone before us. This year 2024, I want to encourage us all again to continue to pray for the soul of our beloved Brothers and Sisters who are in Purgatory. They are in great need of our prayers.

How can you explain and described Purgatory? In brief, Purgatory is a place, or state, in which the souls of those who died in venial sin, or who have not fully atoned for their past transgressions, are purified before entering into Paradise.

What are the sufferings of Purgatory consisted of? The suffering of Purgatory consists of the intense longing for God, whose beatific vision is delayed. Paradise and Hell are eternal, while Purgatory will end on judgement day.

In what way can we help the souls in Purgatory? We can help the souls in Purgatory to expiate their sins by offering alms, prayers and Masses. This can be done in our families, communities, parishes and Diocese. During this month of November, we should show them how much we love and care for them by praying for them and above all to offer Masses for them. By doing these, no doubt, their souls will be cleansed and they will joyfully enter into Paradise.

How can we proof the existence of Purgatory? There are many proofs, but I will give only two: Firstly, in brief, the proof of the existence of Purgatory is in the Second Book of Maccabees. It says that Judas Maccabaeus offered prayers at the Temple of Jerusalem for those who had died while wearing amulets of the idols. Their souls could neither go to Paradise, since they died in the state of sin; nor could they go to Hell, because they were fighting a holy war for Yahweh.

Therefore, they went into a place of purification, which we called Purgatory. As Scripture says; He made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from their sins. (Second Maccabees 12: 46). ...

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This Publication is from the Catholic Media Office

Diocese of Gizo PO Box 22, Gizo Western Province Solomon Island.

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BP'S P. MESSAGE CONT' / POPE & YOUTHS

BP message cont..

Secondly, a very practical example: was a story about a woman named Mary Simma. She was born on February 2nd 1915 in a small town in Austria called Sonntag. Since childhood her dream was to surrender her life to God in a religious order, but due to her weak physical constitution, she was rejected by three different communities.

At first, Maria did not understand why the Lord did not allow her to fulfil the desire He had stirred in her to consecrate herself. Overtime, she gradually understood that the consecration the Lord asked of her would not take place in a religious community, but in a demanding service of charity toward the poorest soul in Purgatory.

She received the first "Visit" from a soul in Purgatory one night in 1940 when she was 25 years old. During the first year until 1953, only two (2) or three (3) souls visited her each year, usually during the month of November. The souls in Purgatory usually visited her at 3: am and when they came, they asked her to send messages to their relatives to asked the Parish Priest to offer three or four

Masses for them. Because of the regular visit from the souls in Purgatory to her, she humbly knew that her call was not to live in a religious community but to work for the souls in Purgatory.

Brothers and Sisters, as Catholic Christians, we too have called to be a missionary for the poor souls in Purgatory. It is our Christian duty and responsibility to pray for the souls of the faithful departed who are in Purgatory. We never know, one day you and I, will be in Purgatory and in turn they will be praying for you and me.

As your servant Bishop of the Diocese, once again thank you for praying together as a family for the souls in Purgatory.

May the Blessing of God the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you ALL.

Bishop Peter HOUHOU

Pope Francis Urge Youth to let the Lord Fill them.



Pope Francis exhorts young people to always welcome the wisdom of the elderly and to let the Lord fill them with joy.

This is in a video message to participants in the "Madrid Live Meeting 2024."

Relysdom Aaron Malakana Catholic Media Gizo This was the heartfelt recommendation made by Pope Francis in a video message sent to the Archdiocese of Madrid's youth on Saturday.

Under the theme "Joyful in Hope, "Madrid Live Meeting 2024" in advance of the 2025 Jubilee of Hope.

To start, Pope Francis said that he wanted to be near them and support their work.

The Holy Father cautioned the youth against giving

up and losing heart as he urged them to remain brave and move forward.

The Holy Father emphasized the importance of maintaining relationships with the elderly and taking advice from them.

He urged the young to have conversations with the elderly; they are a people's source of wisdom, so pay attention to them. Don't cut off your people's roots, and let them hear you too, Pope said.

"A tree that cuts its roots," he continued, "has no sap. Hold on to your roots creatively. A young person who is not creative has no life-they are dead while alive."

The Holy Father concluded the video message by urging young people not to lose their joy.

"May the Lord fill you with joy," Pope Francis said, before imparting upon them his Apostolic Blessing and urging them to remember him in their prayers.

POPES MESSAGE ON VATICAN NEWS



VATICAN
NEWS

Prayer Allows the Spirit to Change our Hearts.

Pope Francis pens the preface to the book, as Jesus Taught Us.



Pope Francis pens the preface to the book, "As Jesus Taught Us:

The Prayer of Pilgrims of Hope (Edizioni San Paolo), which released on Wednesday, October 9. The text is a collection of the Pope's reflections on prayer, some unpublished.

By Pope Francis

I learned to pray from my grandmother. She is the one who taught me to pray and also instilled in me a devotion to Saint Joseph. Then, the spiritual fathers I had, both in the seminary and in the Society of Jesus, helped me grow in my experience of prayer.

