



LET'S PREPARE TO CELEBRATE A PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS BY A PEACEFUL ADVENT SEASON

As we begin the Advent season let us reflect on how we can plan and experience a season of TRUE and deep Christen Peace in our hearts, families and communities. Christmas is a season of peace, but if we forget Christ this Christmas then Christmas will be empty. We will then try to fill the emptiness with alcohol games and substances

which remove the control of the two top inches of our heads making us behave like 'brainless people', violence take over and Christmas will be lost again in a romantic payer followed or preceded by drinking, gambling and violence.

This kind of Christianity and Christmas is meaningless and empty; it gives the wrong experience and the wrong message to our youth. It is a pagan Christmas, a Christ-less one.

Christmas without Christ is not Christmas at all... it is like a radio or torch or mobile phone with flat battery... useless and meaningless. It become the day of father Christmas bringing gifts and that's all.

Let us then defend peace in our communities this Christmas: Let us have a contest, posters, essays, messages... spread them all around the houses...

I CHALLENGE EVERY man and woman, every family, every mom and dad, every youth, every priest and catechists, every prayer leader. I challenge every man and woman who was trained by our pastoral team these past years: let us renew the way we celebrate Christmas....

WE WANT A PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS...

....avoid everything that will make this Christmas empty without Christ... and a moment of senseless violence.

**WE WANT CHRIST'S PEACE THIS CHRISTMAS...
NO TO VIOLENCE IN THE HOMES, IN THE COMMUNITY, IN THE CHURCH,
NO TO ALCOHOL, KVASO, MARIJUANA...
YES TO CHRIST THE NEW BORN KING OF OUR HEARTS**

We can do it if we decide to: let us prove that we can!! I ask it from you as your contribution to our 50th year of the diocese... we owe it to our missionaries who brought us the good news, we owe it Christ, it is HIS feast. The incarnation of his son who came to save us and give us new life and hope.

With my blessings for each one of you and your families,

Have a Peaceful and holy Christmas

**For you a Bishop
With you a Christian friend**

Our Diocesan Campaign for a Peaceful & the Best Christmas 2010 (Page 7)

What's inside the news?

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Wishing you all.... The BEST &



PEACEFUL Christmas



"We give & re-give ALL the sense of the value of SOLIDARITY by promoting our being in UNITY with our brothers and sisters and with the nature around us"

Relationships and Partnership are the basis for UNITY, and Unity is the basis for both of these: as we grow in relationship and partnership our unity develops and grows; it reveals to us in our experience the reality of our unity as humans, as Christians and as citizens of our nation



Moses Poqeava
(Pastoral Coordinator—Moli Parish)

"The Heart of Our Relationship"

Prayer is the Heart of our relationship with God.
⇒It is the heart of who we are as children of God.

- ⇒It is our Communication with God and to God.
- ⇒The mystery and wonder of prayer is that the spirit first Invites us to pray.
- ⇒We cannot pray unless God first come to us, Invites us to Conversation.

PRAYER AS GOD'S GIFT.

Payer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God.
⇒We request many good things from God. (St. John Damascene)
⇒When we pray we speak from the height and the deepest of our pride. (Ps. 130)
"He who humble himself with be exalted" (LK18: 9-14)
⇒Humility is the foundation of prayer.
Only when we humbly acknowledge that we do not know how to pray as we ought (Rom: 8.26). Are we ready to receive freely the gift of prayer?

A man is a beggar before God (St. Augustine)
⇒Prayer is the response of faith to the free promise of salvation.
⇒Prayer is our response to our thirsting of Love from the only Son of God.

PRAYER AS CONVENANT.

⇒It is the whole person who prays
According to the scripture it is the heart that prays. The heart is the dwelling place where I AM (God) where I LIVE (God).
The heart is our hidden centre beyond the grasp of our reason and of others,
⇒Only the Spirit of God can fathom the human heart and know it fully.
⇒The heart is the place of decisions that is so deep.
⇒The heart is the place of truth where we choose life or death.
⇒It is a place of encounter, because as an image of God, we live in relationship.
⇒Relationship is the place of covenant.

PRAYER AS COMMUNION

- ⇒The life of prayer is the habit of being one in presence of God and in communion with him.
- ⇒The communion of life is always possible because through baptism we are united with Christ (Rom: 6,5)
- ⇒Prayer is communion with the Body of Christ.. the Church.



Chris AKOSAWA
(Fujen Catholic University Taipei, Taiwan)
"Education is the only best gifts that we can give our children".

When we reflect on the quality of education that provided by the Catholic Education Authorities it has given a real flavor to the future of many of our young people today. However, it has proven that many former students of Catholic Education institutions now become successful parents, community leaders, politicians, public servants or private business men and women.

