



NEWSLETTER GIZO



BISHOP MONTHLY MESSAGE



THE PASCHAL CANDLE AND CROSS AND THE REASON OF OUR DIAMOND JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE

Called and chosen 60 years have passed since the Catholic Church has been recognized as the Apostolic Vicariate. We recognize the initiative of God through the missionary passion of the Marist fathers from Bouganville to the Shortlands and Choiseul to plant the seed of Christianity, followed by the Dominican order as soon as the Apostolic Vicariate was established.

- Gizo has a History to tell, 60 years with dozens of MS missionaries, both women and men brought in by Bishop Wade.
- Gizo diocese too has a history of fifty years to tell written on the pastoral efforts of the Dominicans Missionaries women and men led by Bishop Crawford and O'Grady.
- The Gizo diocese too has a History of 15 years under the leadership of Bishop Luciano Capelli, sdb marked by a strong emphasis on cultivating young priestly vocations and rebuilding the education priority of the diocese (both in structures and system)

We believe we have been called by Divine providence at this time to write the future history of our diocese looking to our roots in gratitude and dynamically journeying towards the future.

We have renewed our vision of faith. *The Paschal candle we brought around our parishes* represents the reason of our commitment: to be the light of our people in our 8 parishes, because we have been consecrated in baptism for this mission.

The Gizo Diocese is not an NGO working for social upliftment of people, it wants to be a resource in God's hands in building His Kingdom of peace, justice, truth and love... all what is needed is welcome including the social rebuilding of new structures

Sustained by the Holy Spirit we firmly believe and proclaim our faith in the resurrection and the power of the Holy Spirit in each person. He alone can renew the face of the earth not simply by projects which uplift people but with the grace which liberates them

We have renewed our commitment to the mission. *The Cross we accompanied around in our pilgrimage is the symbol of the new life we have embraced;*

The very reason for which we have been consecrated in Baptism is because of the demand of the mission. Liberation from the old person and rebirth into a new person, living the values of Jesus Christ in our daily lives...

We commit to proclaim the mission by living a life of discipleship of Jesus. We accept the challenge to live the Paschal Mystery in our lives, living and dying as we fulfill His mission by being another Christ.

As we visited our 8 parishes we proclaimed these values in a simple liturgical WAY OF THE LIGHT, in which we accompanied Jesus not only through 14 stations of the cross but even in 14 stations after His resurrection when Jesus strengthens the faith of his disciples, keeps them united and challenges them to the new mission under the power of the Holy Spirit

How faithful have we been to the goals of our celebration? Are we more aware of our baptismal consecration, are we more committed to our mission in our day life? May the cross and the candle remind us that we have been chosen, called, consecrated and sent for a mission... which no one else can do for us.

With you a Friend for you a bishop who loves you with a solo heart made in Italy:
Luciano Capelli, sdb, Bishop, Gizo Diocese

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THE DIOCESE OF GIZO UPCOMING EVENTS 2021

- **Month of February** 8–12 Hey Dad training, northern deanery at Moli
22–26 Hey Dad training, southern deanery at Gizo

- **Month of March** 8–12 NFP moral issues training, northern deanery at Nila
22–26 Priest meeting, Gizo

• **Month of April (pilgrimage with the Candle)**

- 13–15 Candle to Noro
- 15–17 Candle to sacred heart, Wagina
- 17–19 Christ the King, Voruvoru
- 19–21 St Dominic Parish, Sirovanga
- 21–23 John Bosco Parish, Taro
- 23–25 St Joseph, Moli
- 25–27 Holy Rosary, Nila
- 27–29 St Peter parish, Gizo



- **June** 14 – 17 Media training at Gizo
18 – 20 FSW Northern Deanery, Moli
21 – 25 Priest retreat, Gizo
25 – 27 FSW for the Southern Deanery, Noro

- **Month of July** 5– 9 come and see (venue depend on candidates)
12–16 Hey Mum southern deanery at Gizo
26–30 Hey Mum northern deanery at Moli

- **Month of August** 6–8 YE Christ the King, Voruvoru
9–13 Training for new Catechists, Nila
13–15 YE Sirovanga, St Dominic
20–22 YE St John Bosco, Taro
27–29 YE St Joseph Moli



- **September** 3–5 YE Holy Rosary, Nila
13–17 Priest Meeting, Gizo
17–19 YE St Peter, Gizo
24–26 YE St Eusebius, Noro



