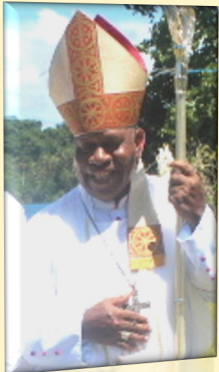




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Bishop Peter Houhou

THE HOLY ROSARY

Brothers and Sisters, Grace and Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Before we dive into our reflection for this month of October, firstly, I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge each and every one of you for your great contribution in whatever form of service you have rendered in serving our people in the four corners of the diocese. Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ, for this month of October in brief, we will be reflecting on the history of the Rosary.

THE MONTH OF HOLY ROSARY:

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. According to an account by a fifteenth-century Dominican, Alan de la Roch, Mary appeared to St. Dominic in 1206 after he had been praying and doing severe penances because of his lack of success in combating the Albigensian heresy. Mary praised him for his valiant fight against the heretics and then gave him the Rosary as a mighty weapon, explained its uses and efficacy, and told him to preach it to others.

"Since the prayers of the Rosary come from such excellent sources – from our Lord Himself, from inspired scriptures, and from the Church – it is not surprising that the Rosary is so dear to our Blessed Mother and so powerful with heaven.

"If we consider the power of the Rosary as seen in its effects, we find a great abundance of proofs of its wonderful value. Many are the favors granted to private individuals through its devout recitation: there are a few devoted users of the Rosary who cannot testify to experiencing its power in their own lives. If we turn to history, we see many great triumphs of the Rosary. Early tradition attributes the defeat of the Albigensians at the battle of Muret in 1213 to the Rosary. But even those who do not ac-

cept this tradition will admit that St. Pius v attributed the great defeat of the Turkish fleet on the first Sunday of October to the fact that at the same time the Rosary confraternities at Rome and elsewhere were holding their processions. Accordingly, he ordered a commemoration of the Rosary to be made on that day. Two years later, Gregory xiii allowed the celebration of a feast of the Rosary in churches having an altar dedicated to the Rosary. In 1671, Clement x extended the feast to all Spain. A second great victory over the Turks, who once, like the Russians, threatened the ruin of Christian civilization, occurred on August 5, 1716, when Prince Eugene defeated them at Peterwardein in Hungary. Thereupon, Clement xii extended the feast of the Rosary to the whole Church.

"Today, when dangers far greater than those of the ancient Turks threaten not only Christianity but all civilization, we are urged by our Blessed Mother to turn again to the Rosary for help. If men in sufficient numbers do this, and at the same time carry out the other conditions that she has laid down, we have the greater reason for confidence that we will be delivered from our dangers" (Mary in our Life by Fr. William G. Most)

Upon reflecting on what history put before us, as a Baptized Catholic Christian,

Cont' next page

BISHOP'S MESSAGE CONTINUE

This Publication is from the Catholic Media Office

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Bp's PM cont'

..... we are encouraged during this month of October, as Priests, Religious Brothers and Sisters, Laity of our Diocese, to journey together with each other and with our Beloved Mother Mary in praying the Rosary.

THE ROSARY AND THE LITURGICAL YEAR:

The Rosary had its origin in the liturgical mentality of former ages. Even at the present time, it is called "Mary's Psalter." There still are Catholics who consider the 150 Hail Marys' a substitute for the 150 psalms for those persons who neither have the time, the education, nor the opportunity to pray the Hours of the Divine Office. "Thus Mary's Psalter" is a shortened, simplified "breviary" --- alongside the common Hour-prayer of the Church. --- The Church's Year of Grace, (Dr. Pius Parch).