I happened to browse through the Diocese of Catholic Gizo website and I am so delighted of the Gizo Catholic Education has recently took over of Tuha Junior High School in the Shortlands and improving St. Peter's Kindy to a more conducive environment for young people. I spent three years at Tuha Junior High School in the Shortlands and saw the need of the church intervene to establish a secondary school down. The Secondary school will help to serve the communities in the Shortlands as far as Choiseul Province in allowing basic education to the young people.

The changes of government education policies in late 1980s where most of the church schools were given back to the government and administered on their behalf by provincial government had a negative impact and leave a length of space today for putting back on track.

Continue page 3

From page 3 ..Education is the only..

However, education is an universal rights where all school age children must have access to basic education with regards to gender, race, creed and politic.

But lately the government in its education policies now realized that churches need to provide support to its communities with education and health services to improve both social and spiritual life of their communities. The government in its policies it encourages church authorities to support with providing these essential services to the communities as a partner to social and spiritual developments but strictly on their capabilities.

The government has seen that churches provides quality of education therefore it need to re-introduce its church education discipline in helping to shape the future of Solomon Islands young peoples. However, Gizo Diocese Education strategic plan has a vision for its communities as through these social services at the door steps will help to strengthen the faith of the communities to grow stronger.

It is a need for the parents, teachers and communities to supports the Church endeavors in bringing Catholic education to our children. Our communities need to support the commitment of our Church leaders in order for our children to achieve better and quality of education.

We must not tend to look at classroom as only means of education, but rather our family homes, communities and country are also classrooms that influences and providing informal learning to our children. All parents and communities must support our children's education in whatever ways we can to achieve our goals for our children to become better citizens.

—Reflection Around Our Diocese—

Simonette T Poqemata. Form 3, Moli Community High School (Moli Camp)

A graduation was an event which might cause nightmare to many students and parents. To me it was a day that we reap out what we aimed for. And through 3 full years we worked very hard to achieve better grades to help us reap good harvest.

Many of us will be left out and few might continue. However, many parents present that time hoping their son or daughter will continue. I felt their hearts, but the challenge is from us the students. If we want to make them proud, we are the ones to fight for better grades at school.

We all love our parents who really support us to finance our education and with their support they give them-self 100% to reach form 3, hoping that we will continue our education to form 4. It is unfair if we cheat our parents. Remember graduation at form 3 may not be a turning point but to achieve the upper level of our education can be a drowning point for others. So lets make use of those years and help our parents.

Miss Evon Teacher, St. John Primary School (Nila Catholic Mission Station)

More mothers thought that the women's program was not encouraging. Others thought of yet to be carry out. Well, my observation is, women's are moving in silence and most of the mothers are benefited from women's programs like in cooking and in other home managements. We cannot live without those activities. We mothers need to be motivated and be able to involve ourselves into those activities.

Building up motivations at home may result to have a conscious of implementing the diocesan programs into our communities. Most of us taught we are not confident, but we may

do confident if we have the experienced to prepare the family at home.



Mr. Casper Suru Sulumoni Village (Kolobangara Island)

News about the construction of the Youth Center for our youths is circulated around our diocese. This is an opportunity for many youths who cannot access to Rural Training Centre's.

Well, most of the youths are been ignored now, but such establishment may encourage us to set up such project at home. We can make it with our own local materials. And we can use our graduate students from our Rural training centre's to help out train our youths at home.



Walter Valentinos (Sitokava Camp, Gizo Youth)

The Mama Margareta Girls Center Well, we are blessed by these opportunities to influence our young people to involve in those programs, especially to come to the Church.

Well, I don't know what will be in the boy's center, I believe there will be life skill training for boys like Mechanic, and Carpentry etc. Well, to me, these training were useful to us. What about Music for us. We have the talent of singing which available at all time. But we need to satisfaction our Singing. Providing instrumentals may not enough but a studio for productions of albums that one can sale his/her own solo albums.

Praising God by singing is another way that may remind us that we are communicated with God. This reminder may be a turning point for many youths.

Our bishops heart is really a solo heart made in Italy..... A school without fee, so let us show him a solo heart made from our ancestors by accepting our self in voluntary contribute

Mama Margaret Girls Center

MAMA MARGARET IS THE MOTHER OF Don Bosco WHO FOLLOWED HIM TO SERVE HIS BOYS AT THE ORATORY OF TURIN.

She was illiterate person but a great educator... She is closed to be beatified.

We want her to be a model for our Girls who may not have had a great change for a formal education... they can be holy mothers...

If we educate a young man we educate a person only If we educate a woman, we educate a whole family...

The next center to be open will be for young men we will think of another name.. start thinking...