- **Month of May** 3–7 SCC follow up, St Peter parish, Gizo
10–14 SCC follow up, Holy Rosary parish, Nila
17–21 SCC visitors training, St John Bosco parish, Taro
24–28 SCC follow up, St Dominic parish, Sirovanga
31–4 (new month) SCC follow up, Christ the King, Voruvoru

- **Month of June** 1–4 SCC follow up continue, Christ the King parish, Voruvoru
7 – 11 SCC follow up, Sacred heart parish, Wagina

- **October** 1–3 YE, Sacred Heart, Wagina
11–15 Justice and Peace Workshop, Nila

- **November** 4–6 Media Training northern deanery, Moli
11–13 Media Training southern deanery, Noro
15–19 DTPA evaluation and planning, Gizo

- **December 13–17 Bishops cup northern deanery parishes, Moli**
27–31 Bishops cup southern deanery parishes, Vanga

NILA, APRIL 25-30 2021



CROSS AND CANDLE AT OUR SHORES

Lately in the Diocese of Gizo, after the priest meeting that took place on the second week of March 2021, Bishop Luciano Capelli initiates the celebration of the Diocesan diamond jubilee. The main event highlighting this diamond Jubilee is the pilgrimage of the cross and candle that goes around to all the eight parishes under the Diocese of Gizo. The pilgrimage of the cross and candle takes almost a month. It commences on April 15 and ends yesterday 9th of May. It reaches the main Catholic Stations surrounding Choisuel and Western provinces, beginning with Wagina, Voruvoru, Sirovanga, Taro, Moli, Nila, Gizo and Noro.

The pilgrimage of this cross and candle goes along with four main activities, the way of the light, vocation talks, the presentation of the diocesan history and the renewal of the baptismal vows that took place in Mass followed by the presentation of the candle and cross.

Upon reaching the different parishes each has prepared their own way of welcoming the Jubilee candle, the cross and the team, depending on the tradition and creativity of each ethnic group.



MOLI, APRIL 23-25 2021

Most of the welcoming was done in traditional warrior band pipe, and custom dances, accompanied with a church choir group that leads the procession to the entrance of the chapel. The whole program is a dynamic faith nourishment to all the parishioners of Gizo diocese. Though the symbol of the cross and candle is as old as the Catholic church itself, yet bore new and exciting experience for all parishioners in their spiritual life.



SIROVANGA, APRIL 17-19 2021

NORO, MAY 8-10 2021



The diocesan pastoral team led by Jerom Quibatu and a Diocesan priest Fr Dominic Soloko, convey their sincere words of thanks to the Bishop for initiating such a delightful program, and to the entire priest in their respective parishes for their effort in creating a welcoming prayerful yet joyfult atmosphere in the course of all the activities.

Catholic, Media Gizo

BAPTISED

CON SACRATED
AND **SENT**

DIOCESE OF GIZO **Happy diamond jubilee**

VORUVORU, APRIL 17-19 2021



The Catholic Diocese of Gizo celebrated its birthday 60th diamond Jubilee. The diamond Jubilee of the diocese started from the episcopal ordination of Bishop Eusebius Crawford in Rome May 8 1960, who ordained for Gizo diocese.

The Dominican order gave birth and nursed the diocese for the last 47 years, 1960 – 2007. For the last 13 yrs., the diocese has been assigned to the care of a Salesian Bishop Luciano Capelli sdb after the earthquake and devastating tsunami and the recovery period.

The diocese of Gizo is one of the three diocese in the Solomon Islands and formed from the vicariates of North and south Solomon's in the Early 1960. It encompasses three provinces, Choiseul, Santa Isabel and the Western Province. It spreads over and area of 12, 600 square kilometers, 129, 000 people of whom approximately 14, 000 are Catholics. The future of the diocese of Gizo will be strengthened by the further education of its people.



Diamond Jubilee cake dance at Wagina

Since its establishment, the diocese of Gizo had run Schools, clinics and other developments, which really helped the faithful of the diocese.

Therefore, in the priest meeting the priests and the bishop of the diocese had agreed to have a pilgrimage Diamond Jubilee journey to all the parishes within the diocese with the candle and the cross. As we, all know that our Church is full of signs and symbols. Candle and the Cross-are common symbols, people will understand. Paschal Candle is the sign of the Risen Christ is the light of the world and the cross is the sign of God's love for humanity. Without Sacrifice No glory
The pilgrimage journey of the paschal Candle and

MORE REFLECTIONS ON THE PILGRIMAGE OF THE CROSS & CANDLE

the cross to the parishes began on 15 April 2021. Diamond Jubilee celebration in every parishes of Gizo diocese were of great moment of joy. A moment where people in the parishes felt and experienced the joy of being a diocese celebrating its Diamond jubilee.

