

### **NEWSLETTER CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF GIZO**

# **Bishop Monthly Message**



### MONTH OF AUGUST 2022



### The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin

The Assumption is the oldest feast day of Our Lady, but we don't know how it first came to be celebrated. Its origin is lost in those days when Jerusalem was restored as a sacred city, at the time of the Roman Emperor Constantine (c. 285-337). One of the memories about his mother centered around the "Tomb of Mary," close to Mount Zion, where the early Christian community had lived.

On the hill itself was the "Place of Dormition," the spot of Mary's "falling asleep," where she had died. The "Tomb of Mary" was where she was buried. At this time, the "Memory of Mary" was being celebrated. Later it was to become our feast of the Assumption.

For a time, the "Memory of Mary" was marked only in Palestine, but then it was extended by the emperor to all the churches of the East. In the seventh century, it began to be celebrated in Rome under the title

of the "Falling Asleep" ("Dormitio") of the Mother of God. Soon the name was changed to the "Assumption of Mary," since there was more to the feast than her dying. It also proclaimed that she had been taken up, body and soul, into heaven. St. John Damascene was known for giving sermons at the holy places in Jerusalem. At the Tomb of Mary, he expressed the belief of the Church on the meaning of the feast: "Although the body was duly buried, it did not remain in the state of death, neither was it dissolved by decay. . . . You were transferred to your heavenly home, O Lady, Queen and Mother of God in truth."

All the feast days of Mary mark the great mysteries of her life and her part in the work of redemption. The central mystery of her life and person is her divine motherhood, celebrated both at Christmas and a week later (Jan. 1) on the feast of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. The Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8) marks the preparation for that motherhood, so that she had the fullness of grace from the first moment of her existence, completely untouched by sin. Her whole being throbbed with divine life from the very beginning, readying her for the exalted role of mother of the Savior.

The Assumption completes God's work in her since it was not fitting that the flesh that had given life to God himself should ever undergo corruption. The Assumption is God's crowning of His work as Mary ends her earthly life and enters eternity. The feast turns our eyes in that direction, where we will follow when our earthly life is over.

The feast days of the Church are not just the commemoration of historical events; they do not look only to the past. They look to the present and to the future and give us an insight into our own relationship with God. The Assumption looks to eternity and gives us hope that we, too, will follow Our Lady when our life is ended.

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### Program and Activities 2022-

#### **DIOCESAMN PROGRAM COMMING UP FOR PARISHES**

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### The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The prayer for the feast reads: "All-powerful and ever-living God: You raised the sinless Virgin Mary, mother of your Son, body and soul, to the glory of heaven. May we see heaven as our final goal and come to share her glory."

In 1950, in the Apostolic Constitution <Munificentissimus Deus>, Pope Pius XII proclaimed the Assumption of Mary a dogma of the Catholic Church in these words: "The Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heaven." With that, an ancient belief became Catholic doctrine and the Assumption was declared a truth revealed by God.

Happy Assumption day, may our yes be repeated daily until our last breath

By Luciano Capelli, sdb, who loves you with a Solo heart made in Italy

# DIOCESE OF GIZO DIOCESAN PASTORAL PROGRAMS FOR PARISHES

(June to December 2022)

July 19th to 22nd—Come and See? / Formation training for youth leaders (Moli).

August 2nd to 5th— Liturgy training: ND (Nila/ Moli)

23rd to 26th— SD (Wagina)

September 19th to 22nd— Media training / Hey Dad Seminar for ND (Nila).

**25th to 30th**— 2nd Priest Meeting (Gizo)

October 7th—Bishops pastoral visit to Holy Rosary paris (Nila)

**13th to 15th**—Family Life Apostolate (FLA) seminar Southern deanery (Wagina)

**21st**—Episcopal Ordination Anniversary of BP Luciano Capelli sdb

**30th**—Bishop pastoral visit to Eusebius parish (Noro)

**November** —Bishops pastoral

visit scheduled the month.

**13th**— Pastoral visit to St. Don Bosco parish (Taro).

**16th**—Pastoral visit to St. Joseph parish (Moli)

**19th**—Pastoral visit to St. Dominic (Sirovanga)

**20th**— Pastoral visit to Christ the King parish (Voruvoru)

**24th to 26th**— Justice and Peace seminar (Wagina)

#### FEASTDAYS AND EVENTS FOR THE MONTH

Jesus' Transfiguration
Dn 7:9-10.13.14
2Pt 1:16-19 / Lk 9:28b:36



Feast of the Transfiguration, Christian commemoration of the occasion upon which Jesus Christ took three of his disciples, Peter, James, and John, up on a mountain, where Moses and Elijah appeared and Jesus was transfigured, his face and clothes

(Saturday 6th August 2022)

Becoming dazzlingly bright.