Petata Toma
(Titiana Gizo Is)

“To be success is to help and learn from each other”

Well, I never taught of Sewing and Stitching before but today I found it wonderful. Besides, I have the capacity to think and

dreamed further.

Well, this a BIG privilege for me to learn new things and might and opportunity to enter upper level of such education. The biggest challenge is without this machine I might loose my skills, but I believed I could make it if my parents, this program and I myself felt the importance of my life to its fullest.



and the community.

At first I felt I cannot cope up with the sessions provided, especially things like literacy or other theories. But when it comes to practical, things turn out so miraculous. I felt change of heart in me. I like to become expect in doing things in different ways.

1. To become a student
2. And then become a teacher for this school
3. Helping myself in the future
4. Helping my parish and my community.

Julian Jaw

(Mile III Camp Gizo Is)

“Sewing is not new to me. I do Cooking and Stitching cloths at home. I observed this from my mum”

But thanks God for this program for Girls. I learned a lot of surprising things, especially in cooking, when putting ingredients together. And when it comes to a sewing,



I may sewn one complete dress or shirts rather than patching torn pants and skirts at home.

Here we learned literacy which gave us some of the ideas to read and write. Best if we learn some Educational Health talks to prevent us from been trapped from peer groups.

Tarine Tam
(Nusabaruku)

“I never had I dream before, but I do cope up the days, and together with other peers”

And we all end up like this and we all talk about cooking, sewing and stitching. To me I enjoy it. I felt like we are somebody and the diocese have the concern to bring us up to involve helping our self



YOUTHS ASPIRE TO BECOME PRIESTS



The diocese of Gizo is celebrating its golden anniversary remembering the gift of faith brought by the Marist Missionaries and established in its communities by the Dominican Order for the past fifty years.

A total of 20 young men aspiring to be priests in the diocese of Gizo are having a one month immersion program at Gizo as part of the celebration.

They include nine Holy Name Seminarians, five NAC Graduates incoming batch of Holy Name seminarians, and six candidates for pre-seminary in NAC lead by newly ordained Fr Stephen Te'e.

The program aims to help the candidates in identifying and acquiring the specified traits of the identity of the Catholic priest as specified in the Formation Program for PNG and SI seminarians.

In particular the seminarians will be trained on hard work and sacrifice as the best expression of their inner motivation to love and serve God and the community.

They were engaged in various work and development undertakings in Gizo as part of the program.

The youths will learn skills and values which will enable them to serve and train the youth of their communities.

This year's batch has been described as more improved and committed than the previous years.

A statement from the group's superiors say the group is among the first "diocesan secular priests" after the missionaries and the Dominican Order.

"They feel they have a responsibility of building a credible image for the diocesan priest, servant leader of the community, we are with them with our encouragement and support.

"We do not need "many" priests, we need "holy", credible, sacrificed priests, close to God and close to the people they lead, with humble, courageous and generous service."

We welcome our two missionary Priests from Myanmar & a retired volunteer Doctor to our Diocese



Fr. Stanislaus Myint Zaw

From Myanmar, Yangon.

Ordained priest 18th March 2009

Age 20, received Bachelor Degree in Sacred Heart Catholic theology. (Last Seminary—St. Joseph's Catholic Major Seminary (theology).

Assignment: Assistant Parish Priest of Moli Parish, Choiseul.
" Excited to be here.... Like to be with the people"



Fr. Richard Tun Tun Win

From Myanmar, Yangon.

Ordained Priest 19th March, 2002.

2002—2006—Assistance Priest in 3 parishes.

2008— Assistance Priest in St. Mary's Cathedral.

" I would like to be one with the people of Gizo Diocese. For me, it is a new union with new people and new mission.

Assignment: Assistant Parish Priest of Nila Parish, Shortlands.

Doctor Christopher Tun Tun Aung

Date of birth: 7, October, 1945. (Father of Fr. Richard Tun Tun).

A Malaria Doctor from Myanmar (Burma). He was a government servant for 34 years in Myanmar.

Now retired from government services but rendered his service to be a volunteer for the health services in the Diocese of Gizo.



Gizo Parish welcomed Fr. Stephen Te'e.

Gizo Parish Community welcomed the newly ordained Priest for the Diocese of Gizo, Fr. Steven Te'e on Sunday 14th November to Gizo.



Fr. Steven Te'e celebrated his first Mass at St. Peter the Apostle cathedral—Gizo and he thanked the parishioners for their support and prayers, and asked everyone to work together with him in his pastoral work here in the diocese.

Activities during the day includes presentation of gifts and entertainments from the Parishioners.