They felt weak in their faith because so many things that challenged them in their life journey. As they reflected on the two great signs candle and cross that highlight the celebrations in the parishes renewed their faith. They welcomed the pilgrimage candle and cross with faith, love and thanks giving heart.

Every Eucharistic celebrations were alive in every parishes. The homilies given by the priests reminded us to celebrate the past, present and the future with great joy. Moving by the Spirit of the risen Lord people were asked to forgive, confess and renewed their commitment in Christ to take up their cross and follow the light every day.

The way of light devotion was new to them but people had really took part in the devotion. A new experience that deepened the faith of the faithful to the risen Christ who is the light of the world. Reflecting on the two great Jubilee signs cross and Candle in every parishes for three days was a prayerful moment for us all, families, communities and individuals. The pilgrimage journey of the Diamond Jubilee candle and the cross had helped the faithful to recall back to their baptismal promises and renewed them.

The history of our diocese from 1960 – 2021 had helped the faithful to reflect back to the early missionaries the challenges



they had gone through especially nursing the faith of the faithful in the diocese. Not only spiritual concern but also about the welfare of the faithful who under their care.

They built Schools and clinic. They were also reflecting on the present development of our diocese under the care of a Salesian bishop and his dreams for this diocese, which they expressed that it is time now to say yes to the dreams of our bishop and take up responsibilities, and build the church that God wants for our diocese another 60 years. **We are the church, Baptized, consecrated and sent for mission.**

Jerome. Kuibatu



NILA, 25–30 APRIL 2021

THE FLA CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF GIZO HAS COMPLETE 3 DAYS' WORKSHOP ON NOM

The Family Life Apostolic (FLA) has successfully completed its workshop on the Natural Ovulation Method (NOM).

The workshop lasted for 3 days commenced on the 6th until 8th of April at Nila mission station Shortland Island.

Facilitated by Sr. Rita Pitavavini OP and Sr. Alice Salas from the servant of the visitation which they based their lectures on NOM. Both Sisters were religious and they are nurse by professional and with Fr. Calistus Tavisibatu OP a priest who took on the moral teaching of the church.

A day to day's activities which covers sessions on ovulation that is the a menstruation cycle of a woman, how to space their babies, stop and help to have baby (ies) and plan to have a baby boy and a baby girl. This includes the moral teaching, aims and the mission for the participants.

Participants are given time to discuss in groups to look at issues affecting mothers in their society. And during presentations other Catholic nurses share their experiences the challenges (Contraceptive devices) they face while running a government clinics.

They share their opinions and demand the Catholic Church the right approaches to help them that they may also be able to help mothers in the community they serve.

On those sessions, questions and contributions have motivated other participants to share their views and experiences.

Invited speaker Fr. Phil has his privilege to give his talk on family issues affecting mothers in the society. He spoke on love, challenges and an adequate resolution to overcome problems that burden the families in today's world.

Information's came specifically for those 15 couples from Voruvoru, Moli and Nila parish so that they may implemented the program to their parishes.

At the end of the seminar, a meal was arranged for

participants, facilitators and quests.

Everyone appreciated each other and to conclude the seminar a Blessing for everyone from the parish priest, Fr Stanislaus.

Rellysdom A Malakana Media Catholic Gizo

**NFL AT TARO
NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING**

Last Friday 14th and Saturday 15th May 2021 the 2nd NFP Program that was organised by the our Pastoral Coordinator Mr Ken had accomplished successfully. It was held at Tarekukure village. A total of 12 new participants attended the program. The village chief Mr. Havana was very impressed for taking his village to hold the program as a privilege to them.

The first one was held at Rambagela village with the total of 16 couples attended

Unfortunately photo could not be retrieved.

The program ended with the mass and followed by a feast.

The parish priest was very impressed with the completion of this two pastoral program arrangement.

PPC Taro, Vincent Eria



What the Church truly teaches on sexuality Pope Francis teaching

The Church has expressed itself on the theme of sexuality, even if not everyone clearly knows how she thinks it: Pope Francis explains it to us.

In this address, the Holy Father highlights some key points on the Church's thinking regarding sexuality.