Brothers and Sisters, the Rosary is Christocentric setting forth the entire Life of Jesus Christ, the passion, death, and resurrection and glory. Of course, the Rosary honors and contemplates Mary too, and rightly so, for the same reason that the Liturgical Year does likewise; "Because of the mission she received from God, her life is most closely linked with mysteries of Jesus Christ, and there is no one who has followed in the footsteps of the incarnate Word more closely and with more merit than she" 142 (Mediator Dei). Mediation on this cycle of Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious, and Luminous Mysteries makes the Rosary not only "a breviary or the summary of the Gospel and of Christian life." (Ingrovescentibus molis), but also a compendium of the Liturgical Year. Therewith the Rosary stands revealed as a dynamic teacher and nurturer of Christian faith, morality, and spiritual perfection, fostering in various ways faith, hope, charity, and the other virtues, and mediating special graces, all to the end that we may become more and more like unto Christ. --- (Mariology, Juniper B. Carol, OFM).

Pope Benedict xvi, in an address at the Basilica of St. Mary Major, where he prayed the Rosary with the faithful, said: and I quote;

Today, together we confirm that the Holy Rosary is not a pious practice banished to the past, like

prayers of the times thought of with nostalgia. Instead, the Rosary is experiencing a new springtime. Without a doubt, this is one of the most eloquent signs of love that the young generation nourishes for Jesus and his Mother, Mary. In the current world, so dispersive, this prayer helps to put Christ at the center, as the Virgin did, who mediated within all that was said about her Son, and also what he did and said. When reciting the Rosary, the important and meaningful moments of salvation history are relived. The various steps of Christ's mission are traced. With Mary, the heart is oriented toward the mystery of Jesus. Christ is put at the center of our life, of our time, of our city, through the contemplation and meditation of his holy mysteries of joy, light, sorrow, and glory. May Mary help us to welcome within ourselves the grace emanating from these mysteries, so that through us we can "water" society, beginning with our daily relationships, and purifying them from so many negative forces, thus opening them to the newness of God. The Rosary, when it is prayed in an authentic way, not mechanical and superficial but profoundly, it brings, in fact, peace and reconciliation. It contains within itself the healing power of the Most Holy Name of Jesus, invoked with faith and love at the center of each "Hail Mary"

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, thank you very much indeed for taking your time to journey together in reflection on the above quotes, looking back in history and time. I do hope that it helps you with some new knowledge in addition to what you already have regarding the Holy Rosary. It not only provides you with knowledge, but above all, it strengthens you with spiritual insights into the mystery of the Holy Rosary. As you journey through the month of October, I encourage you to pray your Rosary in your family, community, and workplace together with our beloved Mother Mary.

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

Your servant Bishop Peter HOUHOU

VATICAN AGAINST FAKE IMAGES



VATICAN
NEWS

Vatican Against Deepfake Images



Hannah Brockhaus
Catholic News
Agency, Vatican

Vatican struggles against spread of ‘deepfake’ images of Pope Leo XIV



Did you hear what Pope Leo XIV said about Charlie Kirk or President Donald Trump? What about his thoughts on the Rapture or whether it's OK to be cremated?

These are just a few of the topics the pontiff has appeared to speak about at length in videos popping up every day on social media. The problem is the videos are not real, and the Vatican is struggling to fight their spread.

The Vatican's communications team said it has reported hundreds of accounts, mostly on YouTube, posting fake, AI-created videos — called deepfakes — of Pope Leo since the start of his pontificate. But it's an uphill battle with new accounts, videos, and images appearing as quickly as others are removed. "We are witnessing the exponential proliferation of a series of YouTube channels with fake videos, all similar to one another, some speaking in the voice of Leo XIV, others in that of his translators, still others in the third person. All use artificial intelligence to make the pope say things he never said," the Dicastery for Communication said in a statement to

CNA.

A search for "Pope Leo" on YouTube turned up dozens of fake videos of the Holy Father purportedly making statements that range from the plausible, such as reflections on the Eucharist, to the unlikely, such as the announcement of his resignation.

Most of the videos have received no more than a few hundred views, but some of the deepfakes have started to go viral. A 25-minute video claiming the pope has broken his silence on Charlie Kirk's murder garnered over 445,000 views in the first seven days after it was posted.