Among them, I would like to mention Father Miguel Angel Fiorito, an Argentine Jesuit, a philosophy professor, but also an enthusiast of spirituality. His works have now been published in Italy as well: a great spiritual master who taught me to grow in my way of praying. He offered many courses on spirituality. He taught me to pray as a son and not to seek the "candies" of consolation: How does prayer happen? How do we get used to praying? What should we do when there is consolation or even desolation, when we don't feel like praying? He was a teacher of spiritual life for me. Over time, my formation in prayer has remained the same.

Even as Pope, nothing has changed: I pray as I always have, with the same rhythm. Sometimes I say vocal prayers, sometimes before the Blessed Sacrament, I endure moments of dryness. My prayer continues through beautiful things and not-so-beautiful things. Sometimes I think I need to pray more, that's true. There's no time, but I need to pray more. I always stick to the Liturgy of the Hours; I never abandon it: in the afternoon, Vespers; later, the Office of Readings; in the morning, Lauds; and then Mass. And then there's mental prayer, the prayer of meditation; when I have a little time, I try to have a conversation and ask the Lord something, but I fear He might respond...

And then there's the Our Father, the prayer of Jesus. It has everything! When the disciples ask Jesus to teach them to pray, He didn't call a catechist to instruct them on some methodology of prayer or a specialist in the art of oration. He said: "Say this: Our Father" (cf. Luke 11:2). The Our Father is the universal prayer, the prayer of children, the prayer of trust, the prayer of courage, and also the prayer of resignation. It is the great prayer.

And there are prayers to Mary: I also have great trust in the Madonna; I always pray the Rosary. I

like to feel her close because she is a Mother and she guides us. There's a very beautiful story, which is of course a legend, that tells us how Our Lady saves everyone! It's the story of Our Lady of Thieves, protector of robbers. They steal, but because they pray to her, when one of them dies, Our Lady, who is at the window of heaven, gestures for him to hide. She tells him not to go to Peter, who won't let him in. But in the evening, she opens the window of Paradise and lets him in from there. I like this: Our Lady is the one who lets you in through the window. It's almost like smuggling. Just like at Cana. The Lord did not have the freedom to say no. She's like this with her Son. It's like this: pleading omnipotence.

It is also because of this trust that, at the end of my public addresses, I always ask people to pray for me. I need the community to support me in this service to the Church. If the Church doesn't support you with prayer, you're done. The community must support its bishop, and the bishop must pray for the community.

Prayer opens the heart to the Lord, and when the Spirit enters, it changes your life from within. That's why we must pray: to open the heart and make space for the Spirit. We pray to Jesus, the Father, and Our Lady, but we don't often converse in prayer with the Holy Spirit. Yet it is the Holy Spirit who changes our heart, enters our heart, and transforms it. The Father doesn't anoint us; the Son doesn't anoint us. It is the Spirit who anoints us with His presence, and it is the anointing of the Holy Spirit that helps me understand the reality of the Church and the mystery of God.



TEACHERS DAY & SHPW NEWS IN BITS**DofGizo Teachers Commemorate Teachers Day.**

Teachers from our diocese celebrated World Teachers Day on October 4th this year, joining the nation and the globe to commemorate the day.

They had their own style of organizing with fellow teachers and students, likewise in St. Peter Urban Training Center Gizo.

An annual global celebration has continued since 1994, which introduced by UNESCO to recognize the pivotal role of teachers.

The day also commemorated the 1966 UNESCO/ILO Recommendation on the Status of Teachers, which set international standards for teachers' rights, professional development, and working conditions.

The recommendation was made with the intention of making sure educators have access to the tools and assistance they need to do their jobs well.

And it is commemorated on October 5 every year to honor the significant influence educators have on our lives.

They mentor us through important life stages,

imparting knowledge and raising responsible citizens; they are frequently referred to as second parents.

This day honors their commitment and labor in forming society on a global scale.

Sacred Heart Parish Wagina News in Bits.

The month-long event celebrations at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Wagina concluded successfully.

Fr. Humberto, who is the Parish Priest reported from Wagina Parish, that in honor of Mary's month, they held their first event on October 1st. The statues of Blessed Mother Mary were consecrated and distributed to every home in the parish during the Holy Mass, which was celebrated as usual.

He claimed that women's groups were divided into several groups each day and that they accompanied the image of Mary from house to house and prayed the Rosary.

The pilgrimage of Mama Mary has gone as far as the logging company on the mainland.

Fr. Humberto stated that their second event was a feast day celebration for the Guardian Angels on October 3. Highlights included the altar servers who vowed to serve the community for a year.

Following was the presentation of a new Image of the Blessed Mother Mary on Monday 7th, an Image of our Lady of Lujan from the community in Vanimo, Papua New Guinea. This image was blessed by our Holy Father Pope Francis during his visit to that place this year.

He said, a sizable crowd attended the celebration and they had a packed procession to welcome her to their parish. And they still observe other feast days and pray the Rosary. Additionally, they commemorate Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque's feast day on Wednesday, the 16th.

They celebrate Saint John Paul II's feast day on Tuesday, 22nd, in conjunction with the Beniamina community, whose patron is Saint John Paul II. Fr. Humberto stated that the Holy Mass was preceded by a canoe procession and the blessing of seaweed.