And that is, for the Church it is not true that sex is identified with a sin. It is not true that the Church accepts sex only for procreation, and sexuality must not be divided from love. Sexuality is a gift from God between a man and a woman who decide (before God) to love each other for life.

The Pope made this clear when answering questions from young people from the French diocese of Grenoble-Vienne during an audience.



POPE FRANCIS ON SEXUALITY

"Sexuality, sex, is a gift from God. No taboo. It is a gift from God, a gift that the Lord gives us. It has two purposes: to love each other and to generate life. It is a passion; it is passionate love. True love is passionate. The love between a man and a woman, when it is passionate, leads you to give your life forever. Always. And to give it with body and soul.

When God created man and woman, the Bible says that both are the image and likeness of God. Both of them, not just Adam or just Eve, but both. And Jesus goes further, and says: for this reason, the man, and also the woman, will leave his father and his mother and will be one person ... a single identity ...

ONE FLESH: this is the greatness of sexuality, and we must speak of sexuality like this. Sexuality must be lived in this way, in this dimension of the love between man and woman for life.

It is true that our weaknesses, our spiritual falls, lead us to use sexuality outside of this very beautiful path, of the love between man and woman. But they fell, like all sins. The lie, the anger, the gluttony ... These are sins: deadly sins. But this is not the sexuality of love: it is 'commercialization' of sexuality, detached from love and used for fun".

"It is interesting - continued the Pontiff - how sexuality is the most beautiful point of creation, in the sense that man and woman were created in the image and likeness of God, and sexuality is the most attacked by worldliness, by the spirit of evil. Tell me: you have seen, for example - I don't know if there is one in Grenoble - but have you seen an industry of lies, for example? No. But have you seen an industry of sexuality detached from love? Yes! A lot of money is made from the pornography industry, for example.

It is a degeneration from the level where God has placed it. And with this trade you make a lot of money". "But sexuality is great - he added - : guard your sexual dimension, your sexual identi-

ty. Keep it well. And prepare it for love, to insert it into that love that will accompany you throughout your life".

"WE ARE IN LOVE" "I'll tell you one thing, and then I'll tell you another. Once in St. Peter's Square - I greet the people in the square - there were two elderly people who celebrated their sixtieth anniversary of marriage. They were bright! I asked: 'Did you argue a lot?' - 'Well, sometimes ...' - 'And is the marriage worth it?' - And these two, who were looking at me, looked at each other and then looked at me, they had wet eyes, and they said: 'We are in love'. After 60 years! And then I wanted to tell you: once an elderly man - very old, with his elderly wife - told me: 'We love each other very, very much and sometimes we hug each other. We cannot make love at our age, but we hug, we kiss ... 'This is true sexuality. Never detach her from such a beautiful place of love. This is how we need to talk about sexuality".

By: *Elisa Pallotta*
07/04/2021



ST. JOSEPH MOLI PARISH CELEBRATE EASTER PEACEFULLY

St. Joseph parish Moli Choiseul celebrated their Easter as one of the peaceful one this year.

The peace event has gathered parishioners from five big villages and many small locations together for the Holy week.

On the Easter Vigil, celebration was supposed to be on 8 pm but began on 5 pm. Because of the population of about 2000 and the mission, station is an island, which is in the center of those villages, other villages have to travel more than an hour and parishioners have to cross by boat to the church. (Moli is one of the fast growing community around Choiseul province; showing the number of children enrolment for form 1 this year is about 50 and those of the early childhood is likely to be double up).

This is one of the fact that gathering for our Spiritual events is affecting our normal hours for Worship, preparations and the distances are contributing to that fact, said one of a concern mother.

Church elders also said that other parishioners living far have to gather early at the mission to access church activities, preparations and then getting home earlier.

Highlight during the event 28 babies received their Sacrament of Baptism during Easter Vigil. In addition, at the Resurrection day the Moli Youth Sport Association (MYSA) has granted \$20,000 from the provincial government Choiseul as their winning recipient for the sport-games around the province.

And during speeches elders gave their gratitude to the parishioners especially the youths their behavior towards the celebrations.

The event closed on the resurrection day that is on Sunday 4th of April after the feast.

Compiled by Rellysdom A Malakana

.....UPDATES

FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE

SCC Follow up, Wagina 7—11

FSW Northern deanary 18—20

Priest retreat, Gizo 21—25

FSW, Southern deanary 25—27

F E A S T S

**BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST
JUNE 3**



**SACRED HEART OF JESUS,
JUNE 11**