One of the first fake videos to go viral after Leo's election appeared to show the pope reading a statement denouncing colonialism and praising Burkina Faso's interim president, Captain Ibrahim Traoré, a military leader who came to power in a 2022 coup. CNA and the official Vatican News outlet ran fact-checking articles to warn readers about the false information.

The 36-minute video, posted shortly after the pope's election in May, received at least a million views before YouTube terminated the account that posted it.

Deepfake

The term "deepfake," coined less than a decade ago, refers to videos, photos, or audio recordings altered to show people doing or saying things they have never said or done.

Leo, of course, is not the first pope to have his likeness altered in videos. In 2015, the TV host Ellen Degeneres shared a video on her show of Pope Francis pulling a white cloth out from under the candles on an altar. A still image of Francis sporting a

Continue next page

PRIEST MEETING, NILA, SHORTLAND ISLAND.



Vatican news continue from page 3

....longline white puffer coat went viral in 2023.



With technology quickly advancing to produce ever more realistic images, innocent viewers can be forgiven for mistaking fiction for fact.

Pope Leo himself recently noted an example of such confusion. In an interview with journalist Elise Ann Allen, the pope recalled his surprise when an acquaintance asked him with concern if he was all right. AI-generated photographs of the pope appearing to fall down a flight of stairs outside St. Peter's Basilica had circulated on the internet in June. The images, which caught the attention of the fact-checking website Snopes, were "so good that they thought it was me," Leo said.

The Vatican's communications team warned about the proliferation of deepfakes in its monthly email newsletter in August

and invited readers to report suspicious posts and videos to the dicastery.

"Unfortunately, our dicastery receives dozens of reports every day about fake accounts that use the pope's image and voice in a very realistic way, increasingly using artificial intelligence to make the pope say words he never uttered, to portray him in situations he never actually found himself in," the newsletter said.

"Much of our time is spent reporting, silencing, and requesting the removal of these accounts," the message continued. "Given the sheer volume of fake material, it is impossible to publicly refute each and every one of them."

The dicastery's statement to CNA said that the Vatican is not only reporting fake accounts to their platforms but also is "working to raise our audience's awareness of this new phenomenon. We believe it is essential to invest in media literacy."

The Vatican also reminded readers to rely on official sources, such as the Vatican's own websites, to check quotes: "If it is not there, it is most probably a fake."

10 Priest Attend Two Day Meeting—(New for this Month)



Ten priests from the Catholic Diocese of Gizo, accompanied by their bishop, Bishop Peter Houhou, participated in a two-day meeting scheduled from October 2nd and October 3rd at Holy Rosary Parish, Nila, Shortland Islands.

In attendance were also the staff members from the Pastoral, Administration, Education, and Media departments, who provided a concise report on their role as collaborators within the diocese.

The meeting was chaired by Fr. Henry Paroi OP, who emphasized various memos concerning their responsibilities as priests to their respective parish.

Their purpose is to provide support, tackle personal and community challenges, and engage in mutual listening, seeking guidance on matters of faith, offering counsel, and delivering spiritual assistance.

Additionally, there was a notable expression of gratitude towards the communities for their substantial contributions in catering during the meeting, where a diverse array of cooked dishes was available to nourish all attendees.

This meeting marked the inaugural record for the Holy Rosary Parish.

More on next issue

HEALTH CONCERN & FEAST DAY FOR THIS MONTH



Rellysdom A Malakana
Catholic Media Gizo

CERVICAL CANCER, A CONCERN, BUT PREVENTABLE.

In the edition of July, specifically volume 177, issue number 07 (25), found on page 4 of this publication, I shared a perspective concerning the maternal health challenges tied to cervical cancer within our nation. Preventing women in our country from acquiring this disease is a national worry that inspires us. Furthermore, we recognized the stance taken by our Church in different nations, where major progress has occurred, and we currently promote HPV vaccination alongside cervical cancer screening.

However, we rarely hear updates on cervical cancer issues from the Family Life Apostolate office in Papua New Guinea; instead, we are informed about undertakings in other nations, like Africa, where the Church encourages education and prevention, imploring communities to embrace life-saving methods against the illness and proclaiming healthcare as a mission of love and dignity.