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



The doctrine of the Assumption, which teaches that at the end of her life, Mary, the mother of Christ, was taken body and soul into heaven to live with her son (Jesus Christ) for ever.

(Monday 15 August 2022)

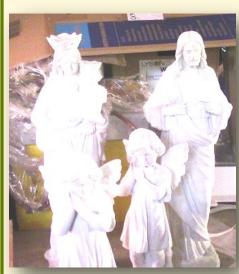
St. Dominic

Ez 1:2-5.24-28c Mt 17:22-27



Saint Dominic was also called Domingo Felix de Guzman or Dominic of Osma or Caleruega. He was a Catholic priest and founder of the Dominican Order. He was born on August 8 1170 in Caleruega, Castile, Spain and died on August 6 1221 at the age of 50 in Bologna, Emilia-Romagna, Italy. His feast day is celebrated on August 8 every year in the Catholic Church.

### **BREAD FOR LIFE!**



The Bread of life;
Hosts! ... are now ....
no longer for the
diocese to place
orders for such items
overseas.

Now our Catholic Diocese here in Gizo is proud to make its own hosts for

distributions to its parishes.

Besides, the diocese have a mold material for statues.



### COME AND SEE- MOLI PASTORAL CENTER

# Nine Young Boys Complete Come and See.

(Information Fr. Jacob Come and See facilitator)

Nine young boys have successfully completed the Diocesan COME and SEE program at Moli Pastoral Centre.

Attendances were from Moli, Wagina,

Voruvoru, and Taro where most of them wish to
accept the invitation from the church.

"After this program, some of them will be recommended to Pre-seminary 2023, and for the time being, those who will go to the Pre-seminary will go home and stay, and work with their Parish Priest and Community. While the other group will continue their secondary study", said the facilitator Father Jacob Qetobatu.

Father Jacob also challenged other parishes saying that If God calls from these parishes, why not God call people from Gizo and Noro.

The program commenced 18th till the 22nd of July.







Come and See is an invitation to exploration and promise of life for everyone.

Come and See offers the opportunity to search, to explore, to discover, and to respond; this is part of what it is to be human.

It will help them to explore the beliefs and values and the way of life of the Catholic traditions, and of other faith traditions, developing good attitudes and dispositions so that youths are instilled with a 'love of learning' and a desire to go on learning.

Youths will be offered a sense of self-worth through experience of belonging to the caring community of Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit Catholic School Liverpool

### YEAR OF FAMILY LAUNCH IN MOLI AND GIZO.

# St Joseph Parish Moli Launch Family Year. (Anthony Telovai media volunter

[Anthony Telovai media volunter

St. Joseph Moli)

St Joseph parish Moli launched the year of the family this 16 Sunday, July.

With the theme for the program "Evangelize and Evangelization families; salt and light of the society", the launching was started with the procession from the priest's house to the church before the Eucharistic Mass celebration





letter on families and other important features of a family at home, church, community, and in our nation.

The program was facilitated by the diocesan pastoral team and was coordinated by the diocesan pastoral coordinator Mr. Jerome Kuibatu.

#### commenced.

From the beginning, Sister Rita op explained the meaning of the theme, and she emphasized that each family needs to evangelize, to send out and show a good example to one another.

During the sermon, Fr. Qelo encouraged families to do prayers and services, extend their prayers for others and do services. Like Martha and Mary in the gospel reading today, said the priest.

Talks on family values will continue in the communities (zones) until December.

Fr Qelo and his pastoral team will be responsible for every Sunday activities, and Sr Rita will continue to give out talks on the family before Mass begins.

# Year of family awareness commenced for Gizo parish

St. Peters Cathedral Gizo commenced its awareness program on the family after launching the year of the family last Sunday 3rd of July.

Ten minutes of awareness after the Eucharistic Mass celebration is regarding Bishops' pastoral

# Drought Hits Gizo Lets Pray for Rain



## PRAYER FOR RAIN "PRAYER FOR RAIN"

O Mighty God,

Your fingerprints are scattered across all of creation. Through each thing You have created, You show Your glory. Your caring and gentle nature are on display for all to see and experience. You open the heavens and bring the waters down from above. Lord, this very day we ask that You open the flood gates. Bring down nourishing rains, that the land may be quenched and

bring forth much fruit. Amen.







# NORTHERN DEANERY NEWS IN BITS

#### ST. JOSEPH & ST. DON BOSCO PARISH

# New Priest Welcome in Moli Parish.



Many have congratulated Fr. Benedictus Qellos on his first Eucharistic Mass celebration at Moli St. Joseph parish Choiseul province.

Others wished him good luck and thanked him for his dedication to the parish.

Recap from the media volunteer at Moli (Anthony Patagolomo)... he is in his first Sunday Mass celebration after his ordination. "He is now assigned to Moli parish as an assistant Parish priest and helps out in school.