And on October 25th, they welcomed their new missionary religious sister, Sr. Mary of the Paradise, who is from PNG and has been assigned to serve Wagina Parish.

The month of October is dedicated to the Rosary and Her pilgrimage, with events lasting until October 31st.

ND NEWS IN BITS & END OF ROSARY MONTH

400+ DM Members attend 2024 Congress.



Over 400 Divine Mercy (DM) members attended a four-day gathering at Christ the King Parish Voruvoru.

The 2024 DM Congress for the year has favored those from Voruvoru, Sirovanga, Taro, and Moli parishes, who have renewed themselves through many wonderful topics from the speakers.

According to Anthony, a Moli media volunteer, the most important topics are liturgy, confession, and the Eucharist, as well as other spiritual activities such as adoration, confession, and charity work.

Thanking the guest speaker Fr. Mancert Kavaliliu, and also assisting him are Fr. Benedict Qello and Fr. Thomas Pata.

The gathering commenced on the 3rd till the 6th of October.

Thousands Celebrate 125 Jubilee Anniversary.



Thousands of believers have celebrated the 125th Jubilee Anniversary at Nila mission station Shortland Island. Many are from Shortland and including those from the neighboring Island of Bougainville.

Reporting from that parish, we thanked Fr. Jacob,

who managed to update us, saying, "Thanks to veteran Legend Fr Karl and Eugen SM and Catechists Lino and Kario for planting the Gospel at Poporang, which was then extended to Choiseul by Veteran Legend Fr Forestier and two Shortland Island laity."

Fr. Jacob stated that the actual celebration was on the 7th of October, which is the parish feast day. And every community did a nine-day Novena that concluded with Holy Mass at Poporang, which was presided over by Fr. Steven SM of Piano Parish Bou-

gainville. Then, the Jubilee Mass was presided over by His Lordship Bishop Peter Houhou, assisted by Fr. Stephen Te'e Fr. Stephen SM Fr. Henry Paroi OP, and Fr. Jacob.

Fr. Jacob said that before the Mass, the Maleai community reenacted the arrival of the missionaries with the Cross and the Bible.

Little has been documented about the arrival of the Marist missionaries in Shortland. They began work in the Shortlands in 1899, but conversions were slow, partly because the chiefs were polygamous and had no wish to give up their array of wives. A major station was Poporang Island Nila, which became the pivot for other activity in the Western Solomons. Choiseul was visited in 1903 and 1909, but no progress was made. Similar visits to Mono in 1908 and 1910 were also unproductive because of old animosity with the Shortlands, and the Mission eventually lost out to the Methodists.

Month of Rosary End Successful around Diocese.



Since October was first observed as the Month of Rosary in our diocese, it has been a great success. Every Parish created a special program strategy that revolves around involving every parishioner.

The whole families are praying the Rosary in honor of the Mama Mary sculpture that is kept in the house. Others have her on a pilgrimage to coastal areas, traveling by canoe to Islands.

Everyone I had the opportunity to pray the Rosary together and reflect on the life, suffering, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ as seen through the eyes of His cherished mother as a result of the event.

In spiritual combat, the Most Holy Rosary serves as a weapon, a conduit for grace, and a beacon of hope.

HEALTH TIPS & NEXT EVENTS. (MAYO CLINIC)

Continue from last issue.

Preventions

If you live in or are traveling to an area where malaria is common, take steps to avoid mosquito bites. Mosquitoes are most active between dusk and dawn. To protect yourself from mosquito bites, you should:

- Cover your skin. Wear pants and long-sleeved shirts. Tuck in your shirt, and tuck pant legs into socks.
- Apply insect repellent to skin. Use an insect repellent registered with the Environmental Protection Agency on any exposed skin. These include repellents that contain DEET,
- Apply repellent to clothing. Sprays containing permethrin are safe to apply to clothing.
- Sleep under a net. Bed nets, particularly those treated with insecticides, such as permethrin, help prevent mosquito bites while you are sleeping.
- Keep your surroundings clean at all times

Preventive medicine

If you'll be traveling to a location where malaria is common, talk to your doctor a few months ahead of time about whether you should take drugs

before, during and after your trip to help protect you from malaria parasites.

In general, the drugs taken to prevent malaria are the same drugs used to treat the disease. What drug you take depends on where and how long you are traveling and your own health.

Vaccine

The World Health Organization has recommended a malaria vaccine for use in children who live in countries with high numbers of malaria cases.

Researchers are continuing to develop and study malaria vaccines to prevent infection.

**MALARIA:
CAUSES, SYMPTOMS,
DIAGNOSIS, TREATMENT
AND PREVENTION**



Read To Know

To be continue next issue

▪ UPCOMMING FEAST DAYS FOR DECEMBER 2024 ▪

HAPPY CHRISTMAS



May a Christmas star shine into
 your heart and burn in your spirit bright
 may Jesus' peace bless you and bring
 true joy to you tonight.

And may His peace and hope be with your
 family now and in the days ahead may His love
 warm your hearts may He give you
 a spirit of wisdom.