At present, we are grappling with a difficult scenario impacting the mothers residing in our nation. To guarantee the well-being of women, mothers, and young girls, our health ministry is now putting into action initiatives for screening, treatment, and vaccination.

I recently participated in a series of educational initiatives in this province (Western) about cervical cancer. The figures showed that there were 387 instances of cervical cancer and 1,750 linked ailments between 2010 and 2018. Currently, these figures may have potentially doubled.

During September, ten initiatives to raise awareness were conducted across our 4 parishes, particularly focused on adolescent girls and mothers from these parishes located in Choiseul.

Remarkably, the awareness efforts aided males in grasping their prospective role in the development of cervical cancer. Furthermore, a substantial number of men recognized their responsibility to show proper respect to their spouses.

Additional doubts surfaced regarding the protection and dependability of the vaccines; however, clarity was offered to the effect that the safety of the vaccine had undergone exhaustive scrutiny by our health division, UNICEF, impartial scientific experts, independent medical doctors, and religious leaders. They possess resolute confidence that it can be used safely by humans.

So please take note, actually, cervical cancer is a concern in our community, but it is preventable.

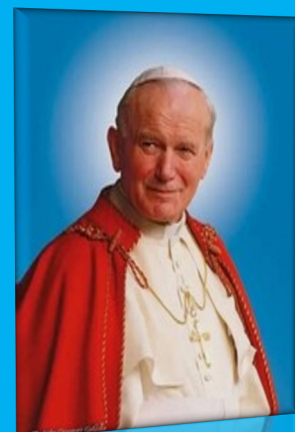
Holy Guardian Angels (Thursday, 2 October)



OUR LADY OF ROSARY (Tuesday 7 October)



ST. JOHN PAUL II (WEDNESDAY 22 OCTOBER)



OP COME & SEE AND SPUTC OPEN DAY

Tiara DM, Effort to Promote Vocations.



The Divine Mercy Tiarama's efforts to promote vocations and create awareness at Choiseul Bay Provincial Secondary School has proven being beneficial for the students.

This initiative was spearheaded by Sister Leoni Meqoqole OP, who came with her team from St. Dominic Parish in Sirovanga on Sunday, September 7.

The Dominican Sister expressed her satisfaction, stating that the program was a resounding success for the students and all those who took part.



A Visit to Borokoni Village.

The Come and See girls and other youths, who are among the Dominican family, frequently visit



Borokuni village. This is part of their activity, visiting the sick or disabled.

That particular day was set for Fr. Kobakini, a Dominican Father who was in a wheelchair for quite a long time. But with all his energy, he was able to serve Mass for that community.



St. Peter UTC School Open Day

Open day at St Peter UTC, Gizo, Catholic Diocese of Gizo.. Memorable and enjoyable time for everyone, invited guests, parents, guardians, students and staff.



Thank you everyone for your participation and contribution towards this event. Thanks to the students and staff who came to participate from other schools. Congratulations everyone. You did a great job.

Sr. Varghese Regina

CATECHIST AND PRAYER LEADERS TRAINING**Prayer Leaders Seminar Success for 3 weeks. Catholic Diocese of Gizo**

The Diocese's newly appointed Pastoral Coordinator, Mr. Augustine Kasiava, initiated his first pastoral program across four parishes in the Northern Deanery, which began on the 29th of August and concluded on the 20th of September.

This three-week pastoral visit primarily focused on training the newly appointed prayer leaders and catechists, including both current and former members, to better understand their roles as prayer leaders and catechists.

Approximately 150 participants, who are prayer leaders, benefited from the three-day training sessions held at designated venues, Kadova, Sirovanga, Taro, and Moli.

Many have extended their gratitude to the parish priests, who provided observation and support in various capacities during the program, and appreciated the veteran catechist who shared insights regarding the significance of catechists during the era of early missionaries who introduced Christianity to our island.

The 22-day journey proved to be an enriching experience with the communities, and numerous individuals conveyed their gratitude to our bishop for making the program accessible.