Anthony said that, in his welcome greetings, he asks everyone, to work together, and help each other to build the parish.

Fr. B. Qello was assigned priest at St. Don Bosco parish on Taro Island last year after the passing away of late Fr. Calistus Tavisibatu op. He served that parish for almost a year and now replacing him is Fr. Jacob Qetobatu.

The young priest will work closely with the parish priest Fr. Timothy; a Dominican priest at Moli Catholic mission station.

# St. Don Bosco Welcome Children into the Church.

Fr. Benedictus Qelo has welcomed Seven children who received their Sacrament of Baptism and two others for the Sacrament of the Eucharist in two different places (Taro, Rabakela) on Saturday 18 June.

The priest, parents, and relatives congratulated them and welcomed them to the Church of God.



# **New Parish Priest Wants Work Continue**

"Despite the death of Fr Cally OP late Parish Priest of St John Bosco Parish, Taro, work must continue the New Parish Priest house", this was the message from the new parish priest for St. Don Bosco Taro.

On behave; the new parish priest Fr. Jacob Qetobatu has recalled the death of late Fr. Calistus Tavisibatu OP that was buried in Moli Island, he would like to thank late Cally for the great holy service that he rendered to the Diocese of Gizo.

He thanked the Dominican family locally and abroad for forming the late Calistus Tavisibatu. Besides, Fr. Jacob extends his special thanks to his blood family, family, and relatives, and not forgetting St. John Bosco Parishioners at Taro.

"Last but not the least to Rev Bishop Luciano Capelli Sdb for the permission to bury Late Fr Calistus Tavisibatu OP in Moli Island".



### SACRED HEART OF JESUS PARISH WAGINA

# **Sacred Heart Parish Celebrates the 44 Anniversary of the**

**Nation** Thanks Nei Wana Tebaia for the picture and Moni Kamakin for the news



more have congratulated the children for accepting the Holy Spirit and being part of the member of the church; reminding them of the ability to practice their Catholic faith in every aspect of their lives and to witness Christ in every situation.

Bishop's visitation also highlights his visit to the islands where he celebrated Mass, met people, and witness the community's livelihood.



Initiated by the missionary from Argentina Fr.
Humberto and the Kindy teachers ... are having the privilege to celebrate the Anniversary at AM to mark the 44th Independence Anniversary of our

nation Solomon Island at Wagina parish.

One of the celebrations, which actually an eye-opener to FB lovers who witnessed some of their program that has been uploaded. It is truly an example for other village communities to come up and celebrate this kind of event at the rural level.

More have appreciated the action taken by the Argentina missionary who set a wonderful example to our village community around our country.

The program ended successfully with presenting gifts to the Kindy children



# More Congratulate Confirmation Candidates, Wagina.

30 candidates for confirmation have received their confirmation at Wagina during the visitation of Bishop Luciano Capelli sdb on 26 June.

Witnessed by the parishioners



#### **MONKEY POX VIRUS**

# What is Monkeypox Disease?

#### What is monkeypox disease?

Monkeypox is a rare disease similar to smallpox caused by the monkeypox virus. It's found mostly in areas of Africa but has been seen in other areas of the world. It causes flu-like symptoms such as fever and chills, and a rash that can take weeks to clear

How does monkeypox affect the human body?

A rash that can look like pimples or blisters that appears on the face, inside the mouth, and on other parts of the body, like the hands, feet, chest, genitals, or anus.

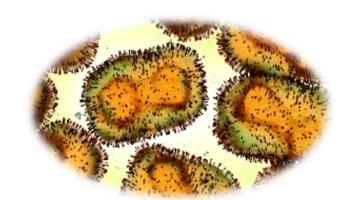
What is monkeypox and where did it come from?

It's called monkeypox because it was first isolated from a monkey in Africa, but the reservoir for it is in rodents, specifically rodents in Central and West Africa. We've been aware of monkeypox for decades, and we have been interested in it mostly because it's a cousin of smallpox. It is a related orthopoxvirus.

#### How did monkeypox spread 2022?

Monkeypox is not primarily a sexually transmitted disease. On 23 May, David Heymann, an advisor for the World Health Organization, said that the likely

theory of how the outbreak started is transmission during sexual intercourse.





To be continue next issue

# THE DIOCESE OF GIZO UPCOMMING EVENTS 2022

### For the Month of September

"We therefore invite all our Catholic people

to work together to achieve the goals of planning: the evangelization of the world especially through witnessing to the value of communion, i.e. "to know how to "make room" for our brothers and sisters, bearing "each other's burdens" (Gal 6:2) and resisting the selfish temptations which constantly beset us and provoke competition, careerism, distrust and jealousy"

(Pope John Paul II, Novo Millennio Ineunte 43). (Pastoral Letter of the Bishops PNG/SI).