Fr. Steven Te'e is originally from Tarapaina Parish, Diocese of Auki, Malaita Province. *He will help out doing pastorals, helping out on the pastoral services of the Diocese of Gizo.*

Diocese of Gizo now have two diocesan priests.

Hey Dad's Program Evaluation and Planning

A total up to thirty two Daddies attended a two day Evaluation and Planning Meetings for the Fathers at Nila Mission Station from the

11th and 12th November. To lead them into the program, groups were formed to involve them into spirituality of the meeting and each group has time to lead choruses, prays, bible



readings and sharing.

The program was facilitated by Joseph Lalaubatu and Relysdom Malakana from the Diocesan team, who challenged them to be fully committed to carry out the program around their parish.

At the end of the meeting participants planned for the 2011 Men's Rally on December. Committee was formed to raise \$300,000. (Three Hundred Thousands) for the Rally.

Hey Dad Program at Village Level.

(Simon Telovae - Media Moli)

For its first time to have the 2 days workshop held at one of the village here in the parish of Moli.

The Hey Dad's program was attended by almost every daddies of Moli parish.

The Hey Dad's program commenced on

the 26th—27th of October where many were touched by its lesson. Many daddies have the privileged to comment, contributed in some ways, which may involve them self to their family and their community.

Thanking Vudutaru Community for hosting the workshop.

The program was Facilitated by Men's Pastoral team from Moli Parish.



F.L.A. Ovulation & Moral Teaching workshop

(Simon Telovae - Media)

Family Life Apostolate Program began its Ovulation & the Moral teaching program for its Co-groups at Moli Pastoral Center.

Attended by 15 couples from the parishes from 8th—11th November, were couples (co-groups) are challenged to take up responsibility to implementing the program down to village level.

The program was facilitated by Sr. Rita Pitavavine op, Fr. Calistus op and George Pitatu.



More Catechists attended Training

(Teeta Leo - Participant Wagina)

45 participants from our parishes have successfully completed the 10 days Catechist Training program from 18th—27th of October at Moli Catholic mission station. The program mainly based on liturgy parts, Sacrament of Baptism and Matrimony, the ten petitions of the Lords prayer, role of the catechist, communication etc.

The program was facilitated by the pastoral team from Moli pastoral center including Fr. Jacob, George, Simon.

Pictures Around our Diocese



2 Italian Vol-unteers (Sante & Sandro) arrived this month to help with the building construction projects.

St. Peter's Kindy children during international children's day.



New boys centre under construction !! Far end the newly Mama Margaret girls centre.

Men at work, carrying timber for the Senior Secondary School in Nila during the Men's program at Nila.



Seminarians weekend visitation to mile 3 - Gizo Parish.



Panpipe students of Vanga RTC welcomes Fr. Stephen Te'e to Gizo.



Wagina

Tuha CHS entertains visitors

EDUCATION 4 LIFE

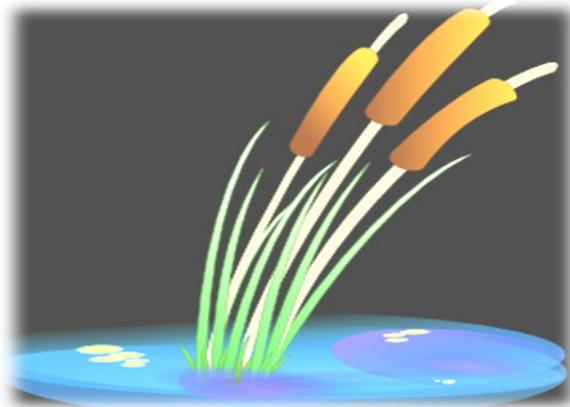
From October issue

FOR AN EDUCATION TO VALUES AGAINST HIV/AIDS

Sexuality and God's Will

.....was sure that it would put a stop to our friendship. To my great surprise, all she said was, "You must have suffered such a lot!" That started my recovery. Some months later we told one another of our love. So then we got married and started a family. Now we have five children. My wife's love and trust have helped me to get rid of my fears and to have a life completely different from the sad one my parents experienced. We have been married for twenty years now. Together, we teach our children. Together, we let them know our love for them - whereas my father never showed much of that to me. My wife and children have shown me that I really am able to be a husband and a father, with joy and without fear.

"50 Questions ... "L'effort cam., p. 24)



Activities:

- Write down the most important sentences in the creation stories and try to apply them to the human love that God wants us to have.
- The meaning of the New Testament passages in your book could be discussed in a group to see how they apply to sex.
- After reading the pieces from the Bible,
 - give your opinions for and against and prepare to debate them.
 - Does the Church condemn sex?
- As a group meet men and women of God: priests, pastors and teachers, in order to get a better understanding of the subject.
- Make a summary of what different groups in the class think.

Continue next issue