An increasing number of people now understand that localization is not a fact, but rather recognize that we are progressing, and they believe the localization strategy is effective.

And the mutual appreciation among all participants was evident, particularly among the mothers and fathers who played significant roles in ensuring the successful implementation of the program.

Additionally, acknowledgement and contribution were affirmed to mothers, supported by their fathers, and the children who assisted with catering throughout the seminar, covering breakfast, lunch, and dinner.



Christ the King Parish, Voruvoru



St. John Bosco Parish, Taro



St. Joseph Parish, Moli



St. Dominic Parish, Sirovanga

KIDNEY INFECTION (PYELONEPHRITIS)*continue from last issue*<https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/kidney-infection#what-is>**..... Can kidney infections be prevented?**

You can reduce your risk of getting a kidney infection by drinking plenty of water and by seeing your doctor if you think you have a urinary tract infection.

Why is water important for good health?

Water is an essential part of a healthy balanced diet. Over half of the human body is made up of water. We need water to:

- digest food and to absorb nutrients
- move our bodies well
- get rid of waste products
- keep our body at the right temperature
- Drinking water also keeps your teeth and mouth healthy.

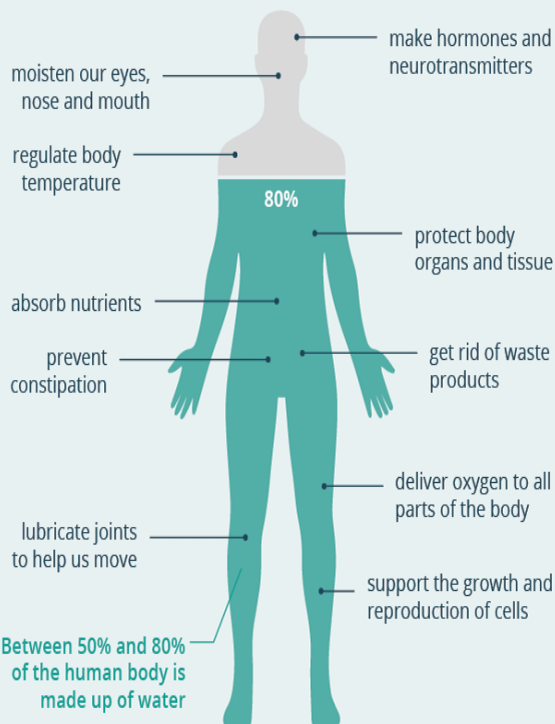
Fluoride. This helps to protect against tooth decay. Water is also needed for the body to make saliva. You need saliva to wash food away from your teeth. Saliva also helps you:

- chew
- taste
- Swallow

If you tend to get urinary tract infections after having sex, it's possible that passing urine as soon as possible after sex can reduce your chance of an infection, but the evidence is unclear.

Read more about how to prevent a urinary tract infection.

Drinking plenty of water every day is important for good health. Our body relies on it for many of its functions. Water helps to:



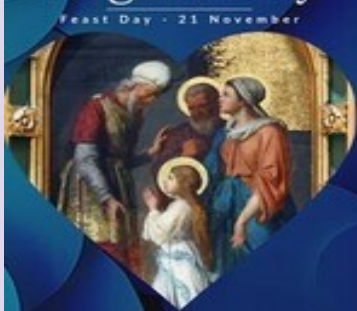
We get about one fifth of the water we need from food and the rest from drinking fluids.

Men need about 10 cups* of fluids every day, women need about 8 cups and kids need 4-8 cups depending on their sex and age.

It's a good idea to choose water over other drinks that contain added sugars or alcohol.

*To be continue next issue***▪ UPCOMING SOLEMNITY FOR NOVEMBER 2025 ▪**
All Souls & All Saints Day
 (1st and 2nd November)


All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day are significant days in the Christian calendar, particularly in the Catholic tradition

Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 Feast Day - 21 November


(Friday 21st November)

CHRIST THE KING
 (Sunday 23rd November)
